

# **Steele County Water Resource District**

General Meeting –May 7th, 2019  
Minutes

The Steele County Water Resource Board met on Tuesday, May 7th, 2019 at 8 AM at the Steele County Courthouse, Finley, North Dakota.

Steele County Board members present –Josh Ihry, Greg Thykeson, Tor Bergstrom

Others present –Jenna McPherson-Brudvik Law, Lyndon Pease-Moore Engineering, Tasha Krueger-Steele County WRD Secretary, Paul Hanson

Steele County Chairman Ihry called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

## **Approve Agenda**

A motion was made by Manager Thykeson to approve the agenda with the additions of Paul Hanson drain tile permit, & Elm River Dam, seconded by Manager Bergstrom, motion carried.

## **Approve Minutes**

A motion was made by Manager Bergstrom to approve the minutes from General Meeting on April 2nd, 2019, seconded by Manager Thykeson, motion carried.

## **Lake Tobiason**

Engineer Pease informed the board by applying for two separate funding sources for the Lake Tobiason project would not be favorable. The ND Outdoor Heritage Fund would pull funding if the ND State Water Commission also funded the project. The funding has already been approved through the ND Outdoor Heritage Fund. Moore Engineering will be starting the project design within the next couple weeks. The project bidding will take place in June or July. The project won't take long to complete.

## **Goose River Drain Project**

Manager Bergstrom spoke with Tim Brekke. Brekke has been in contact with Snortlands (a landowner). A request for old information on the Snagging and Clearing was gathered. The landowners will need come to the water resource district for a public meeting to be set up. There isn't much money that would be needed to post bond and come up with a vote. This springs thaw was not draining favorably to some landowners. The landowners are becoming more interested in a legal drain.

### **Nelson County Drainage Complaint**

Nelson County WRD submitted a denied response to the Steele County Commission for the complaint that was filed. The Steele County Water Resource District is out of the complaint. It's the Steele County Commissions responsibility to work the Steele County States Attorney, Charlie Stock on proceeding with this complaint.

### **Joe Larson Drain 1 Lateral**

The project is on a cost share hold. Engineer Pease will try to switch our priority list & add drain 1 lateral to the list.

### **Paul Hanson Drain Tile Application**

Paul Hanson brought in a drain tile application for section 14-146-54 NE1/4. Paul has been working with Ellingson Drain Tile to complete this project. The application will be sent to Attorney Tostenson for review.

### **Flaten Drainage Complaint**

Manager Bergstrom also Easton township supervisor said Tyler Flaten isn't able to get out of his house. The road in section 28, by the railroad tracks has water backing up. The slough has washed out the road, the water is taking out township roads. Bob Verwest owns the land and refuses to do anything. He thinks the water flows another way. It's a wetland slough so NRCS will get involved. Manager Bergstrom will go out & talk with Reggie at the NRCS office with the maps provided from Moore Engineering. There has been no formal or written complaint filed at this time.

### **Elm River Dam**

All WRD Managers have been getting a lot of complaints about water being over the township road for over 19 days in 2018 and 29 days in 2019. Elm River Joint board will need to make a joint decision on what can be done with this dam. There was discussion on breaching the dam. The spillway is running more than it should be. There will be a meeting set up with the Steele/ Traill Joint Board at a later date.

### **Drain Flooding Updates**

Drain 8 has erosion on both sides of the intersections. The rock on the south side has settled in. Pete Haugen's lateral has been filling up & his drive way is underwater. There was discussion on installing an 18 inch culvert with a gate to control the water. Pete owns the land on both side of the culvert.

Beaver Creek didn't fill up.

Drain 11 will need to be cleaned out north of the farmstead.

Upper Maple River Dam- Mike Opt knows about the west gate

The board decided no inspect the drains. The water will be inspecting the drains in June or July.

This fall the board will be looking into spraying cat tails.

**Upper Sheyenne Joint WRD**

Manager Bergstrom was unable to attend the meeting April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019. There is a Special Meeting May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 10 am at the Garrison Diversion Building in Carrington to discuss Barr Engineering (Mandar Nangare) & US fish and wildlife (Steve Krentz). The next regular meeting will be June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in Devils Lake.

**Red River Joint WRD**

The Red River Joint WRD board met April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in West Fargo. The 2020 budget will be 1.5 mills. Carol Lewis- Secretary/Treasurer is looking into CD rates. Chuck Fritz spoke about the International Water Institutes River of Dreams program.

**Other Business**

On May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 the Finley/Sharon's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade class will launch their River of Dreams canoes into the Goose River in Mayville, ND. This event is open to the public.

**Treasures Report**

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

Next General Monthly Meeting will be held Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 @ 8:00 a.m. in Finley.

**Adjournment**

There was no further business to be considered by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:09 A.M. without objection.

APPROVED:

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Josh Ihry, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Tasha Krueger, Secretary-Office Manager