

**BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 20, 2017**

Call to Order 9:00 am Present:
Board members: Linda Vavra, Jerome Deal, Allen Wold, Doug Dahlen, Jason Beyer, John Kappahn,
Steven Schmidt
Engineer: Chad Engels, Administrator Michelle Swenson, Technician Troy Fridgen, Attorney Tom Athens,
Accountant Renee Kannegiesser

Absent board members: Kurt Erlandson, Scott Gillespie

AGENDA Agenda additions: Aaron Ostlund to speak after Berger, discuss beaver nuisance during ditch discussion,
motion to accept agenda with additions made by Deal, second by Dahlen, motion carried.

CLAIMS Motion to accept Claims of April 20, 2017 was made by Wold, second by Schmidt, motion
carried.

MINUTES Motion to accept the minutes of meeting held on 3/16/2017 was made by Wold, second by Deal,
motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Schmidt, second by Dahlen, motion carried.

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT Kannegiesser will work with the audit firm to resolve issues and will continue to do project reporting.
Motion to accept accountant's report made by Wold, second by Deal motion carried.

Public Comment Period: Brian Kjesbo asked if the funds in ditch accounts are from past or future projects.
Athens stated they are from past projects and recommended the board consider assessing forward looking
project funding (assess ahead of spending). There are rules stating a maximum of 20% of the ditch value or
\$100,000 can be held in a ditch account.

North Ottawa Engels sent a request to WSN for an official O & M Manual update. Berger will provide a contract to
spray cattails in ditches, Engels offered to share the ditch inspection before July. Berger has DNR permits
and liability insurance, the cost is ~30 cents/acre. Schmidt made a motion to accept contract contingent
upon favorable review of said document, second by Dahlen, motion passed.

RRBC Ostlund offered to partner with BdSWD on a North Ottawa event and RRBC Cattail Conference June 1.
He is applying for a grant to continue water quality research for three more years at North Ottawa and
requested the board's approval to move forward with the process. The goal of this data is to approach
non-point source pollution mitigation options plus flood reduction. Deal said he is trying to get
impoundments as an Alternative Practice so buffer strips are not required; this data supports his
efforts. Ostlund is requesting two cells within the impoundment. Deal made a motion to consider to

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allow RRBC to continue with this study for three years, contingent upon grant approval, second by Schmidt. Roll call vote: Kapphahn yes, Schmidt yes, Dahlen yes, Vavra yes, Beyer no, Deal yes, Wold yes. Motion carried.

Engineer's Report - see page 1 and 2 of Engineer's Report

Permits

Fridgen requested gravel be put on North Ottawa Impoundment road. Dahlen made a motion to approve the gravel, second by Deal, motion carried.

17-015 and 17-016 – Wilkin County is proposing smaller culverts than currently exist when replacing them. Engels recommended approval as the crossings are oversized for a ten-year rain event. A 25 or 50-year event could possibly cause water back up, but the design standard requirements are for a ten-year event. Beyer made a motion to approve both permits, second by Deal, motion carried.

Ditch RFM

RFM 006-17 - Brian Kjesbo wanted information on how to move forward with a redetermination. Athens and Vavra explained the board requires signatures on a petition from 50% of the affected landowners in order to mitigate liability and promote transparency before repairing a ditch aggressively. The benefit for TCD 11 is \$17,000, a retrofit would cost approximately between \$50,000 and \$83,000 depending on the cost of construction and level of repair desired by landowners. Schmidt made a motion to spend up to \$17,000 to take out the high spots on TCD 11, get consistent, and work with Engels on the plan, second by Beyer, motion passed.

RFM 007-17 – Sediment removal requested in JD 12 lat 1. Kapphahn made a motion to have Fridgen survey, Deal seconded, motion passed.

Ditches

JD 11 - Moore Engineering hydraulic study is almost complete.

WCD 8 - Engels will reconfigure the cost estimate after the construction bid opening May 5.

WCD 9 and 10 – Engels will provide a cost estimate for full and partial repairs.

Swenson was instructed to set up a Retrofit Ditch Committee meeting on May 2 at 10:00 am to discuss construction options for WCD 8, 9, and 10.

Moore Engineering Drone Presentation – Drone mapping capabilities were demonstrated; the cost is \$75/hour for the drone and \$140 for the operator.

Beaver Nuisance in ditches – Colt Violet trapped 144 beavers in ditches over which the BdSWD has authority. Schmidt made a motion to approve payment as per the agreement with Violet, second by Kapphahn, motion carried.

North Ottawa Impoundment - A dedication was proposed to dovetail into the RRBC Cattail bus tour of North Ottawa on June 1. Swenson to continue with communication and logistics.

Redpath Impoundment - Athens is working on the final land acquisitions. It may require four formal appraisals.

BdS Direct RCPP - Engels, Vavra, and Swenson met with the Doran City Council April 11 to explain the RCPP application process.

Big Lake - Engels has completed the hydraulic study of the wetlands surrounding Big Lake as requested by the DNR. Swenson to schedule a meeting with DNR to present the data.

Attorney Update

JD 14 – remains open in Judge Glasrud’s court.

TCD 37 – Checks for sent for TCD 37 easements with receipts to landowners, Final Certificate can be filed.

Redpath – Finalized purchase of 15 pieces.

Administrator

Traverse planning commission requested comments on a new plat on Lake Traverse, a letter was written in response warning of a flood easement. Dahlen made a motion to accept and send the letter, Kapphahn seconded, motion carried.

Swenson to schedule an Advisory Committee meeting in late June and request Vernell Wagner to join the team.

Swenson advised the board of the high cost to advertise construction bids. Athens advised writing up procedures to target newspapers in close proximity of the proposed construction and request board approval. A motion was made by Dahlen instructing Swenson to do so, second by Kapphahn, motion carried.

Fridgen brought up the need for a trailer to carry his four-wheeler to sites. Schmidt made a motion to have Kapphahn assist Fridgen to find a suitable trailer, second by Linda, motion carried.

Dahlen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 second by Deal, motion carried.

Linda Vavra, President

Michelle Swenson, Administrator

Motion:

Second:

Date: