

DEVILS LAKE BASIN JOINT WATER RESOURCE BOARD

Minutes of the regular monthly meeting held Wednesday, February 10th, 2010 at the Masonic Lodge in Cando, ND.

In the absence of Chairman Gellner Vice Chairman Tweed called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. Roll call of the counties was taken and all counties were present except Pierce County.

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| Cavalier County | Bill Hardy |
| Eddy County | Mike Tweed |
| Nelson County | Mike Donohue |
| Pierce County | No Representative |
| Ramsey County | Duaine Ash |
| Rolette County | Sherwood Haakenson |
| Towner County | John Elsperger |
| Walsh County | Bob Shirek |

Vice Chairman Tweed stated that minutes of the January 6th board meeting had been sent out in the member's packets and asked if everyone had an opportunity to read them and if there were any corrections or additions. **Shirek moved to approve the minutes of the January 6th, 2010 meeting, second by Hardy, motion passed unanimously.**

The financial report for the month was presented:

Elsperger moved to approve the financial report, second by Ash, motion carried unanimously.

February, 2010 Bills

The following list of bills was presented for payment:

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| Leevers County Market | \$17.35 |
| Jeff Frith - Manager's January Travel | \$255.00 |
| NDTC (Website Hosting) | \$26.75 |
| Ramsey County Auditor: Rent | \$190.00 |
| Ramsey County Auditor: Pstg * | \$49.33 |
| Ramsey County Auditor: Telephone: December - January | \$64.84 |
| Ramsey County Auditor: copies | \$73.60 |
| Ramsey County Water Resource District - Copier Rent | \$50.00 |
| ND SWC (December & January Downstream) | \$1,519.05 |
| ND SWC 4th Quarter Engineering | \$2,500.00 |
| Bartlett & West (Pilot Project) | \$1,375.00 |
| ND PERs - Health Insurance | \$1,036.88 |
| NDSU 4th Quarter TEST PROJECT Contract Fee | \$26,152.68 |

* Includes \$20.00 Postage Meter Fee

Elsperger moved to pay the bills as listed, second by Donohue, motion carried unanimously.

TEST PROJECT UPDATE:

Frith stated that the monthly report from Dr. Hopkins is in the board's packets and that it basically explains what has transpired in the research department within the last month. Frith also mentioned that he had asked the Drs. if they thought that the remaining research that NDSU had remaining will be beneficial in other words is the Joint board going to receive a good return on the remaining money that is in NDSU's contract. The Drs. assured Frith that they will have a significant amendment to their final report that was given to the Joint Board last May.

ESAP CONTRACT RENEWAL UPDATE:

Mike Noone, SWC stated that he has contacted the EPA 3 times since the last meeting and is still waiting for their approval. The EPA would be the last of the 4 federal agencies needed to complete the contract. Once that takes place the contracts will go out to the landowners.

2010 WATER TOUR:

Frith asked if the board remembered from last meeting they are looking at touring the State Outlet, Tolna Coulee and the area north and east of Devils Lake, Lakota and Michigan areas. All of that maybe too much to take in one day so they may have to shorten the trip up somehow. Frith stated that he would like to get together with the board members from those areas to get different route ideas.

RED RIVER BASIN CONFERENCE FOLLOW UP

Frith passed out the printed copy of his power point presentation that he did at the conference and explained what he talked about and some of the different slides in the hand out. It was mentioned from the various board members in attendance for Frith's presentation said that he did a good job. There were some concerns from the members that had attended the conference that we need to continue to get our word out as many still do not fully understand the Devils Lake situation nor do they want to include Devils Lake in the Red River Basin because Devils Lake isn't flowing naturally into the Sheyenne River yet.

CAVANAUGH LAKE REPAIR REQUEST:

Frith stated that at last meeting he was directed to look into what role did the Joint Board play the last time these repairs were needed. After looking through old minutes and notes from the previous manager it was discovered that the previous manager did a lot of the leg work to help arrange the work that needed to be done but it was the Ramsey County WRD that ultimately paid for the repairs.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

SWC & NWS SNOW PACK MEASUREMENTS & FLOOD FORECAST:

Erwin Curry from the SWC reported on the recent snow pack survey and how they compared to last years survey.

