

Steele County Water Resource District

Approved General Meeting – August 29th, 2023
Minutes

The Steele County Water Resource Board met on Tuesday, August 29th, 2023 at 8:00 AM at the Steele County Courthouse, Finley, North Dakota.

Steele County Board members present –Josh Ihry, Greg Thykeson, Tor Bergstrom
Others present –Cassie Tostenson-Nilson Brand Law, Josh Hassell-Moore Engineering via phone, Tasha Krueger-Steele County WRD Secretary, Ben Gates- Emergency Manager, David Laughlin, Dennis Kubischta, Chance Flaten

Steele County Chairman Ihry called the meeting to order at 8:13 a.m.

Approve Agenda

A motion was made by Manager Bergstrom to approve the agenda with the addition of Jackie Lucas drainage issues, and Chance Flaten, seconded by Manager Thykeson, motion carried.

Approve Minutes

A motion was made by Manager Bergstrom to approve the minutes from General Meeting on August 1st, 2023, seconded by Manager Thykeson, motion carried.

Hugo Twp-Chronic Washout Concern

Dennis Kubischta spoke to the board about the washout that keeps accruing in Hugo Township. Section 29 & 30-145-55 has 2 small culverts, a grass water way that washes out the county road. Emergency Manager, Ben Gates said FEMA has funding for a hydrology study. There is also legacy funding available that will help cost-share the study.

The current culverts need to be re-sized and rip rap installation would help the current situation. The hydrology study will be roughly 5-6 miles with an estimated of \$30,000 on the high side. Hugo Township will be in charge of the cost. Moore Engineering will conduct the study. Josh Hassell & Lyndon Pease-Moore Engineering will get an estimate for Hugo Township.

A new culvert was installed by the county which won't help with situation.

David Laughlin-Drain Tile Permit; Greenview Twp

David Laughlin was present. He submitted a drainage application for Section 12-146-57 NE ¼. The drain tile application will outlet into Section 7-146-56 NW ¼. The land is owned by David & his father, Scott. The downstream landowner, Scott Laughlin will receive a notice of the project. The project will have the normal terms and conditions.

Motion made by Manager Bergstrom to approve the drain tile application, Seconded by Manager Thykeson, motion carried.

Chance Flaten

Chance Flaten was present. Chance will be cleaning the trees on the legal drains. There are trees growing in Drain 6, Drain 11, Drain 4, Drain 8, and Golden Lake that need to be removed. Chance plans to pile up the trees & remove the trees. The cost will be roughly \$135 per hour.

Motion was made by Manager Bergstrom to approve Chance to clean the legal drains, Seconded by Manager Thykeson, motion carried.

FEMA 2019 & 2020 Drain 8

The Drain 8 bond will mature on September 1st, 2023. The interest to be paid is \$ 18,431.14.

Motion was made by Manager Bergstrom to adopt the resolution for Drain 8 and pay off the interest of \$18,431.14, Seconded by Manager Thykeson, Motion carried.

FEMA Project

2019-2020 Project

The Large Project Closeout for PW 26 DR 4444 & PW 19 DR 4553 hasn't been assigned a closeout specialist. The Drain 8 bond matures September 1st, 2023.

Motion was made by Manager Thykeson to authorize Attorney Tostenson to contact Chad Aberle-Bravera Bank for renewal of the bond for Drain 8, Seconded by Manager Bergstrom, roll call vote.

Manager Ihry-aye, Manager Bergstrom-aye, Manager Thykeson-aye, motion carried.

The previous interest rate was 3%, the current rate is 3.99%, and the new rate will be 6.99% on a \$507,000 bond with a term rate of 1-year. The bond rates are spiking.

2022 FEMA Projects

Drain 1: Lakeside Construction completed construction. The invoice for Lakeside Construction is \$165,877.70

Drain 1 Outlet: Under FEMA review.

Pre-disaster: \$ 969,900

Mitigation: \$ 1,810,750

All information provided to NDDES on March 3rd, 2023.

Drain 2: Construction ongoing for two remaining sites by KRB Gravel, including County Road 11 crossing. Completion anticipated within one to two weeks. Culvert length extended and placed on original design grade (damage culvert had steeper slope). Additional riprap to be placed downstream of new culvert.

Drain 3: Lakeside Construction has completed construction.

Drain 4: Naastad Brothers completed construction in 2022.

Drain 6: all project documents have been submitted to NDDES to continue FEMA funding process.

Pre-disaster: \$424,075

Mitigation: \$858,260

All outstanding information provided on July 26th, 2023.

Drain 8: KRB Gravel completed construction. The flap gate was installed on the site Keith Rindy discussed at the June 6th, 2023 meeting. The invoice amount is \$57,677.50.

