

RICHLAND COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
Richland County Courthouse, Wahpeton, ND
November 19, 2019

The Richland County Water Resource Board ("RCWRB") met November 19, 2019 at 8:00 AM at the Richland County Courthouse, Wahpeton, North Dakota.

THOSE PRESENT: Managers Arv Burvee, James Haugen, Don Moffet, Robert Rostad, Engineering Technician Justin Johnson, and Secretary-Treasurer Monica Zentgraf. Ron Heglie was also present.

THOSE ABSENT: Gary Friskop

Mgr. Rostad introduced Ron Heglie, who wished to observe the meeting, as he is considering applying for Mgr. Rostad's unexpired two year term on the RCWRB. Mgr. Rostad submitted his letter of resignation to the Richland County Commission effective December 31, 2019.

Minutes

The October 22, 2019 minutes were presented. A motion was made by Mgr. Haugen and seconded by Mgr. Moffet to approve the October 22, 2019 minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Financial Matters

●October 2019 Financial Reports- A motion was made by Mgr. Rostad and seconded by Mgr. Moffet to accept the October 2019 financial reports as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

●Bremer Bank Letter of Credit- 110% of the District's securities totaled \$7,079,796.97 on October 31, 2019. The Letter of Credit was reduced to \$8,000,000 on October 22, 2019; it adequately covers the District's funds.

Mail

- 1) Richland County Township Officers Association- Notice of the annual fall meeting scheduled for November 26th. Mgr. Burvee volunteered to attend the meeting.
- 2) Richland County Board of County Commissioners- Copy of minutes from the October meetings.
- 3) North Dakota State Water Commission ("ND SWC")- "*The Current*" newsletter.
- 4) Houston Engineering- "*Backsights & Foresights*" newsletter.
- 5) International Water Institute- River Watch/River of Dreams activity report.
- 6) Houston Engineering- Update on the recent ND SWC Policy Committee Meeting
- 7) Interstate Engineering- Completed application for a Forest Service Special Use Permit for Proj #10 land lying on Forest Service property. A motion was made by Mgr. Moffet and seconded by Mgr. Haugen authorizing Vice Chr. Burvee to sign the application. The motion carried unanimously. (RCWRD #19-057)

Office Staff reported on the following matters they handled between October 23, 2019 and November 18, 2019 (between RCWRB meetings):

Proj #3

Almost immediately after Ted Luick filled the holes and separation in the road in the NW1/4 Sec 21, Lamars Township, one of the three culverts washed out. Houston Engineering prepared a hydraulic study for this site and determined the three existing 48 inch culverts could be replaced with like sized culverts. Two Board Members were contacted and the decision was made to proceed with replacing the three existing culverts with like sized culverts as soon as possible, as the county road was closed due to the collapsed culvert. The work was assigned to JBX, Inc. (RCWRD #19-058)

Proj #5(64) Repairs

Stephen Anderson notified Office Staff that his drain tile outlet, in the SE1/4 Section 22, Walcott West, has been moved approximately 100 feet west of Highway #26. Given the weather conditions, repairs to the drain (in the NE1/4 Section 27, Walcott West) will not be made until spring. (RCWRD #19-024)

Proj #31 Reconstruction

The Managers were informed the application for reconstruction of Proj #31, in the E1/2 Section 28 and SE1/4 Section 21, all in Devillo Township, has been submitted to the ND SWC. It was imperative that the application be submitted as soon as possible to secure the permit so a request can be submitted to the ND SWC for cost share consideration at the February 2020 meeting. Two Managers were contacted and permission was granted to submit the permit application. (RCWRD #18-022)

Proj #48

Jeff Bolme informed Office Staff the inlet culverts into Proj #48, in the NW1/4 Section 29, and the NW1/4 Section 32, both in Eagle South, do not need to be lowered as he previously requested and received permission for. Mr. Bolme felt the only work needed in the NW1/4 Section 29 is to remove sediment from the upstream end of the culvert (Mr. Bolme's responsibility) and to extend the culvert in the NW1/4 Section 32 (culvert materials are Mr. Bolme's responsibility/labor is RCWRD responsibility). (Bolme #19-021 & #19-022).