REQUEST FROM SWC TO COST SHARE ADDITIONAL WATER MONITORING GAGE:

Frith mentioned that he was approached by Bruce Engelhardt from the SWC and he had stated that ND DOT who had previously partnered in the cost share of the gages decided not to participate and he was wondering if the Joint Board would be willing to an additional cost share above what the board had decided at last months meeting. The gage in question is the gage at Stump Lake and each gage cost about \$6000 per year to monitor. **Ash moved to contribute an additional \$1000 for gage monitoring in the DL Basin, second by Donohue, motion carried unanimously.**

SWEETWATER/MORISON OUTLET & CHANNEL REPORT TO STATE ENGINEER:

Frith presented the board with a letter to State Engineer, Dale Frink as per the operational guideline for the Morrison Outlet addressing the board's activities at the outlet last year and this year's planned activities. Frith stated that per the operating agreement the report to the engineer requires board approval. **Hardy made a motion to accept the operational report for the Morrison Outlet to the State Engineer, second by Elesperger, motion carried unanimously.**

LETTER OF SUPPORT TO CITY OF DEVIL LAKE:

Frith presented the board with a letter of support addressed to the City of Devils Lake addressing the work that the city had done in the Tolna Coulee and supported the city's plan in requesting that they be allowed to remove an additional 5 feet of sedimentation. Frith asked if the board thought was all right as written or if they would like to see any changes made to the letter. **A motion was made by Ash to approve the letter as written and send it to Mayor Bott and the Devils Lake City Commission, second by Donohue, a roll call vote was asked for and all representatives voting aye. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

ROAD & RAILROAD INVENTORY:

Frith reminded the board that this is an on going project of collecting the ever changing Road, & Railroad Inventory including bridges and culverts. Frith asked if any WRD have any updated information to please pass it on so that database can be kept up to date as much as possible.

TILE DRAINAGE PRESENTATION:

Laura Ackerman from the State Water Commission gave a presentation on Tile Drainage. In her presentation Ackerman addressed several different aspects of tile drainage but really highlighted the permitting process that is required and what is required of the local Water Resource Districts.

CORRESPONDANCE & MISCELLANEOUS:

Frith directed the board members to the portion of their packets that contained the moisture reports; lake level and basin coulee flows along with various newspaper articles.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

None

BASIN BOARD REPORTS:

Cavalier County: Hardy reported that fairly quiet, they did do some work on Mulberry Creek near Langdon.

Eddy County: Tweed stated that the increase flows in the Sheyenne River from the State Outlet is raising some concerns from people in Eddy County. New Rockford got a new Grain Terminal and 50 to 80 Wind Towers will be going up in the County.

Nelson County: Donohue reported that they will be meeting tomorrow. They are looking at a redesign of the Michigan spillway and are awaiting an engineer's report for that.

Pierce County: No Report

Ramsey County: Ash reported that they are doing a lot and having a lot of discussion concerning the Public Hearing for the increase in the State Outlet and they are having a joint meeting with Towner, Eddy and Benson Counties WRDs to listen to the concerns that Eddy and Benson WRD have brought fourth.

Rolette County: Haakenson reported that it is winter and has been pretty quiet with a lot of people vacationing down south. Last fall they dealt with a lot of beaver problems and they too have an awful lot of snow.

Towner County: Elsperger stated that it has been pretty quiet except for the Public Hearing that Ash had mentioned. They are working with NRCS on different projects including a stream restoration project. They have a lot of snow in the county and no more room to store any more water.

Walsh County: Shirek stated that they had their meeting yesterday and that they are dealing with a lot of Tile Drain Permit, all of which are on the eastern part of the county and not in the DL Basin.

STATE WATER COMMISSION REPORT:

Erwin Curry, ND SWC provided his report and a copy of which will be included in the official minutes.

RED RIVER BASIN COMMISSION:

Julie was unable to make it to the meeting today.

USF&W UPDATE:

No report, no representative present.

NRCS REPORT:

Lena Bohm, NRCS representative from the Towner County Office was present and gave a report.

DOWNSTREAM REPORT:

Joe Belford reported he was busy traveling across Eastern North Dakota and Manitoba presenting to various groups and providing testimony to two different public hearings.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Frith stated that his report was sent to the board members for their review and asked if they had any questions, no questions were asked, the manager's report would be included with the official minutes.

Vice Chairman Tweed thanked everyone for coming today and reminded everyone that the next Joint Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 10th at 9am at the Ambulance Center in Munich.

Date approved: **March 10th, 2010**

Larry Gellner, Chairman

Jeff W. Frith, Manager