Drain 11 Permanent Outlet Project: Under FEMA review.

Waiting on FEMA to inform us if a geotechnical analysis is required.

Pre-disaster: \$ 389,260

Mitigation: \$901,919

Drain 12: KRB Gravel completed construction.

Drain 13: Lakeside Construction completed construction.

Elm River Dam No. 1 (Steele County): construction of spillway repairs has been completed by Pro-landscapers.

State construction permits are in review by Department of Water Resources (DWR).

- Submitted permit on November 23, 2022 for Elm River Dam No. 1 (Steele), which included signed plans, specifications and design documentation report. Submitted revision for seepage filter to address DWR review comments on August 21, 2023.
- Submitted permit on December 12, 2022 for Elm River Dam No. 2 (Augustadt), which included signed plans, specifications and design documentation report. Submitted revision for seepage filter to address DWR review comments on August 28, 2023.
- Elm River Joint WRD Chairman Robert Thompson visited with DWR staff on June 22. He was told permit approvals would occur:
 - Dam 1 (Steele) – this Fall
 - Dam 2 (Augustadt) – week of July 10
 - Dam 3 (Cass) – week of July 10
 - Permit received on July 28
- Construction timeframes unknown for Dams 1 and 2.
- Dam 3 bid opening on August 30, 2023, with contractor option for substantial completion dates of 2023 or 2024. Special Meeting for Elm River Joint WRD on Thursday, August 31 at 4 PM.
- Cost estimate for Dams 1 and 2:
 - Total - \$3,650,000
 - SWC - \$2,124,000
 - RRJWRD - \$1,373,400
 - Cass County - \$101,733
 - Local - \$50,867
- Cost-share status:
 - SWC – cost-share has been approved up to \$2,124,000. SWC will send the agreement once the State construction permits are approved.
 - RRJWRD – cost-share agreement will need to be updated. Previous approved amount was up to \$1,286,100.
 - Cass County Flood Sales Tax – previous approved amount was \$95,267

Drain Inspections

Not done this year. If there are any damages for the 2023 FEMA sites, they will need to be added within 60 days.

Drain Assessments

The Drain Assessments were reviewed.

Drain #1-\$4

Drain #1 Lateral A-\$4

Drain #2-\$4

Drain #4-\$4

Drain #6-\$4

Drain #8-\$4

Drain #11-\$4

Drain #12-\$4

Drain #13-\$4

Drain #17- Traill County WRD

S&C Goose River Dam-set rate

Maple River Dam-Cass County WRD

A motion was made by Manager Bergstrom to approve the 2023 drain assessment rates, Seconded by Manager Thykeson, Roll Call Vote; lhry-aye, Bergstrom-aye, Thykeson-aye, Motion carried.

Elm River Dam

On August 30th, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. the bid opening will take place via zoom for Dam #1 & #2.

Randy Eide-Drain Tile Permit; Primrose Twp

Randy Eide submitted a drain application for Section 26-146-54 SW, NW, SE ¼. Motion was made by Manager Bergstrom to approve the drain tile permit for Section 26-146-54, Seconded by Manager Thykeson, motion carried.

Upper Sheyenne Joint WRD

The Upper Sheyenne River Joint WRD was held on August 16th, 2023. RCPP will be advertising for applications. The deadline is

Red River Joint WRD

The Red River Joint WRD Executive board met on September 13th, 2023. Moore Engineering & Houston Engineering discussed the Dam Safety Standards period.

Other Business

Jackie Lucas Complaint: The 2 watershed areas are on a blue line showing the water should head west. After discussion with the farmers in that area, the water should be running west. The water is currently flowing east. The LIDAR on this site of the watershed line is incorrect. The board suggested a drainage complaint to be filed to further review the situation.

Treasures Report

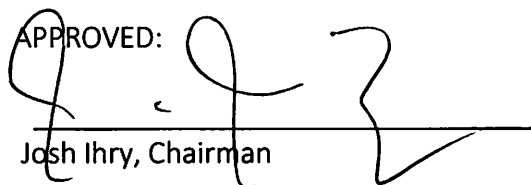
A motion was made by Manager Thykeson to approve the all bills due, seconded by Manager Bergstrom, motion. Upon roll call: lhry; aye, Bergstrom; aye; Thykeson; aye; Thykeson; aye, motion carried.

Checks: 8577-8580 were approved.

Next General Monthly Meeting will be held Tuesday, October 3rd, 2023 @ 8:00 a.m. in Finley.

Adjournment

There was no further business to be considered by the Board, the meeting adjourned without objection at 9:58 a.m.

APPROVED: 
Josh lhry, Chairman

ATTEST:


Tasha Krueger, Secretary-Office Manager