Proj #65

Mr. Johnson reported that while replacing various culverts on Proj #65 in Sections 23 and 26, Brandenburg Township, the contractor mistakenly replaced the culvert to the north of the actual repair site (#416) in the NE1/4 Section 23. The mixup occurred due to the flag at Site #416 having been knocked down during harvest and the contractor seeing several small flags by the northern most culvert (flags placed by landowner). Mr. Johnson determined the northern most culvert (Site #430) was missed during his inspection and needed to be replaced as well. Since the culvert for Site #416 was used at Site #430, Mr. Johnson ordered a culvert for Site #416 and it has been installed as originally placed. (RCWRD #19-033)

Proj #72

As approved August 20, 2019 by the RCWRB, the mainline culvert on Proj #72, located in the SWCR Section 13, Nansen Township (Site #418) has been replaced. The adjacent landowner contacted the Office with several concerns after the culvert was replaced, including: 1) his drain tile outlet, located in the NECR NE1/4 Section 23, was covered up; 2) the culvert was not installed with the proper drop; 3) damage was/will be done to the land in this area because of changing the drain (not installing the culvert with the proper drop); and 4) his drain tile outlet will silt in because of improper installation of the culvert. Upon the Office receiving the landowner's telephone call, Mr. Johnson and the contractor immediately went to the site, located the tile outlet, and uncovered it. The crop had been removed and the ground was worked prior to the installation of the new culvert. It was determined that no damages occurred in the NE1/4 Section 23 nor to the drain tile outlet. Two Board Members were contacted and permission was granted for Interstate Engineering to survey the culvert and determine if it was set to the original elevation.

As requested, Interstate Engineering inspected and surveyed the culvert in question in addition to several of the surrounding culverts. The Engineer submitted a report to the Office; it was reviewed with the Managers at this time. While the culvert was not set to the original elevation, the Engineer does "not believe the placement will be a large issue with the function of the drain itself. However, the primary problem with having the culvert essentially flat is the likelihood that sediment over time in the center will cause water to sit in the culvert and accelerate the deterioration of the culvert" due to "hot" soils in this area. For this reason, the Engineer recommended resetting the culvert to the original elevation. A motion

was made by Mgr. Haugen and seconded by Mgr. Rostad directing the contractor to reset the culvert in the SWCR Section 13, Nansen Township, per Interstate Engineering's recommendation. Work at Proj #72 expense. The motion carried unanimously. The Managers wished to make it clear that they are very supportive of the contractor who did the work; setting the culvert at a flat grade was no one's fault; and the decision to reset the culvert is due to "hot" soils in this area. A copy of the Engineer's recommendation will be sent to the landowner with the rationale for approving the resetting of the culvert.

The Managers reviewed the "Conditions" attached to the landowner's drain tile permit, #12-108, for the NE1/4 Section 23, Nansen Township. They directed a copy of the "Conditions" be sent to the landowner with Condition #7 highlighted. (Condition #7 reads "The Richland County Water Resource District will not be liable for any damages to Applicant's tile or tile outlets resulting from maintenance or reconstruction of legal drains or natural watercourses.") (RCWRD #19-042)

Wild Rice River Snagging and Clearing

The bid from American Enterprises, for snagging and clearing on the Wild Rice River, was presented to the Board. The bid for Reach 1 is \$150,000 and extends from south of Mantador in Section 17, Belford Township, to one mile east of where the Wild Rice River crosses I-29, just west of Great Bend (Section 21/22, Brandenburg Township). Appl #19-060 was completed and a motion was made by Mgr. Rostad, seconded by Mgr. Moffet, and unanimously carried to defer action pending ND SWC cost share approval. (A cost share request has been submitted to the ND SWC.)

Technician's Report

- Miscellaneous Projects Update- Mr. Johnson provided a brief update of drain projects being worked on, tree grinding, and beaver dam removal.
- Metro Flood Diversion Authority Meeting- Mr. Johnson reported on the October 31, 2019 Metro Flood Diversion Authority meeting he attended.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice Chr. Burvee adjourned the meeting at 10:20 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Zentgraf
Monica Zentgraf
Secretary

Arv Burvee
Arv Burvee
Vice Chairman of the Board