

Steele County Water Resource District

General Meeting – June 4th, 2019 Minutes

The Steele County Water Resource Board met on Tuesday, June 4th, 2019 at 8 A.M. at the Steele County Courthouse, Finley, North Dakota.

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

Others present -Lyndon Pease- Moore Engineering, Cassie Tostenson-Brudvik Law, Tasha Krueger-Steele County WRD Secretary, Ben Gates-EMS

Steele County Chairman Ihry called the meeting to order.

Approve Agenda

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

Approve Minutes

A motion was made by Manager Thykeson to approve the minutes from General Meeting on May 7th 2019, seconded by Manager Bergstrom, motion carried.

Elm River Dam Update

Manager Ihry spoke about the problems the Elm River Dam has been having lately. Ben Gates spoke to Justin Messner the DES Mitigation Officer he said there could be money available to rehab the dam. Gates informed Messner the board is looking to decommission the dam due to adverse effects upstream. It could still qualify for this cycle of FEMA funds if the presidential disaster declaration passes. The FEMA reps would have the final say once they are able to take a closer look at it. A Steele/ Traill Joint board meeting should be held sometime in June.

Steele County 2019 Flood Damage

Engineer Pease gave an update on the Drain 8 Improvement Project. The main drain was completed in 2016. Site 1 has erosion off the county road in section 19-146-54 SE1/4. Site 2 has erosion on the county road in section 20-146-54 SW1/4. Site 3 has erosion on the outlet in section 22-146-54 SW1/4. Cost Share funds can be applied for through FEMA and the North Dakota State Water Commission. Gates explained how the cost share has worked in the past when there is a presidential declaration filed. Typically, FEMA would cover is 80%, possible state funding of 10% & local jurisdictions cost share would be 5-10%. The middle of June more information should be available. Manager Ihry suggested Moore Engineering come up with a

couple different strategies to fix the berm. This is tabled until the July meeting. Gates requested the preliminary cost estimated be updated with any changes.

Lake Tobiason Project

Engineer Pease stated the survey work was done and they are working on drafting the design. The state is behind on the construction permits so timing will depend on the permit situation. If this project does not require a permit it should be started by July or August. It will take 2-4 weeks for the contractor to complete. If a permit is needed it could be pushed out until 2020.

Goose River Potential Legal Drain

There was discussion on the Goose River legal drain project back in 1977. A preliminary engineering report was given to the board from December of 1977. The estimated cost back in 1977 was \$388,000. Nothing new has been discussed with the landowner's group.

Joe Larson Drain 1 Lateral

There is potential cost share funds available for Drain 1 Lateral A. A motion was made by Manager Bergstrom to apply for cost share funding on Drain 1 Lateral A, seconded by Manager Thykeson, motion carried.

Nelson County Drainage Complaint

The Steele County Commission filed an appeal against Nelson County Water Resource District. The Steele County Water Resource District has nothing to do with the complaint or appeal.

Flaten Drainage Complaint

Manager Bergstrom spoke with Reggie from NRCS and Joel Lyons from the North Dakota Game and Fish. There are U.S Game & Fish Easements on the land (section 28). The water has been running over the road for several weeks. The ND Game & Fish will let the water drain but it's still under consideration that once the water is drained the levels may need to be put back on their side to the existing levels.

The U.S. Game and Fish check the wetland water levels every 3 years and that is the established water level for those years. The channel was cleaned out all the way to the railroad tracks.

Paul Hanson Drain Tile Permit

The 30-day notices were sent May 16th 2019 to the downstream land owners. The landowners who received a notice were: Greg Thykeson-Primrose Township, Gary & Andrea Brend, Paul Hanson, & Gilman Kipp. The 30 days have not expired yet. The permit will be tabled until the July meeting.

Upper Sheyenne Joint WRD

Manager Bergstrom was unable to attend the May 9th meeting in Carrington.

The next meeting will be held June 18th, 2019 in Devils Lake. The Devils Lake tour will be will take place at this meeting.

Red River Joint WRD

The Red River Joint board will met June 12th, 2019 in Grafton.

Other Business

A Joint Summer meeting & Executive briefing will be held July 8-10th in Bismarck, ND.

No Steele County members plan to attend at this time.

The North Dakota Outdoor Hertiage Fund would like an update on Lake Tobiason project.

Engineer Pease will check to see any of his office staff would be able to give an update on the project.

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, July 2nd, 2019 @ 8:00 a.m. in Finley.

Adjournment

There was no further business to be considered by the Board, the meeting adjourned without objection @ 9:09 A.M.

APPROVED:

Josh Ihry, Chairman

ATTEST:

Tasha Krueger, Secretary-Office Manager