

BUFFALO-RED RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

BARNESVILLE, MINNESOTA 56514

123 FRONT STREET SOUTH – PO BOX 341

PHONE 218-354-7710

MINUTES FOR MANAGERS' MEETING

January 22, 2007

The Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD) held their regular meeting on Monday, January 22, 2007, at 7:00 PM in the Barnesville office. BRRWD Managers present were Roger G. Ellefson, Gerald L. VanAmburg, Curtis M. Nelson, E. Robert Olson, and John E. Hanson. Others attending included: BRRWD Administrator Bruce E. Albright, Erik S. Jones, and Julie Jerger, Houston Engineering, Inc. (H.E.); and Mark Dittrich, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA).

Chairman Ellefson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. He noted that the proceedings were being taped to aid in preparation of the minutes.

Secretary's Report. The Board reviewed draft minutes for the 1/08/07 regular meeting. Nelson noted a minor correction. **Motion** by Nelson to approve the minutes, subject to correction. **Seconded** by Hanson. **Approved.**

Treasurer's Report. The Board reviewed the BRRWD's current financial status. Albright noted that we have received a \$695,000 reimbursement from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Waters for the last four Oakport home buyouts. With that money, Albright paid off all of the Midwest Bank loans, including the operating loan. To pay tonight's new bills and two previously authorized checks that have been held, we will have to borrow funds once again from our Midwest Bank operating loan. Albright and Manager Nelson attended a bond sale meeting with Carolyn Drude, Ehlers and Associates, and Lori Johnson, Clay County Auditor, on 1/18/07, for Project No 51, Clay County Ditch No. 58-Establishment, and Project No. 57, Moorhead Interstate-94 (I-94) Flood Control. By the end of March, the BRRWD expects to receive approximately \$440,000 from this bond sale. Albright mentioned that the BRRWD still has to pay the City of Moorhead's right-of-way (r-o-w) payment out of the bond sale proceeds for Project No. 57. Manager Olson commented that Clay County recently paid \$2,000/acre for a road project r-o-w easement. Albright noted that the DNR will reimburse the BRRWD for 98% of the current billings for the Oakport Flood Mitigation project. Manager Nelson mentioned that the federal mileage rate has increased from \$0.445 to \$0.485.

Business brought before the Board included:

Conservation Drainage. Mark Dittrich, MDA, discussed an MDA study to analyze drainage from tiled vs. non-tiled land on property owned by Brad Pake in the NE¹/₄, Section 5, Morken Township, Clay County, which outlets to Clay County Ditch No. 5. Pake received a BRRWD permit last fall to install two plots of patterned tiling divided by a non-tiled tract. The BRRWD also replaced the inlet culvert into Ditch No. 5 in this area so the field drainage could outlet to the ditch. The study will monitor the amount of runoff from the plots and compare drainage volume yields according to the different practices. Dittrich added that there are other similar study sites in southern Minnesota.

Dittrich explained that Conservation Drainage is the use of drainage system designs and management strategies to maximize the benefits of drainage while minimizing negative impacts on the environment. On Pake's property, MDA experimented with a drainage practice that makes it possible to hold water in tiled fields by installing control structures on the outlets to hold water back to varying levels during the growing

season. Studies have shown that controlled drainage reduces drainage water volume and nitrate losses by 25%-40%, and increases plant utilization. Dittrich showed a model of a control structure to the Board and discussed how it operates. He explained that experiments have shown that holding water at elevations higher than 1.5' to 2' from the field surface caused crop damage. Ellefson questioned how topography affected installation practices, tile sizing, and runoff rates. Dittrich provided a handout regarding Conservation Drainage for the Board's review. Dittrich noted that in Illinois and Indiana, the State's cost share on control structure installations is approximately \$5,000-\$6,000 on a one-time basis. One structure controls runoff for approximately 40 acres and costs approximately \$950. The group discussed Pake's individual project and the different approaches to the statistical analysis for the various plots.

