

Barnes County Water Resource District

PO Box 306

Valley City, ND 58072

701-845-8508

October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**MEETING MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Managers- Shaun Olauson, Dale Jorissen, Bruce Anderson, Chairman Jerry Hieb, Mike Opat-Moore Engineering, Sean Fredricks-Ohnstad Twichell

Absent: Manager Bret Fehr

Also Present: See attached List

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

Manager Olauson made motion to approve the minutes from September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting. Manager Jorissen seconded the motion. Motion carried, minutes approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Hobart Lake:** Mr. Fredricks reported that he talked with Aaron Caranza and he indicated that we should be getting the new permit this week. Mr. Bjornson expressed some concern with this delay. He stated he has trains on his RR tracks every week, they will be coming in from now until freeze up – there is usually a two-day span between the trains arrival. Mr. Opat stated that we will be able to work with that schedule, and that it is stated in the operation manual the contractor must coordinate with Mr. Bjornson when they are on his property. There was some discussion on the “what if” possibility of any incidents with the rail cars, and who is responsible? Mr. Opat replied that the contractor is responsible, that is why they are required to have insurance. Motion to authorize Chairman Hieb to sign the Notice to Proceed when the new permit is approved from SWC made by Manager Olauson. Seconded by Manager Anderson. Upon roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

There was also discussion on Mr. Lewis and the description in his easement. Mr. Fredricks will make sure Mr. Andrud is aware of these modifications for the final closing documents.

**Kathryn Dam-update:** Mr. Opat discussed the email he sent out after the conference call with Karlene Fine. He stated that the signed contracts should be back by the next OHF meeting which is sometime in December, so there is some time to work something out with the SWC. He also

recommended that we sign the contract, if we are not able to spend the funds within the timeline Ms. Fine has the authority to extend the agreement for up to a year without having to get approval from her board. Chairman Hieb stated that he talked with Commissioner Froelich, he stated that there was discussion at the last commission meeting about project. There is a possibility the county may contribute some money, they want more information. Chairman Hieb stated that he and Manager Anderson will visit with Matt Pederson.

**Legal Drain II – Ditch Block:** Discussion on this, Mr. Praska has hydrology report that states the ditch block is deemed necessary to be there. It was decided that Chairman Hieb and Manager Jorissen will go out and take photos of the ditch block, talk with Mr. Praska about modifications.

**Edna Township-Water Issues:** Manager Jorissen started the discussion with a progress report that the township and landowners plan to do. The township is putting in two culverts in the south side of RR tracks, the water that comes into that first culvert runs ½ full at spring time. Then the water runs to Kevin Harstad's where a culvert there is shot and cannot take water fast enough, on the east side of the road there are cattails and CRP grass. The landowner's have mowed and cleaned out in front of culvert to try to get water to flow. Another farmer on the east side of Mr. Jewett is going to put in a culvert in a section line road that had washed out a while ago. Main issue is the RR right of way and fence line, the buildup along fence line is blocking water flow to the culvert. Discussion on sending letter to RR, suggestion that the landowner do this. WRD wants to help, but has no jurisdiction with this. This has been discussed with the landowners.

**Griggs/Barnes Joint Board:** Manager Jorissen stated that he talked with Manager Fehr, they are frustrated with the absolute no communication between Renaissance Eng. and Mr. Moe. There was some discussion about last month's meeting and bills, and that Mr. Moe was getting information on the abandonment process of the project. Mr. Mutschler interjected his understanding from his attorney Mr. VanBruggen was that the joint board must vote to kill the project, and the BCWRD can direct the joint board to vote a certain way. Then dismantle the joint board. Manager Jorissen stated there will be more discussion on this at the next meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Hwy 32 Drainage-John Triebold:** There was some discussion about that it shouldn't take this long for Mr. Triebold to hear back regarding his permits. It was asked that Secretary Manson give Mr. Triebold the number for Matt Lindsay (SWC) for him to follow up.

**10 Mile Lake:** Received an email from Paul Abrahamson stating the elevations as followed...  
10/8/17 from direct observation of Moore Engineering Elevation Marker was 1431.0 msl  
9/12/17 from the SWC Observation Well 142-060-10CCC-2 elevation was 1433.53 msl

**Water issue Eckelson- Schwehr/Legge:** Mr. Legge called before the meeting stating neither he nor Mr. Schwehr will be present at the meeting. The board decided to table any discussion until next month meeting.

**John Svenningsen:** Mr. Svenningsen was present and stated that he has talked to the renters of the farmland, but has had no support from the actual landowners. There was discussion on landowners and township authority. It was suggested to send the landowner a registered letter

explaining the situation, if no response, then have township get in touch with Mr. Moe who is the attorney for township association to see what authority they have.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Put the ND Water Users Association meeting on the next agenda, who will be attending.

Discussion on Silver Creek bills that were submitted by Renaissance Eng., these will be discussed at the meeting before being paid.

Mr. Opat brought up the meeting in Cooperstown for the Upper Sheyenne. Chairman Hieb discussed that Barr Eng. is looking at the Sheyenne River from beginning to end, and Griggs County believes that when you get past the Tolna Coulee there is more erosion. Mr. Opat stated that Barr has been trying to work with the Upper Sheyenne for a few years with this. Barr had pitched that Moore Eng. would be a team member, due to working with them on a lot of other projects. Moore Eng. stated they needed a scope of work, and that they didn't want to be part of anything negative with the SWC. Mr. Opat has read the scope of work and informed Barr that Moore Eng. was not interested, but would work with them if their clients (BCWRD & Steele Co.) wanted to. After discussion Moore decided to step aside, they will provide any information needed but will not be named a partner or do any work.

It was asked to put snagging/clearing on the agenda for next meeting also.

More discussion on the Kathryn Dam project. The Commissioners want a breakdown of funds for this project. Mr. Opat stated that once we get some indication from the SWC on what they are going to do, he will present the project and funds at a Commission meeting.

Mr. Winkler asked a question regarding discussion at last Tuesday's commission meeting regarding erosion study done by KLJ, is was unclear to him if this had any relation to the study with the Upper Sheyenne. Chairman Hieb stated this is a project Commissioner Froelich had pushed for, and that this information helped with getting funding from the state.


**Engineer Report:** Mr. Opat stated he had nothing else to report.

**Legal Report:** Mr. Fredricks relayed to the board the Water Topics and SWC meet this Thursday, Mr. Fredricks will be there. They are discussing cost share for drainage with Eastern part of the state.

**Bills:** Discussion on the bill regarding N. Amann texas-crossing agreement, Mr. Fredricks stated the importance of having a recordable document. Discussion on how future landowners cannot come back to us and claim that we own the crossing for future maintenance, with this agreement in place. Manager Anderson made a motion to pay bills as presented. Seconded by Manager Olauson. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 A.M.

APPROVE:

  
Jerry Hieb, Chairman

ATTEST:



Heather Manson  
Secretary-Treasurer

Barnes County Water Resource District  
PO Box 306  
Valley City, ND 58072

October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
Meeting Attendance

PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW

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Deane Lettenmaier

Donald Jorisa

David Winkler

Harold Gross

Ed Thom

Ann Marie Thom

~~David Thom~~

Darren Sjorson

John Swearingen

Blaine Kobernick