

RICHLAND COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
Special Meeting
7625 164 Ave SE, Barney, ND
June 15, 2021

The Richland County Water Resource Board ("RCWRB") met June 15, 2021 at 3:00 PM at Don Moffet's shop, located at 7625 164th Avenue SE, Barney, ND.

THOSE PRESENT: Managers Arv Burvee, Mark Fahsholz, Gary Friskop, Don Moffet, Engineering Technician Justin Johnson, Mike Bassingthwaite, of Interstate Engineering, Randy Gjestvang, of the North Dakota State Water Commission ("ND SWC"), several landowners/tenants, and Tris Anderson, of the *Daily News*.

THOSE ABSENT: Clint Arndt

The meeting was called for the purpose of presenting Regional Conservation Partnership Program ("RCPP") information to landowners/tenants who would be directly impacted by a detention site and to gather input about their interest in a detention project.

Chr. Burvee opened the meeting and called on Mike Bassingthwaite, of Interstate Engineering, to explain the background information on the RCPP project, and how the Board arrived at this point in the process. Mr. Bassingthwaite reviewed retention sites #3A-7 and #6A-95 with the group and then answered various questions about both sites.

Discussion was held regarding the benefit-cost ratio and how the use of the detention sites had to change to make the minimum 1:1 ratio in order to qualify for federal funding. The largest change is the majority of the land in the detention area cannot be farmed or drain tiled as originally thought. Most of the land in the detention area would need to be used for wetland restoration and biomass harvesting. Additional discussion was held about the ability to graze and/or hay the land inside the detention area.

Attendees inquired about how landowners would be compensated for the use of their property. Two options discussed were the District purchasing the land by deed and long-term easements; no concrete answers could be provided at this time.

Assessment areas for the detention sites were also discussed. Mr. Bassingthwaite was asked to provide an approximate assessment area for the two sites so the Managers can review them at their June 22, 2021 regular meeting.

Chr. Burvee asked the attendees if they were interested in the Board continuing to pursue the two sites. Consensus seemed to be that the Board should continue on with this portion of the RCPP process, including putting together a preliminary assessment area and an estimate of compensation landowners could receive if they choose to participate in the project.

Another meeting will be scheduled with the landowners/tenants when the additional data is available. (RCWRD #16-017)

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chr. Burvee adjourned the meeting at 4:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Zentgraf
Monica Zentgraf
Secretary

Arv Burvee
Arv Burvee
Chairman of the Board