Dittrich discussed the reasons for investigating and promoting Conservation Drainage in Minnesota. He thought that changes in global weather patterns, and demands for higher crop production and higher commodity prices (biofuels) could increase the popularity of tile installation. The Pake project and similar studies will show how these practices impact the environment. Ellefson discussed the Board's concerns about water quality associated with the increased number of tiling projects in the BRRWD. Dittrich said that the Gulf of Mexico has a "dead zone" caused by upstream nitrate/phosphorus deposits. VanAmburg noted that Lake Winnipeg has the same problem. Dittrich noted that some farmers are using tiling to improve production on alkaline soils. State officials view Conservation Drainage practices as way to offset costs from disaster payments for crop failure. VanAmburg suggested that new practices could address agricultural adjustments to global warming. The Board discussed the 13-year wet cycle our area has experienced and the problems associated with high ground water. VanAmburg asked Dittrich if he planned to work with North Dakota State University (NDSU) Soils Department. Dittrich said they are planning to involve NDSU in the study. Dittrich also noted that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is funding the tiling studies for three Minnesota counties. Ellefson commented that in the last few years, we have seen more tiling projects in the BRRWD. He thought that tiling was a better drainage option than surface drainage because it reduces erosion and controls flows. Nelson noted that the University of Minnesota (U of M) is holding their 2007 Agricultural Tile Drainage Design and Soil Water Management Workshop on February 14 and 15, 2007, at the Courtyard by Marriott Conference Center in Moorhead. Dittrich will coordinate with Albright to schedule a field day for the Board to tour the Pake site this spring.

Permits. Albright noted that the permit applications have slowed down recently due to the weather, and due to the current heavy workload, the office has not had time to process the new applications.

Stanley Sandman Drainage Complaint. The Board briefly discussed Sandman's concerns about a drainage project his upstream neighbor, Brian Peterman, completed last year that he now feels is causing erosion problems on his property in Section 28, Highland Grove Township, Clay County. Nelson noted that Sandman called him regarding the status of this issue. Albright will send Peterman a letter advising him of the BRRWD's Rules. **Tabled.**

Minch and Johnson Lawsuits. Based on attorney/client privilege, and in accordance with Open Meeting Law, the Board went into closed session at 7:44 PM to discuss the status of both lawsuits. At 8:15 PM, the Board reopened the meeting.

Grove/Pete Lakes Outlet. The BRRWD held a landowner informational meeting on 10/30/06 to discuss concerns regarding high water in the Grove Lake area in northwestern Otter Tail County. At their 11/13/06 regular meeting, the Board authorized H.E. to continue the development of a project for a Grove Lake outlet. Jones discussed his progress with obtaining permission-to-survey forms from the affected landowners. He noted that he still needs survey forms from two landowners. One of the landowners, whose property is not directly affected by the proposed study, is reluctant to sign because

he does not want to be assessed for the project. Jones hasn't been able to contact the other landowner. Terry Lejcher, Area Hydrologist, DNR, provided Jones with elevation information for the area lakes.

Last week, on his way home from Grove Lake Church, Ellefson reported that he noticed some ditch work on the north side of Trunk Highway (T.H.) No. 34. The BRRWD has not issued a permit for work in this area. He also visited with a Grove Lake landowner about scheduling another informational meeting to discuss the project status.

Project No. 61, Clay County Ditch No. 11-North-Improvement. To date, Jones and Albright had not been able to schedule a meeting with David L. Overbo, Engineer, Clay County Highway Department, to discuss the project. The County has concerns that improving the ditch (deepening the ditch bottom) could cause additional erosion along County Road (C.R.) No. 8 in Section 32, Kurtz Township. The County has future plans to move the road further north.

Project No. 59, Clay County Ditch No. 41-Lateral 3. Albright called the Feder Property's attorney, John Boulger, tonight regarding this pending project and left a message. To date, Albright has been unable to contact either Feder or Boulger. Last winter, the Board tabled their request for Feder Properties to increase the petition bond to \$20,000 until 8/15/06. The BRRWD will not work on further project development or assess additional fees until the bond amount is increased. As the project petitioner, Feder would be responsible for the project development costs to date, or approximately \$14,600. **Tabled.**

Project No. 58, Riverton Township Retention. Albright sent Brian Winter, Program Director, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), an e-mail message to set up a meeting to discuss his comments regarding the draft Preliminary Engineer's Report. To date, Winter has not responded. Ellefson suggested the Project Team (PT) could discuss this issue at their 1/25/07 meeting if Winter attends. Albright noted that Winter might be staffing the TNC booth at the Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) annual conference in Moorhead this week, and that might be a time to visit with him.

Project No. 57, Moorhead/I-94 Flood Control. Albright and Manager Nelson met on 1/18/07 with Clair Hanson, City of Moorhead, along with Carolyn Drude, Ehlers and Associates, Inc., and Lori Johnson, Clay County Auditor, regarding the bond sale, which is now underway. The bond will run for 10 years at an approximate rate of 4.25%. Drude expects local banks will buy the bonds. Albright will attend the 2/06/07 Clay County Commission's meeting to discuss the bond sale. If the Commissioners authorize the sale, distribution of funds could come at the end of March, or 30 days from the actual sale date, which is now set for 2/27/07. Albright noted that the BRRWD still owes the City of Moorhead approximately \$23,000 for their project easement payment. He suggested that we could pay Moorhead when we receive the bond sale proceeds.

