

Barnes County Water Resource District

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November 12, 2013

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Jerry Hieb; Manager Bruce Anderson; Manager Shawn Olauson; Manager Ken Evenson; Commissioner John Froelich; Sean Fredricks – Ohnstad/Twichell & Mike Opat – Moore Engineering.

Manager Bret Fehr - Absent

Also Present: See Attached List

Chairman Hieb called the meeting to order at 900 a.m.

Manager Olauson made a motion to accept the minutes. Manager Evenson seconded motion. Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Medical provider form was discussed and signed by district managers.

OLD BUSINESS

Thordenskjold Drain

Sean Fredericks went over a copy of the Resolution for Necessity for Thordenskjold Drain. We have a process to follow that allows Mike Opat and Sean to get the necessary information of right of way. Sean recommends we

wait till December Meeting because in checking with BC Recorders Office they did not show any right of way and Mike Opat showed right of way in his information. Sean wants this clarified before the district signs any resolution. After all this is done, we can pass an order to officially add to Thordenskjold Drain. Water District has to decide if we deed or easement of this area. Manager Olauson made a motion to table this till December Meeting. Manager Anderson seconded. Motion approved.

Drain clean out was discussed with Manager Anderson bringing the district up to date on the progress. Clean out should be started within the next couple of weeks. Managers Olauson and Anderson are doing some last minute project prep, so clean out can start when contractor gets time.

Nyle Burchill Retention

Nyle Burchill came forward to explain his area and how great it would be for a retention area. Lots of discussion of how and where to work the area in northeastern Barnes County for dry dams or retention areas and what a plus it would be for the area. Nyle said he would help with the easement agreements, if or when we need them. Sean Fredricks mentioned that the Maple River Board is meeting on Dec. 4th in West Fargo, (by Bonanzaville) at 10 am. Barnes and Steele Water Resource Districts are to get an invite to this meeting.

Thom Drainage

Manager Anderson checked into the possibility of boring, but it is a very expensive job. Another way discussed is possibly pumping down slue, over railroad tracks, using water districts pump, as it would probably take awhile for area to fill again. Ed mentioned a culvert about a ½ a mile east that goes under viaduct where it drains into a slue. Discussion followed regarding drainage. Mike Opat will take a look at the lidar and report back at the December meeting.

10 Mile Lake

Paul Abrahamson brought the district up to date on where 10 Mile Lake is at. NRCS cannot write up a compliance letter. NRCS says not all landowners are in compliance. Kurt Tompkins, Fish and Wildlife is working on a letter of compliance from his organization, is not sure why. Without these letters 10 Mile Lake cannot go forward with a retention project. Discussion followed regarding the farmers in area and their participation and cost share for retention of wet lands. Keith Weston was trying to get a soil scientist to come and look at area so this project could keep moving forward. Paul showed maps of 1959. They showed what the area was like back then and also a map of 1941 of this same area, this area was farmed back then, and is now under water. Farmers in area will contribute to an assessment area, but they want to see what the numbers would end up being. Some of the prep work may not be done till next spring do to the land freezing up.

Fox Lake

Mike Opat brought a map of elevation shots for major roads in area and water levels, Moore Engineering did on Fox Lake, after it leveled out. Manager Anderson showed (on map) a drainage ditch that was dug during wet time (that had to be filled in again). Fox Lake was determined to flow north to the Sheyenne River. Water District discussed with Mike about map elevations and an old drain area. NRCS has put money into Elston feed lot and what can be done to protect this project. Pumping is an option to keep the water from rising to feed lot. Discussion of reopening an old (abandoned) drain and develop an assessment district. Then clean out area in question and get Fox Lake drainage under control. Mike Opat said culverts downstream are sized to accommodate a drainage project. Discussion to create a snagging and cleaning project, at the cost of \$.50 per acre or by cost share. Mike Opat was asked to do a cost for # of acres and get a total for next meeting. District should get a contractor bid on cost to open ditch.

Bruce Anderson made a motion to have Mike Opat to do a cost assessment and elevation and what we need to remove around old drain. Ken Evenson seconded motion. Motion approved with a roll call vote. Manager Fehr not present.

Sanborn Lake

Chairman Hieb has gotten the signed contracts between Walt Jorissen and Fred Offner. Basically the contract says it will pay for lost revenue for the last 3 years, pay for the attorneys fees and install Jorissens grade crossing (used by both, Jorissen and Offner), removal of cattails and restore Kurt Tompkins, Fish and Wildlife area. We need to get started with burning of cattails (Kurt Tompkins said to burn through Fish & Wildlife area is okay) then get Fish & Wildlife area filled in as soon as possible. Thomas Anderson is to get project started right after today's meeting. Signed agreement terms: Lost revenue and attorney fees -- Walter Jorissen is \$7,612.50 and for Fred Offner is \$18,200.00. Discussion about project followed. Manager Evenson made a motion to accept the agreements for Walter Jorissen and Fred Offner. Manager Olauson seconded motion. Motion was approved with a roll call vote. Manager Fehr not present.

Kathryn Dam

Mike is working on a list of interested parties, that may be interested in helping fund this dam project. Jerry also mention that Scenic Byway money is gone, but they would be interested in this project. Mike Opat mention others that are interested in the planning work for this project and he will have more information for our December meeting.

HOBART LAKE

No updated information on this due to the FEMA Disasters in Colorado and the Government shut down. Will see about December meeting update.

State Water Convention

December 10 thru 12 is the State Water Convention at the Ramkota in Bismarck. Jerry went only 1 day last year and found it to be an informative day. Chairman Hieb would like all BC Water Resource District members to go, as we are all new members in BC district. Friday, Dec. 13th is also the State Water Commission Meeting and maybe new members should stay and go to this meeting also. This would be an informational meeting for all new members. Governor Dalrymple will also be at this meeting.

Jerry informed the district managers of the Red River Basin Meeting, at the Fargo Library, coming up on November 20 at 6 pm to 7:30 pm. James River Basin meeting is also on November 20 at 10 am in Jamestown.

Harold Rotunda

Harold Rotundra – CPA for Barnes County - handed out 4 pages of a 5 year operating history of BCWRD Statement of Revenues, Expenses & Changes in Fund Balance and Project Balance Sheets. Harold explained what was on these statements and at the end of 2012, BCWRD was **BROKE**. We have an account at Bank Forward for the bond projects of previous years. Harold would like to see Bank Forward account closed and the amount put into BC Water Resource District Account with the county and have all water district bills be paid from this account. Harold told district managers, that with all the big projects that this water district has had over the past years, we have come out in pretty good shape.

Chairman Hieb had a call from Mary Nelson on the Nelson/Buchholz trail and that Milo plead guilty to trespassing charges on Nelson Property. Sean Fredricks is going to check and make sure there is no outstanding BCWRD complaint from the Nelson's, that we need to take action on. Will bring info to December meeting.

LeRoy Triebold informed the district that the Eckelson Lake outlet NW of Gerntholz, where there are 7 culverts through that road and not one has a control gate. LeRoy brought up that Eckelson Lake should not be able to flow in the spring without some control and maybe retention should be looked at for area.

LeRoy Triebold had some discussion regarding the Legal Drain 2 assessment increase, as not all landowners were so excited about going to \$4.00/acre, nor did all landowners vote or know of the meeting on 09-27-13.

Manager Evenson made a motion to pay the October bills of \$8,126.94. Manager Anderson seconded motion. Motion approved with a roll call vote.

Manager Evenson made a motion to adjourn with a second from Manager Olauson. Meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda McKenna
Secretary /Treasurer
Barnes County Water Resource District