

RICHLAND COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
Richland County Courthouse, Wahpeton, ND
March 24, 2020

The Richland County Water Resource Board ("RCWRB") met March 24, 2020 at 9:00 AM via teleconference, which originated at the Richland County Courthouse, Wahpeton, North Dakota.

THOSE PRESENT (via teleconference): Managers Arv Burvee, Mark Fahsholz, Gary Friskop, James Haugen, Don Moffet, Engineering Technician Justin Johnson, and Secretary-Treasurer Monica Zentgraf.

THOSE ABSENT: None

Interstate Engineering, Inc 2020 Rate Schedule

Mike Bassingthwaite, of Interstate Engineering, Inc, joined the meeting via teleconference. Prior to the meeting, Mr. Bassingthwaite provided the Office with Interstate Engineering's new rate schedule for 2020 and the information was emailed to the Managers for their review. Engineers rates for 2020 remained the same as 2019, however, Mr. Bassingthwaite's classification recently changed from Engineer IV to Engineer V for small projects and from Engineer V to Engineer VI for large projects, resulting in an hourly rate increase. There were some rate increases for Surveyors, Planners, Technicians, and Information Technologists. Mr. Bassingthwaite asked the Managers to consider overall project costs and not to concentrate on hourly rates, as an experienced person is able to complete a project in less time than an inexperienced person.

North Branch Antelope Creek Watershed Study- Regional Conservation Partnership Program ("RCPP")

Interstate Engineering stopped work on the RCPP study pending the North Dakota State Water Commission and Red River Joint Water Resource District's decisions regarding cost share assistance for the \$50,000 engineering over-run. After cost share decisions are made, Mr. Bassingthwaite wants to meet with the Board to review findings. Mgr. Burvee indicated he would like the Managers to have further discussion about completing the study after the cost share decisions are made and before any further engineering work is done. Board consensus was for the project to remain on hold at this time. (RCWRD #16-017)

Mr. Bassingthwaite left the meeting.

Minutes

The March 10, 2020 minutes were presented. A motion was made by Mgr. Fahsholz and seconded by Mgr. Burvee to approve the March 10, 2020 minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Financial Matters

●Vouchers- It was reported that vouchers for the month of March 2020 have been reviewed in person by Chr. Friskop. A listing of all checks written, dollar amounts, and funds charged were emailed to the Managers for their review. A motion was made by Mgr. Haugen, seconded by Mgr. Burvee, and unanimously carried to approve Vouchers #18298 through #18319 and the electronic funds transfers for the IRS and Job Service payments.

Mail

- 1) Richland County Board of Commissioners- February 4, 2020 minutes.

Contractor Agreement for Spraying Services

At the March 10, 2020 meeting, the Managers were provided with a copy of a written agreement Legal Counsel recommended the District utilize for spraying services. The document has been reviewed by the Managers. A motion was made by Mgr. Burvee and seconded by Mgr. Fahsholz to approve the contractor agreement for spraying services. The motion carried unanimously.

Drain Plans

It was previously reported that Interstate Engineering scanned all of the District's drain plans for their convenience when working on the various drains. The Managers directed Office Staff contact Mr. Bassingthwaite about the cost to obtain an electronic copy of the plans. Mr. Bassingthwaite was contacted and agreed to provide the District with a copy at no charge.

Richland County Pandemic Policy

The Managers were informed of the policy Richland County recently implemented due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Technician's Report

- Spring Thaw- Mr. Johnson will be out in the county and available by phone during the upcoming spring thaw.

- Tree and Shrub Grubbing- The majority of the problem areas were taken care of; some smaller sites were not accessible due to snowpack. Work has been completed for this year.

Applications

Appl #20-004, Ron Conzemius Trust and Mary Conzemius Trust: SE1/4 Section 5, Center West A motion was made by Mgr. Fahsholz, seconded by Mgr. Moffet, and unanimously carried to defer the drain tile application pending the 30 day notification to downstream landowners.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chr. Friskop adjourned the meeting at 10:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Zentgraf
Monica Zentgraf
Secretary

Gary Friskop
Gary Friskop
Chairman of the Board