

# **Steele County Water Resource District**

## General Meeting –January 8th, 2019 Minutes

The Steele County Water Resource Board met on Tuesday, January 8th, 2019 at 9 AM at the Steele County Court House, Finley, North Dakota.

Board members present –Josh Ihry, and Tor Bergstrom

Others present -Lyndon Pease - Moore Engineering, Cassie Tostenson - Brudvik Law Office, Don Huso - Water Board Secretary.

Chairman Ihry called the meeting to order.

### **Approve Agenda**

A motion was made by Manager Bergstrom to approve the agenda, seconded by Manager Ihry, motion carried.

### **Approve Minutes**

A motion was made by Manager Bergstrom to approve the minutes from General Meeting on December 11th, 2018, seconded by Manager Ihry, motion carried.

### **Lake Tobiason Project**

Funding was approved for the project. Steele County will receive 50 % of the project cost. Construction will start this summer and should be completed by this fall. Township authorities will be notified about road closures and any other issues of concern. Motion made by Manager Bergstrom, upon legal approval, to authorize Chairman Ihry to sign the necessary agreements for the project, seconded by Manager Ihry, motion carried.

### **Beaver Dam Update**

Beaver trapping is in progress. Private individuals are doing the trapping at no cost to the Water Board.

**Joe Larson – Drain Project**

Engineer Pease estimated the project cost to be around \$278,000. The board discussed land owner assessment costs. Assessment would be for a 15 year period. The board asked Attorney Tostenson to contact the land owners involved to get their input concerning the cost. It was also recommended that the land owners involved be invited to the next Board Meeting before any final decisions are made.

**Fugleberg Draining Issue**

No further action is needed at this time. Issue to be removed from the agenda.

**Nelson County / Middle Goose River Draining**

Issue will need further investigation to see who is responsible for the current draining actions happening in Nelson County.

**County Commission Meeting**

Board members met with the Steele County Commissioners to give them an update on recent Water Board activity. Engineer Pease reported on the current status of the Lake Tobiason project. There was a lengthy discussion concerning reports that someone in Nelson County had increased the drainage capacity of the Middle Branch Goose River without informing Steele County. This increase may adversely affect land owners and drainage structures in Steele County. The Steele County Commission moved to file a complaint against Nelson County for unauthorized ditching and water draining.

**S & C Goose River**

No action.

**Upper Sheyenne Joint WRD**

No meeting.

**Red River Joint WRD**

Meeting will be held January 9, 2019 West Fargo.

**Red River Basin Conference**

January 15 - 17, 2019 Grand Forks. Water Board members are unable to attend but authorized Attorney Tostenson to attend if needed.

## Other Business

None.

## Treasurer's Report

### Reorganization of the Board for 2019

Motion was made by Manager Bergstrom to continue all board positions as they currently are, seconded by Manager Ihry, motion carried.

**Chairman** – Josh Ihry

**Vice Chairman** – Greg Thykeson

**Elm River Joint** – Josh Ihry, Alternate – Greg Thykeson

**Lower Sheyenne Joint** – Josh Ihry

**Maple-Steele Joint** – Josh Ihry

**Red River Joint** – Josh Ihry

**Steele-Trail Joint** – Greg Thykeson

**Steele-Nelson Joint** – Tor Bergstrom

**Steele-Trail-Grand Forks Joint** – Greg Thykeson

**Upper Sheyenne Joint** – Tor Bergstrom

A motion was made by Manager Bergstrom for the approval of Pledge of Securities from Citizens State Bank of Finley, seconded by Manager Ihry, motion carried.

### Review of contracts for Legal & Engineering Services

Attorney Tostenson stated the contract with Brudvik Law Office will remain the same as last year. A motion was made by Manager Bergstrom to accept the contract, seconded by Manager Ihry, motion carried.

Engineer Lyndon Pease gave a hand out to the board members for Moore Engineering's 2019 Billing Schedule. There are some increases in the construction and field services fees but the hourly billing rates will remain the same as last year. A motion was made by Manager Bergstrom to accept the contract, seconded by Manager Ihry, motion carried.

A motion was made by Manager Bergstrom to approve treasurer's report & pay all bills due and also approve all financial reports, seconded by Manager Ihry, motion carried.

Next general monthly meeting will be held Tuesday, February 5th, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

**Adjournment**

There was no further business to be considered by the Board, the meeting adjourned without objection.

APPROVED:

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Josh Ihry, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Donald Huso, Secretary