

## ***Barnes County Water Resource District***

*PO Box 306*

*Valley City, ND 58072*

701-845-8508

April 13, 2015

### **MEETING MINUTES**

PRESENT MEMBERS: Chairman Jerry Hieb; Manager Bruce Anderson; Manager Shawn Olauson; Manager Bret Fehr; Manager Dale Jorissen; Mike Opat & Joshua Hassell – Moore Engineering; Sean Fredricks – Ohnstad Twichell P.C.; Commissioner John Froelich

Also Present: See Attached List

Chairman Hieb called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Manager Olauson made a motion to approve the March 9, 2015 meeting minutes. Manager Jorissen seconded. Motion approved.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Hobart Lake** - Sean Fredricks handed out – *Order Approving Applications for Drain #3971 and Drain #4630 Regarding the Proposed Hobart Lake Outlet Improvement Project.* Sean explained that the RRJWRD had recommended approval of this order, with conditions. BCWRD is to approve and send to State Engineers Office for their approval. Mike Opat explained the conditions of the application, major concern is the water quality. Josh Hassell explained about the operating window (approximately 4 months wide open) mid April to mid August, for the outlet. Discussion followed. Joint Powers Agreement with BC

Commission, says that the BCWRD will control the outlet. Manager Anderson made a motion to approve the Application for Drain #3974 and Application for Drain #4630 Hobart Lake Improvement Project. Manager Olauson seconded motion. Motion Approved with a roll call vote.

**RRJB** - Manager Anderson has been to four different meetings for RRJB and gave an outline of what happened at those meetings. Upper Sheyenne voted not to back the Baldhill Creek Dam Project. Mike Opat explained that the International Water Institute has developed a Lidar Website that is user friendly and can be accessed anywhere in the world. Farmers can use for their own drainage projects. Tilers can use for their jobs, etc. The RRJB decided to invest in this project because from the studies, there were a lot of people from North Dakota that were benefitting from the program. The investment would help in moving information to new secure servers. This is a RRJB perk we get from being a member of the RRJB.

**BNSF** – Dale Jorissen was at the special meeting that took place with Dwight Grotberg, Joe Pesek, Kerry Johnson – BCHD superintendent, and Commissioner Berntson. Kerry Johnson addressed the district and mention that the BNSF would consider the culvert, but the costs would have to be on the landowners and maintenance & ownership would be BNSF RR. Discussion followed.

**VC Little Dam/Kathryn Dam** - Mike Opat has turned the information they gathered over to Barr Engineering for their part of the project. Mike heard (unofficially) that funding from US Fish & Wildlife for the Kathryn Dam has come through, but funding for Little Dam project is not very much, because of opposition on the fish ladder passage concept at the Little Dam.

**Thordenskjold Drain** - no update at this meeting.

**Sanborn Lake** - Commissioner Froelich reported that so far one landowner has signed the option for the easement and three others indicated they would be signing, with four other landowners not contacted yet. Kelly Marler wants to meet with a manager at his site.

**10 Mile Lake** – Paul Abrahamson will be going with Keith Weston to a Corp of Engineers meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup>, if he has enough information to present to the Corp. Paul also informed the district that the gauge in the lake is down and would like it set up for reading the level of the lake. Paul brought up the question “What is the Hydric Line of Devils Lake?” Discussion followed.

Mike Opat talked a little about the farm bill and trying to get some funding from that bill for the 10 Mile Lake project and other projects. RRRRA got \$12 Million and NRCS will get 1 million for administrative reasons so that leaves \$11 million for project use on North Dakota, Minnesota and South Dakota side of the river. Not a lot of money when you have that big of area. RRRRA is putting all money into planning projects, because you have to use this money within five years and because it does take a long time for planning of projects. After the project time is gone (5 years) then go back and ask for construction moneys. If 10 Mile wants to get in on this, they should get application in now. The RRRRA is planning about 22 projects at \$500,000/project. This would be at 70% cost share, which would get thru planning of a project and next round of money would go for construction. Discussion followed.

**Baldhill Creek Dam** – Manager Anderson explained Baldhill Creek Dam Project was put down at the Sheyenne Joint Board meeting. Mike Opat explained that this money will go for regional projects in the 7 counties. Local districts will be responsible for the small dams in their districts.

**Legal Drain 1 (Svea Twp)** – Sean Fredricks had gone over the information he had and found that there is **no evidence** that an assessment district was created. Kent Sortland addressed the managers and asked if the farmers in the area could clean out drainage in question. All Landowners would have to sign a Surface Drainage Permit and work with NRCS. If they want the district to set up a legal drain, BCWRD would have to start the process.

**Legal Drain #2** – Mike Opat handed out a map of the drain boundary and explained where existing drain was and the area in question that may be added. Discussion followed. Manager Anderson made a motion to have Sean Fredricks prepare resolution for reassessing Legal Drain 2 and set a meeting. Manager Fehr

seconded motion. Motion approved with a roll call vote. Manager Anderson went over maintenance still needed. Also discussed drain account balance.

**Gerry Gerntholz** - Discussion on the cleaning of this ditch on Gerntholz property. No action taken.

**Griggs/Barnes WRD** - Plans were handed out for Rose Slough/Spring Creek and discussion followed. Project cost is based on acreage at this time. BCWD Managers should be getting in touch with the landowners in this area.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Fred Schroeder Drain Tile App.** - Sean Fredricks went over the Drain Tile Application for Fred Schroeder and recommended district approve this application with the standard conditions, erosion conditions and restrictions on pumping operation. Manager Jorissen made a motion to approve Fred Schroeder Drain Tile Application w/conditions. Manager Fehr seconded. Approved with a roll call vote.

**Anderson Drain Tile Notification** – Notified board they are tiling under 80 acres. No application to be filled out.

**Hurley/Vogel Complaint Billing** - Discussion on billing process for this complaint. District has the legal right to recover their costs for investigating this complaint.

**Glenn Kobernick and Gene Jewett** - This complaint pertains to surface and underground water from 10 Mile Lake. Glenn and Gene brought up a map and discussed the problem with managers. Would like to clean culverts that would help the problem. Discussed drainage for this area. Complaint form was not turned into the District. Managers agreed for Glenn and Gene should do the maintenance of this area for now and if they need to do more come and get a Surface Drain Permit Application.

**Snagging & Clearing Project** - John Froelich addressed the district regarding a request from Mayor Workhoven of Valley City. The mayor would like us to amend our snagging & clearing to start up at 4<sup>th</sup> St. SW bridge (New bridge) at west entrance to City Park. The city is starting their permanent flood protection project and it would be nice to have the river cleared, because of the easy access to the river at this time. The District will review this request and have this put on the agenda for May.

**Bills** - Managers went over the monthly bills. Manager Anderson made a motion to accept the bills in the amount of \$11,110.95. Manager Jorissen seconded motion. Motion approved with a roll call vote .

Manager Fehr made a motion to adjourn with a second from Manager Olauson. Meeting adjourn at 12:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda McKenna

Secretary

Barnes County Water Resource Board