Albright mentioned that in addition to H.E.'s easement drawing, the County needs to have an actual easement document. The drawing can be marked as Exhibit 1. Jones had thought the County just needed the drawing. Albright will contact the County regarding this issue. The Board discussed the need to implement the practice of recording all project easements.

Project No. 56, Manston Slough Restoration. Rick St. Germain, Engineer, H.E., will present the draft Engineer's Report to the Mediation PT on 1/25/07. The permitting agencies met on 1/11/07. It appears that the Wilkin County Planning and Zoning Commission will require a conditional use permit (CUP) for dike installations. Ellefson was concerned about the fate of the project if the Commission doesn't approve the CUP. The Board discussed his concerns. Albright suggested that this issue could

be discussed at the next Wilkin County Local Water Plan (CLWP) meeting in Breckenridge on 1/29/07.

The Board discussed the ground water monitoring for the proposed project. Jones noted that Eric Mohring, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), has expressed an interest in helping to design a study to review the seepage concerns. He added that Rick St. Germain might have information regarding this issue in his Engineer's Report. Ellefson asked if piezometers could be installed this winter. Albright thought it would depend on the frost conditions. The Board felt that the seepage concerns should be addressed as soon as possible. VanAmburg suggested that the soil boring results could also shed some light on the potential for seepage along the dike alignment. Ellefson thought that the landowners would want a professional opinion for the seepage determination.

Later in the meeting, Albright noted that he invited Jon Schneider, Ducks Unlimited (DU), to the next PT meeting to update him about the project. Schneider indicated that DU does not have cost sharing funds available for the Manston Slough project. Bob Usgaard, who works with DU, helped with the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)/Wetland Reserve Enhancement Program (WREP) easement enrollment, but it appears that DU will no longer be involved with the project in terms of staff or funding. At this time, DU's has all of its resources tied up with their Living Lakes Initiative. VanAmburg commented that there might be possible funding available from federal sources because of wetland losses resulting from climate change.

Project No. 54, Whisky Creek Tributaries. Contractor Darvin Temanson called the office last week regarding payment for his work on the Greg Settlemeyer driveway culvert installation. After Temanson installed his culvert, Settlemeyer called the office with complaints about the work. The Board agreed to wait until Temanson returns from Montana this spring to make a decision regarding payment. Jones noted that Temanson used rocks that were too large for riprap on Settlemeyer's project. Another contractor used those rocks on a different repair site associated with Project No. 54. Since we used the rock, Albright felt we should reimburse Temanson for this item.

Project No. 51, Clay County Ditch No. 68-City of Glyndon. Jones noted that Ronald Erdman, Allstate Construction, has not contacted him regarding his concerns about the unclassified excavation quantities. Jones had expected Erdman to furnish the actual construction cut depths by station.

The Board discussed the bond sale process. The term of the bond sale will be 10 years. The City of Glyndon's project cost per year will be approximately \$45,000. Estimated assessments per household for the Ditch No. 68 project could be about \$14 per month.

Jones is working on the r-o-w drawings and legal descriptions so that the ditch system easements can be recorded.

Project No. 49, Oakport Flood Mitigation. Albright reported that he and Property Manager Randy Rick completed a walk-through of all the purchased homes. Rick has the houses all secured with the heat lowered/shut off. Nelson questioned the terms of Rick's employment. Albright will prepare a contract for the Board's review. Rick is currently billing per house per hour. Albright noted that Rick has installed a universal lock on all the houses, so one key will open any of the houses.

Albright and Olson will meet with auctioneering firms next week to review their proposals for a public house sale in March or April. Albright suggested that we could advertise for bids and hold a public open house. Olson noted that Steffes Auctioneers, Inc., seems to have the most experience with this

type of sale. Albright noted that a few homeowners left personal property, including appliances. Once the houses have been sold and moved, the BRRWD will be responsible for demolishing the basements and disconnecting the utilities. The Board discussed bidding procedures and setting a deadline for removing the structures.

The next Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for 2/08/07. Albright will try to schedule a meeting with the landowners who attended the 1/08/07 meeting for 2/13/07. The Board discussed their concerns.

Project No. 46, Turtle Lake Outlet. Jones said that the manufacturer will ship the repaired Long Lake siphon valve this week. The company requested that the BRRWD submit a credit application. Albright will fill out the credit form and send it back. Since weather is not a factor, Sellin Bros., Inc., will install the valve when it arrives. Wade Opsahl, Technician, H.E., has stopped the Turtle Lake siphon for the winter. The BRRWD plans to continue to lower Long Lake this winter to allow for quicker drawdown next spring on Turtle Lake.

