

**BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 13, 2017**

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to Order by President Vavra at 9:00 a.m. Present: Linda Vavra, Doug Dahlen, Jerome Deal, Scott Gillespie, Steven Schmidt, and Allen Wold. Also Present: Attorney Athens, Engineer Chad L. Engels, Engineer James Guler, Engineer Technician Troy Fridgen, Accountant Renee Kannegiesser, and Administrator Jamie Beyer. Absent: Jason Beyer, Kurt Erlandson, John Kapphahn (joined by phone later).
- AMEND AGENDA** Upon motion by Schmidt, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the Board approved the addition of a discussion of TCD #52 to the agenda.
- CLAIMS** Upon motion by Wold, seconded by Gillespie and carried unanimously, the Claims of December 13, 2017 were approved as presented.
- MINUTES** Upon motion by Deal, seconded by Schmidt and carried unanimously, the Minutes of November 16, 2017 were approved.
- ELDORADO 15 FLOODING, D. HORNING** Eldorado Section 15 property owner David Horning relayed concerns of flooding caused by two tile pumps in Section 11. Horning said that the pumps are running, regardless of downstream flooding conditions. Engineer Tech Fridgen reported that he contacted the owner of the tile pump, and that it was shut-off. Board members discussed drainage problems in El Dorado. Attorney Athens informed that several engineering studies have been conducted, and have found that flooding North of the Dumont tar would be alleviated by an impoundment. Board members encouraged Horning to contact Stevens County Commissioners and neighboring property owners, to see if a petition could be initiated.
- #17-083 TRAVERSE CO HWY DEPT.** Permit #17-083 filed by Traverse County Hwy Dept. Moore Engineering has requested an additional 60 days to review the permit. Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Schmidt and carried unanimously, a 60-day extension was approved for permit application #17-083.
- DITCH FUND BALANCE HEARING: INTEREST RATE & TAX LEVIES** At 10:00 am, President Vavra opened the Public Hearing to Review All Legal Ditch Fund Balances. Board members discussed increasing the internal interest rate, charged to ditch funds with a negative balance. Schmidt made motion to set the rate at 3.75%, to be made variable. Gillespie seconded the motion. Accountant Kannegiesser requested that the interest rate be reviewed annually. Upon motion by Schmidt, seconded by Gillespie and carried unanimously, the motion was amended and approved. Board members and staff reviewed and discussed each current ditch fund balance, the proposed 2018 tax assessment, and clean-out/construction work plans proposed for 2018. Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Schmidt and carried unanimously, the 2018 Ditch Fund Balance Report was accepted and the 2018 assessments were ordered.
- TCD #52 OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL** Schmidt, Fridgen, and Moore Engineering presented information on TCD #52. Because there has not been enough landowner support for an impoundment, the grant eligibility is being explored for repairs to the outlet. Water quality would also be improved by a more stabilized channel. A small, unusable wooden bridge has collapsed in part of the channel in Section 19 of Walls Twp. Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Wold and carried unanimously, removal of the obstruction was approved.
- LAMPERT & VON ZOMEREN TCD #37 RESOLUTIONS** Upon motion by Deal, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the Resolution Regarding Lampert Petition to Outlet Waters into TCD #37 was approved. Upon motion by Deal, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the Resolution Regarding Van Zomeren Petition to Outlet Waters into TCD #37 was approved.
- 1W1PLAN PTMAPP** Jared House, Grant County SWCD, and Chuck Fritz, International Water Institute, presented a cost-share proposal to customize a PTMApp for the Bois de Sioux Watershed 1W1Plan. The SWCDs would pay for \$60,000 of the cost; \$11,764 is requested from Bois de Sioux Watershed. Wold made motion to deny the request. Motion failed for lack of a second. Engels added that the tool could be used to enhance grant applications, and Fridgen stated that he has experience using the tool to predict flood condition outcomes. Wold expressed concerns that the data would be used to develop future surplus water and sediment taxation. Wold made motion, seconded by Dahlen, to deny the request. The motion failed. Stevens County Commissioner asked if there would be ongoing costs; Fritz stated there would be none. Deal made motion, seconded by Gillespie, to approve funding. Motion failed. Vavra stated that more time would be needed to consider the issue.

**NORTH OTTAWA
FARMLAND
LEASES**

Board members reviewed a letter from John Williams, NW Region Wildlife Manager, Division of Fish & Wildlife, suggesting that four of eight cells be farmed (two cells be farmed with crops other than beans and corn), a 3-year operating plan be approved by the Bois de Sioux Board and NRE Team, and that a DNR Joint Powers agreement be approved to allow DNR staff to manage NRE's in the impoundment. The DNR also included requests as to the management and infrastructure of Cell C. Board member Deal left the meeting and Kapphahn joined by phone. Gillespie stated that a decision to lease lands for 2018 can not wait to reach consensus with the DNR over all of these issues. Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, one-year leases for six cells in North Ottawa were ordered for bid. Kapphahn left the meeting.

**REDPATH GRANT
AMENDMENT #5**

Gillespie made motion to approve Amendment #5 to FDR Grant #3000000507, Bois de Sioux WD, Redpath Impoundment, and authorize Vavra to sign the Amendment. Wold seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

**REDPATH DILLY
APPRAISAL**

Attorney Athens reported that an appraisal had been completed on the proposed Redpath project lands in Section 15, owned by the Dilly Trust & Breckenridge. Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Wold and carried unanimously, Athens was authorized to make an offer at the appraised value, and authorized to give landowner permission to order an appraisal at the Bois de Sioux Watershed's expense if requested by the landowner.

**REDPATH &
TINTAH
FARMLAND
LEASES**

At 12:30 pm, Gillespie coordinated the bidding of Redpath farmland leases:

Redpath Lease 18-01	Truman Raguse
Redpath Lease 18-02	Truman Raguse
Redpath Lease 18-03	David Raguse
Redpath Lease 18-04	David Raguse
Redpath Lease 18-05	Truman Raguse
Redpath Lease 18-06	Truman Raguse
Tintah Lease 18-01	David Raguse

NEW POLICIES

Upon motion by Dahlen, seconded by Schmidt and carried unanimously, the Claims / Payments Policy was approved. Upon motion by Wold, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the Travel Expenses Policy was approved. Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the Social Media Policy was approved. Upon motion by Gillespie, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the Tile Pump & Control Structure Restrictions Policy was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 pm.

Linda Vavra, President

Jamie Beyer, Administrator