

DEVILS LAKE BASIN JOINT WATER RESOURCE BOARD

Minutes of the regular monthly meeting held Wednesday, June 12th, 2024, Historical Meeting Room, Ramsey County Courthouse, Devils Lake, ND, and Online via Teams.

Vice-Chairman Mike Tweed called the meeting to order at 8:06 AM. Roll call of the counties was taken.



Cavalier County	Van Howatt (Absent)
Eddy County	Mike Tweed
Nelson County	Dave Sateren (Absent)
Pierce County	Floyd Slaubaugh
Ramsey County	Duaine Ash
Towner County	Randy Benson
Walsh County	Albin Jallo

APPROVE AGENDA: Tweed asked if anyone had any additional items for today’s agenda. **Benson made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Jallo, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVAL of MINUTES: Tweed asked if everyone had an opportunity to read the minutes from May 8th, 2024, and if there were any corrections or additions. **Jallo made a motion to approve the May 8th, 2024 minutes, seconded by Slaubaugh, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVAL of FINANCIALS: The financial reports were presented. **Benson made a motion to approve the financial reports, seconded by Slaubaugh, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVAL of MONTHLY BILLS:

June 2024 Bills	Amount	Ck #
Intuit QuickBooks Online Monthly	\$45.00	ACH
Ramsey County Water Resource District (Copier Rent)	\$125.00	5034
Ramsey County Water Resource District (Office Assistant Services)	\$300.00	5034
Ramsey County Auditor: Rent	\$190.00	5035
Ramsey County Auditor: Telephone	\$55.49	5035
Ramsey County Auditor - Wages & Withholding Taxes	\$5,882.09	5037
Ramsey County Auditor - Health Insurance	\$2,062.94	5036
NDTC - Website Hosting	\$21.83	5032
Leevers - May Meeting Expense	\$16.88	5033
Leevers - Account Adjustment - Meeting Expense	\$0.22	5041
Jeff Frith - May 2024 Travel	\$247.90	5038
Jeff Frith - Cell Phone Expense	\$101.25	5038
ND Water Resource District Association - Summer Conference	\$190.00	5040
 Total Admin	\$9,238.60	
 Total General Project	\$0.00	

Total **\$9,238.60**

Ash made a motion to pay the June 2024 bills listed, seconded by Jallo, motion carried unanimously.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Stacy Peters-Ramsey County WRD Office Manager, Amanda Lee-National Weather Service, Brian Sea-ND Game & Fish, and Dave Azure-US Fish & Wildlife. Online: Yaping Chi, Sindhuja S.Pillai-Grinolds & Alexis Faber-Department of Water Resources, Julie Ellingson-ND Water Association.

AGENCY REPORTS:

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE: Amanda Lee was in attendance online. She reviewed her monthly report and showed the Drought Monitor report, which showed how drought conditions were removed due to the rain received. The next Exceedance Lake Level report is to come out on June 20th, and the first official Non-Exceedance Lake Level report is to come out next week.

ND GAME & FISH: Brian Sea was in attendance. He mentioned they have been doing district lake surveys. He stated that after completing the district lake surveys, they would do Devils Lake & Stump Lake. He said fishing has been a little slower with the weather. He mentioned that he contacted Daniel Fischer, Surveyor & Engineer, regarding the Rock Lake berm. Daniel would be providing him with costs and how the land would be impacted by flooding with the berm.

NRCS: No one was in attendance due to NRCS being out planting trees. Frith mentioned that David Remmen would like some NRCS staff to attend the tour next week.

US FISH & WILDLIFE: Dave Azure was in attendance. He said they have been busy this spring. He said they had been working on compliance with easements & he mentioned that several big cases have been closed. He said they won't be hiring as many summer staff due to budget restraints. He mentioned that they have 3 new calves at White Horse, and a matured bull was lost this winter. He mentioned that the final rule for the drain tile setbacks is effective today. He said that if landowners work with F&W on drain tile with wetland easements and in the future, the distances are inadequate, F&W cannot go back to the land owner for damages.

