

**BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 24, 2016**

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to Order by President Vavra at 8:07 a.m. Present: Linda Vavra, Doug Dahlen, Jerome Deal, Steven Schmidt, and Allen Wold. Absent: Jason Beyer, Kurt Erlandson, Scott Gillespie, and John Kapphahn. Also Present: Attorney Thomas C. Athens, Interim Office Administrator Jamie Beyer, Engineer Chad L. Engels, Engineer Jim Guler, and Accountant Renee Kannegiesser.
- AGENDA** Upon motion by Deal, seconded by Schmidt and carried unanimously, the Agenda was approved.
- Gillespie joined the meeting at 8:10 a.m.
- MINUTES & CLAIMS** Upon motion by Wold, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the Minutes for September 15, 2016, were approved. Upon motion by Deal, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the Claims of October 24, 2016, were approved.
- TREASURER'S REPORT** The Board reviewed the new Treasurer's Report format. Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the Treasurer's Report was approved.
- ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT** Accountant Renee Kannegeiser delivered her report; upon motion by Dahlen, seconded by Gillespie and carried unanimously, it was approved.
- BWSR ASSESSMENTS & GRANT** Pete Waller and Dale Krystosek from BWSR presented information on their organization's watershed assessment and administrator evaluation tools. Grants may be available for higher assessment levels. They also presented information on regional, state and individual training opportunities for staff and Boardmembers. Gillespie stated that he preferred that the new administrator be included in any future process.
- Beyer joined the meeting at 8:42 a.m.
- B & W SPECIALTIES DITCH SPRAYING** Don Reefer, B & W Control Specialists, introduced himself and the ditch brush control services that he has continued to provide to the Watershed since 2009. Last year, his company sprayed the northern third of the ditch system; this year the central third; and, next year, the southern third. Reefer typically inspects the proposed area in early summer and provides a quote to the Watershed. The spray crew completes their work later – their access to fields is determined by weather and harvest.
- DITCH MAINTENANCE SERVICES DITCH SPRAYING** Gene Berger, Ditch Maintenance Service, described the cattail spraying services that he provided to the Watershed in 2015 & 2016. Prior to 2012, a combination of helicopters and ground spray was used to address the cattails. From 2013 – 2014, no contractor could be located to complete the work.
- Schmidt left the meeting.
- ATTORNEY-CLIENT-PRIVILEGE** Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Dahlen, the meeting was closed pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.05, subd. 3(b).
- Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Deal and carried unanimously, the meeting was opened.
- TCD #37 FINAL HEARING** At 10:00 am, the Traverse County Ditch Authority for Traverse County Ditch #37 opened the Final Hearing for the recently completed Redetermination of Benefits. Viewers Stan Churchill, Dan Swedlund and Dwight Veldhouse presented their updated report. Upon motion by Wold, seconded by Gillespie and carried unanimously, the Viewer's Report of Traverse County Ditch #37 was approved.
- TCD #37 REPAIR** Next, the Traverse County Ditch Authority for Traverse County Ditch #37 opened the hearing for the petitioned repair of Traverse County Ditch #37, Lateral 1. Engineer Engels stated that this project may be grant eligible through BWSR, and would follow-up with them. Gillespie thanked the landowners. Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Deal and carried unanimously, the repair of Traverse County Ditch #37 was approved.

Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Beyer and carried unanimously, the Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order for Determination of Benefits and Repair was approved. Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Deal and carried unanimously, the hearing was closed.

**DITCH
MAINTENANCE**

Attorney Athens discussed his Ditch Maintenance Memo.

1W1PLAN

Upon motion by Deal, seconded by Gillespie and carried unanimously the Resolution to Support a Bois de Sioux Watershed One Watershed One Plan Project was approved.

**REDPATH
UPDATE**

Lessard Grant funding for the Redpath Project has a June 10, 2019 deadline (corridor construction). At this time, assuming funding will be available, the remaining land rights are secured, and permitting is completed in a timely manner, the intent for the Phase I Corridor is to start construction in 2018. Board discussed the possibility of utilizing DNR Flood Damage Reduction and Red River Water Management Board Funds instead.

**PERSONNEL
COMMITTEE**

Personnel Committee reported that the Administrator job application deadline was extended through October 24th, with the objective to increase the number of applicants. A salary was also included in the job description.

**DRAINAGE
COMMITTEE**

Drainage Committee will meet after Thanksgiving, but Boardmembers are already receiving requests for beaver trapping compensation. Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, \$75/beaver will be paid, contingent upon the trapper confirming with the Engineer the ditch system and location where the beaver is trapped.

**PERMIT #16-072
SANASACK**

At 11:00 a.m. the Board reviewed the details of Permit Application #16-072, submitted by Ron and Richard Sanasack, to install a flap on an 18" culvert to prevent water from backfeeding a main ditch. Landowners discussed the ditch design problems in the area. Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Beyer and carried unanimously, Permit Application #16-072 was approved, with the option for the 18" culvert to be completely removed.

**PERMIT #16-069
ARENS**

The Board reviewed the details of Permit Application #16-069, submitted by Daniel Arens, to install drainage tile. Neighboring landowners requested that consistent sizing should be used throughout the project - 24" tile instead of 18" tile. Boardmembers stated that the project description as-is, meets Watershed standards. Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Beyer and carried unanimously, the permit application was approved.

**CHECK POLICY,
UNEMPLOYMENT
& HUNTING**

The Board took no action on the revised Check Signatures policy, and tabled it. Unemployment determinations were reviewed; no funds will be paid. Hunting rights on BDSWD land were discussed. The Board agreed that:

- North Ottawa is not open to hunting,
- Legal ditches are not open to hunting,
- And BDSWD owned land that is rented-out may be hunted if permission is received from the renter.

**STORAGE
AGREEMENTS**

Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Deal and carried unanimously, 2016-2017 Storage Agreements for the Redpath were approved, pending proof of insurance.

**WCD #9
CLEAN-OUT**

Request for Maintenance of Wilkin County Ditch #9 was reviewed. Upon motion by Beyer, seconded by Deal and carried unanimously, the Board approved the clean-out of Wilkin County Ditch #9, Section 36.

JD #14 BUFFERS

Buffers for Judicial Ditch #14 were discussed. Upon motion by Beyer, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the Board authorized a survey.

**NORTH OTTAWA
STATES BORDER
PAYMENT**

Engineer Engels relayed the details of a meeting between States Border Construction and WSN. Upon motion by Beyer, seconded by Gillespie and carried unanimously, the Engineer's recommendation to pay the full contract amount (as opposed to liquidated damages) was approved.

**ENGINEER'S
REPORT**

Engels presented a full report that is on file with the District.

RFP FOR AUDIT

Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Beyer and carried unanimously, the RFP for Auditing Services was approved.

**JD #12
LANDOWNER
MEETING**

At 1:00 p.m., the Board met with JD #12 landowners, with one in attendance. Engineering staff described two sources of soil in the ditch – through erosion from the slope of the side of the fields, and also from

downstream. All agreed that the ditch is able to handle the water, and further discussed the need for landowners to donate property in order for the ditch retrofit to be completed.

Gillespie left at 1:30 p.m.

Upon motion by Beyer, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Linda Vavra, President

Jamie Beyer, Interim Office Administrator

Motion: _____

Second: _____

For: _____

Against: _____

Date: _____