

**Meeting Notes
Bois de Sioux Watershed
Advisory Committee Meeting
March 17, 2021**

Committee Members

Jay Backer (remotely)
Scott Bauer
Duane Duin **[Absent]**
Dean Frisch **[Absent]**
Doug Jahnke
Eric Klindt (remotely)

Tom Monson **[Absent]**
Ron Staples
Mark Summer **[Absent]**
Vernell Wagner **[Absent]**
John Walkup **[Absent]**

Also Present:

District Engineer Chad Engels (remotely)
Engineer Jim Guler (remotely)
Technician Troy Fridgen
Bois de Sioux Watershed President Linda Vavra
Administrator Jamie Beyer

Attachments: DRAFT 2020 Annual Report & June 2020 – January 2021 Minutes; 1W1Plan Project Funding Plan

1. **Call to order**
2. **Introductions**
3. **Policies**

New Education Policy: The District is required by BWSR's PRAP to promote education opportunities, so a formal policy was enacted to provide for approval and reimbursement for board manager training.

4. **Permitting**

The District has processed 165 Permits in 2020. Board members relayed confusion about the notification section of the permit, where an applicant reports if they have notified neighbors about the project.

5. **Ditch Projects: Improvement of WCD #9/#10**

The contractual substantial completion date expired Fall 2019. Once seeding is established, project close-out procedures will begin.

Ditch Projects: Repair of JD #11

Construction has begun and was substantially complete Fall 2020. Once seeding is established, project close-out procedures will begin.

Ditch Projects: Repair of JD #6

The redetermination and repair hearings are completed. The project has been awarded a \$356,000 Clean Water Fund Grant from the Legacy Amendment thru BWSR. Construction bids will be considered by the BdSWD Board at their next meeting, for construction in 2021.

Ditch Projects: TCD #35

In preparation for the Redpath Impoundment Project, TCD #35 will be relocated and retrofitted. A landowner meeting has been scheduled for the end of March. Construction could take place in 2022.

Ditch Projects: WCD #35

In preparation for the Doran Creek Restoration, WCD #35 may need measures to address erosion. A landowner meeting has been scheduled for the end of March. Construction could take place in 2023.

6. Watershed Projects: Redpath

The District secured a recommendation for a grant extension from the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Grant awarded, in the amount of \$2.44 million. The extension must be approved by the Minnesota Legislature. Design plans are 95% complete; the District is working on permitting. Project phases have been identified, along with eligible funding sources. The estimated remaining project cost is \$39 million. Committee members viewed a 3D computer model of the project. Phase I begins with the relocation and improvement of TCD #35.

Watershed Projects: Lake Traverse Water Quality Improvement Project/TCD #52

Phase 1 construction will continue in 2021. This phase was awarded a \$336,775 Clean Water Fund Grant from the Legacy Amendment thru BWSR. Phase 2 was awarded a \$418,235 Clean Water Fund Grant from the Legacy Amendment thru BWSR. Phase 2 construction is anticipated to begin in 2021.

Watershed Projects: North Ottawa Impoundment

The District has assembled a 10-year operations and maintenance agreement, and will meet with DNR representatives within the next month to discuss specific terms.

Watershed Projects: Samantha Lake

Construction was substantially completed in 2020. Once the construction project is closed out by Grant County the project will be turned over to the Bois de Sioux Watershed District for future maintenance.

Watershed Projects: Big Lake

An EAW has been published for public comment. The District has received formal comments back from several state agencies. After comments have been reviewed and responded to, engineering staff will work on a public waters permit application.

Watershed Projects: Doran Creek

The board authorized engineering staff to apply for \$100,000 base funding from the Red River Water Management Board to continue landowner meetings and design work.

7. Buffers

Wilkin SWCD has resolved non-compliant Wilkin County parcels. Traverse SWCD has not sent an update of the 11 non-compliant Traverse County parcels. After the 1st of the year, Grant SWCD began to send letters of potential non-compliance for inadequate buffers on drainage systems under Bois de Sioux Watershed District authority. The Bois de Sioux Watershed District approved a 2020 and 2021 budget for the use of Riparian Aid, which includes funding for the design/use/promotion of alternative practices.

8. 1W1Plan

The 13 LGU's participating in the Bois de Sioux & Mustinka River Watersheds One Watershed One Plan have signed implementation and grant agreements. The Bois de Sioux Watershed District will serve as the fiscal host, and the new grant funds for 2021 – 2023 have been budgeted for:

\$105,000	Ag Filtration & Storage Practices Rabbit River and Lake Traverse & Bois de Sioux River Planning Regions
\$67,000	Non-Structural Management Practices Rabbit River Planning Region
\$33,000	Non-Structural Management Practices Lake Traverse & Bois de Sioux River Planning Regions
\$1,522	Well Sealing Any Planning Region
\$194,000	Project Development for Categories Above
\$115,000	Doran Creek Project Development Lake Traverse & Bois de Sioux River Planning Region
\$148,000	JD #6 Multipurpose Drainage Management Retrofit Rabbit River
\$325,000	Lake Traverse Water Quality Improvement Project Lake Traverse & Bois de Sioux River Planning Region
\$25,000	Grant and Meeting Coordination
\$10,000	Progress Tracking & Evaluation
\$41,000	Technical & Engineering Assistance