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES: Yaping Chi was in attendance online. She mentioned that the West End Outlet is operating at 250 cfs & the East End Outlet is operating at 200 cfs, with a total discharge of 450 cfs. She gave updates of the Engineering Services for the Devils Lake Outlets, which include two Task Orders. Task Order #1 is for general engineering services and Task Order #2 is to investigate the Josephine Tank overflow issue, which will be brought to the State Water Commission. She mentioned that 6 staff would attend the water tour next week.

ND WATER ASSOCIATION: Julie Ellingson was in attendance online.

OLD BUSINESS:

WATER TOUR FOR 2024: Frith reminded everyone of the water tour on June 20th. He mentioned that there is a social on Wednesday, June 19th, from 5:30-7 PM at Dakota Farms in Rugby. He said that the Upper Sheyenne would meet at 7 PM at the Cobblestone on June 19th in Rugby.

2024 JOINT SUMMER MEETING: Frith reminded everyone that this was being held in Minot on July 9-July 11 at the Sleep Inn. Julie Ellingson reminded everyone to get their rooms, as the block ends on June 17th, and there will be no extension.

2025 BUDGET 2ND READING: Frith mentioned that he kept most of the figures the same for 2025. **Jallo made a motion to approve the 2025 Budget as presented, seconded by Benson, motion carried unanimously.** Frith will forward this to the County Auditor's offices by July 1st.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: Frith mentioned the State Water Commission meeting is tomorrow in Bismarck and there is a Department of Water Resources - Commissioner Hosted meeting for the DL Basin on June 18th at 3 PM at LRSC,

OTHER OLD BUSINESS: No other old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

RECYCLE BIN COST SHARE: Frith mentioned that Ramsey County Water Resource has a recycling bin in their office to dispose of old files/records. The cost for this is \$45 every quarter. The water board asked if the Joint Board wanted to share in this cost. **Benson made a motion to cost-share the recycling bin, seconded by Ash, motion carried unanimously.**

JULY MEETING DATE: Frith mentioned that July's meeting is at the same time as the Summer Meeting. Ash made a motion to change July's meeting to Thursday, July 18th, 2024, at 8 a.m., seconded by Slaubaugh, the **motion carried unanimously.**

CORRESPONDENCE & MISCELLANEOUS: Frith mentioned the correspondence is the stream flows & lake levels that he sends out. He did show some pictures he had taken with his drone.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS: Frith did mention to the board members that the Water Topics Committee met last week in Minot. He mentioned that Jack Dwyer did do a presentation on Water Resource Districts & SB2372. He recommended that the board members go back and watch the presentation & questions and comments from after the presentation.

Frith provided Daryll's picture on the NDAWN all-season gauge up at the Wolford site. He mentioned that Brockett would be done later this year.

BASIN BOARD REPORTS:

Ramsey County: Ash mentioned that the water board had their meeting last week. He discussed Channel A and the pipe that the water board decided on. He stated they discussed Ramsey County Drain #10, and cattail spraying. He mentioned that the water board is working on a water complaint that has been received several times before.

Walsh County: Jallo mentioned they met yesterday. He said they have a plugged-up dam. They have a company out of Minneapolis, which is located on-site today. They are putting in a plug and then sending a diver down to see what is causing the dam to plug. He said they continue to deal with townships and blocked ROW.

Eddy County: Tweed mentioned they met last week. He said they had a few drain tile permits and they did approve 1.

Pierce County: Slaubaugh mentioned they met on June 4th, and they had no water issues to discuss.

Towner County: Benson mentioned their secretary, Ruth, is retiring after 29 years.

Nelson County: Sateren not in attendance and no updates provided.

Cavalier County: Howatt not in attendance and no updates provided.

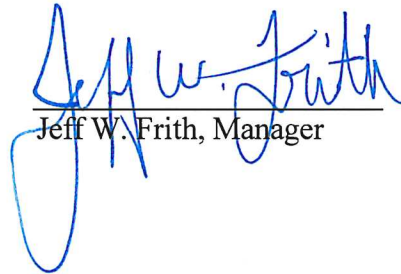
MANAGER'S REPORT: Frith had nothing further. He mentioned expediting drain tiling permits, especially with most water boards only meeting once a month.

The meeting adjourned at 9:56 AM.

Approved July 18th, 2024:



Van Howatt, Chairman



Jeff W. Frith, Manager