

RICHLAND COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT  
Richland County Courthouse, Wahpeton, ND  
May 28, 2019

The Richland County Water Resource Board ("RCWRB") met May 28, 2019 at 8:00 AM at the Richland County Courthouse, Wahpeton, North Dakota.

THOSE PRESENT: Managers Arv Burvee, Gary Friskop, James Haugen, Don Moffet, Robert Rostad, Engineering Technician Justin Johnson, and Secretary-Treasurer Monica Zentgraf.

THOSE ABSENT: None

### **Minutes**

The May 21, 2019 minutes were presented. A motion was made by Mgr. Rostad and seconded by Mgr. Moffet to approve the May 21, 2019 minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Proj #31- Myron Holthusen Driveway in the NW1/4 Section 20, Summit West**

The Managers continued their May 21, 2019 discussion in regard to Myron Holthusen's driveway, located in the NW1/4 Section 20, Summit West. The driveway crosses Proj#31. The point of discussion was repairing the existing driveway or providing Holthusens an alternate access. A motion was made by Mgr. Burvee, seconded by Mgr. Rostad, and unanimously carried to rescind the May 21, 2019 motion "authorizing JBX to complete preliminary driveway repairs to provide Mr. Holthusen adequate access for the time being." A call was made to Mr. Holthusen requesting him to meet with the Board later in the meeting today. (RCWRD #19-011)

### **Financial Matters**

- Vouchers- Vouchers for the month of May 2019 were presented for the Board's review and approval. A motion was made by Mgr. Burvee and seconded by Mgr. Moffet to approve Vouchers #18064 through #18093 and the electronic funds transfer for the IRS payment. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Proj #1 Reconstruction**

A conference call was held with Mike Bassingthwaite, of Interstate Engineering. The bid tab from the May 21, 2019 bid opening was presented to the Board. JAV Construction was low bidder with a Base bid of \$170,920 and Alternate #1 bid of \$30,138 for a total bid of \$201,058. No action was taken pending the June 11, 2019 meeting with Jeff Christopherson and Kelly Miller. (RCWRD #17-017)

### **Proj #7 Reconstruction**

The Managers were informed that when TrueNorth Steel provided the quote for the culverts for the Proj #7 reconstruction they quoted the larger pipe with a 5 inch x 1 inch corrugation rather than the standard 2 ¾ inch x ½ inch corrugation. A conference call was held with Gabe Bladow, of Houston Engineering, to discuss this matter. Mr. Bladow reported that he visited with the Sales Rep for TrueNorth Steel and was told the 5 inch x 1 inch corrugation is the same strength as the standard corrugation, but it is made of thinner steel. The Sales Representative assured Mr. Bladow the 5 inch x 1 inch has a very similar life span as the standard corrugation. If the Managers wished to use the standard corrugation, the additional cost would be approximately \$16,000. After considerable discussion regarding the life span, a motion was made by Mgr. Haugen and seconded by Mgr. Moffet to use the 5 inch x 1 inch corrugation per TrueNorth Steel's quote. The motion carried unanimously. (RCWRD #17-016)

### **Proj #31- Myron Holthusen Driveway in the NW1/4 Section 20, Summit West**

As requested by the Managers, Myron Holthusen met with the Board to discuss his driveway. Chr. Friskop explained the Board's concern about the liability issue associated with the driveway (which crosses Proj #31) during flood events and the recurring maintenance of the driveway as a result of flooding. Mr. Holthusen

provided history of the crossing, including the fact that the 24 foot bridge at this location was replaced with three 5 foot culverts, which he feels do not provide an adequate opening compared to the bridge opening. Mr. Holthusen also stated an additional 5 foot culvert was placed alongside the bridge to the south of him. He feels the crossing would not sustain damage if an additional 6 foot or 8 foot arch pipe was added alongside the existing pipes. The Managers were not in agreement with Mr. Holthusen and proposed eliminating the existing driveway and building an all-weather road which would go out to the north on the west side of the farmstead, where there is an existing field trail. An approach would also be installed on the north end for access to the field. The District would need an easement to enter upon the land to construct and main the road and to ensure the road would not be altered or removed in the future. An offer in the amount of \$5,000 was made for the easement.

Mr. Holthusen indicated that he understood the Board's liability concerns, but felt if an additional culvert were installed, the crossing would hold. A suggestion was made about possibly installing posts and a cable along both sides of the existing driveway for safety and to reduce the District's liability exposure. Mr. Holthusen was in favor of this alternative, but the Managers preferred an all-weather road.

Discussion was also held regarding water flooding the yard, such as during the 1997 flood when water ran into the detached garage and very close to the house. By removing the existing crossing, water will flow freely and lower the water level in the yard.

Mr. Holthusen asked the Board to do an engineering study to determine the correct size of pipe needed to equal the capacity of the bridge which was removed. He also felt a cost comparison should be made for repairing the existing crossing, adding an additional culvert, and installing posts and cable vs the Board's offer for an all-weather road, field approach, easement payment, and removing the existing crossing. Mr. Holthusen felt work on the existing crossing would be the best and most economical solution.

To assure safe passage on the existing driveway, a motion was made by Mgr. Burvee and seconded by Mgr. Rostad authorizing JBX to make temporary repairs. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mgr. Rostad and seconded by Mgr. Burvee authorizing Interstate Engineering to provide a study on the capacity through Mr. Holthusen's driveway and cost estimate for the work on the existing driveway vs an all-weather road. The motion carried unanimously. The Board will meet with Mr. Holthusen when they receive Interstate Engineering's report.

Upon conclusion of the meeting with Mr. Holthusen, additional discussion followed regarding an all-weather road. The Managers concluded that building a road from Mr. Holthusen's yard out to County Road 81 (to the west) rather than one to the north would be a better option. This option will be used for the cost comparison. (RCWRD #19-011)

### **Technician's Report**

Mr. Johnson reported on the May 23, 2019 meeting with members of the Fargo-Moorhead Diversion Authority and MnDak Coalition. Mgr. Rostad also attended the meeting. Purpose of the meeting was for the Diversion Representatives to discuss impacts to Richland County.

Mr. Johnson also reported on the Metro Flood Diversion Authority meeting he attended later that day.

### **Broadleaf Weed Spraying**

Discussion was held regarding spraying the legal drains for broadleaf weeds. A motion was made by Mgr. Rostad and seconded by Mgr. Moffet authorizing Larson Helicopters to spray all drains for broadleaf weeds with the exception of Projs #1,

#7 (Sections 21, 22, 23, Garborg Township), #19, and #41 (N1/2SE1/4 Section 1, Mooreton Township and W1/2SW1/4 Section 6, Center West). The motion carried unanimously.

**Proj #41 Cleanout**

The Board previously directed written notification be sent to the owners and tenants in the E1/2 Sections 13, 24, 25, and 36, Mooreton Township, regarding the Board's decision to reestablish a 16 foot buffer along this portion of Proj #41. The matter was further considered at today's meeting with the consensus being not to send out letters, but for Chr. Friskop to visit with the owners of the SE1/4 Section 25 and SE1/4 Section 36 to ask for their cooperation in keeping their tillage equipment off the backside of the channel to prevent sediment from being deposited in the drain. (Berndt #18-027)

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chr. Friskop adjourned the meeting at 11:40 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Monica Zentgraf*  
Monica Zentgraf  
Secretary

*Gary Friskop*  
Gary Friskop  
Chairman of the Board