Project No. 38, Farmstead Ringdikes. Albright has forwarded the signed 2006 DNR Ringdike grant application to Ed Fick, FDR Hydrologist, DNR Waters. The grant will provide \$15,000 to build John Butze's ringdike in 2007. Albright still needs to contact Fick regarding the revised Kragnes ringdike plans. Kragnes resident Gary Grugel recently told Albright he hopes that the BRRWD can develop a ringdike project for Kragnes in 2007. The project is dependant on DNR cost sharing. The Board discussed the delinquent landowner ringdike payments. After BRRWD Attorney Tami Norgard sent letters to Ross Rehder and Eunice Stensland regarding their delinquent 1998 ringdike payments, Rehder visited the office to discuss the issue with Albright, and Stensland remitted her payment in full. Solveig Mead has not paid for her 2005 ringdike project. The Board discussed possible options to collect this debt. **Motion** by Nelson to authorize BRRWD Attorney Tami Norgard to send a letter to Mead regarding her outstanding ringdike payment. **Seconded** by VanAmburg. **Approved.** Albright suggested that Manager Nelson, Opsahl, and he could meet with Mark Rustad in the near future regarding his concerns about his ringdike cost overruns. The Board discussed possible DNR funding for the Kragnes project. Albright suggested we could also discuss this issue with our Legislators at the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) Legislative Breakfast scheduled for March 14-15, 2007, in St. Paul. The Board discussed possible assessment scenarios for a Kragnes ringdike. Albright felt the BRRWD could appoint Appraisers to determine assessments using similar criteria as the Anderson Acres ringdike project.

Project No. 35, Clay County Ditch No. 47. Olson and Albright met with Bob Zimmerman, City of Moorhead, on 1/11/07 to discuss Moorhead's request for an improvement petition to reroute Ditch No. 47 for the 34th ST interchange project. In addition, Moorhead will need to add a small amount of property to the Ditch No. 47 system because drainage patterns will change as a result of the 21st Street interchange project. Moorhead has also requested that the BRRWD prorate the Americana Estates benefits because currently each house pays benefits to Ditch Nos. 47 and 30, in addition to a storm water tax, assessed by the City. The City proposes to construct a new road into the Trollwood site. They will design a divided two path road with the correct culvert sizing along 50th AVE S. Albright will provide the City with a copy of the Moorhead Township Drainage Study. The BRRWD office is in the process of preparing a draft petition for an improvement proceeding. Project construction will probably not start until 2008. In addition, Moorhead is in the process of preparing a list of approximately 136 homes along the Red River in Moorhead that could be candidates for home buyouts.

Project No. 34, Clay County Ditch No. 41. In conjunction with Project No. 57, Moorhead I-94 Flood Control, parts of the ditch benefit area were changed. Albright will prepare an Order for the Board's review and signature approving the changes.

Project No. 33, Clay County Ditch No. 50. Wal-Mart has requested that the BRRWD release the temporary r-o-w associated with property they want to purchase adjacent to Ditch No. 50 in the Dilworth area. When the BRRWD developed the Economic Development Administration (EDA) projects for this area, we recorded both the temporary (construction) and permanent r-o-w easements on the abstract. Once construction was completed, we released the temporary r-o-w, but it remained on the abstract. Wal-Mart Attorney Brian Meade forwarded a draft Release and Disclaimer document to Albright, who suggested some language changes to clarify that the BRRWD is only releasing the temporary r-o-w, not the permanent ditch r-o-w. Meade revised the easement release and returned it to the Board for their review and signature. **Motion** by VanAmburg to release the temporary r-o-w for Ditch No. 50 per Wal-Mart's Release and Disclaimer Agreement. **Seconded** by Olson. **Approved.**

Project No. 30, Clay/Wilkin Judicial Ditch No. 1 (J.D. 1). Landowner Rick Maier and others are interested in a possible improvement/extension for Lateral No. 3. The Board plans to hold a meeting in our Barnesville office this winter to discuss this issue.

Project No. 23, Becker County Ditch No. 15. Chad Mattson started the ditch repairs for Ditch No. 15 last fall, but did not complete the work before freeze up. Manager Hanson reported that Mattson has medical problems that kept him from finishing the project. Mattson has been trying to continue excavation, but progress has been difficult as the ground is now frozen. Opsahl will notify Mattson to stop the project for the season. Jones noted that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) permit for the cleanout project expires on May 15, 2007. The Board thought there should be time to finish the project this spring.

Mediation PT. The BRRWD will hold their next PT meeting on 1/25/07 at 1:30 PM in the MSUM Science Center near Glyndon. The office has sent the meeting notices. The BRRWD may have to reschedule the next PT meeting (2/22/07), as it conflicts with the DNR's Landscaping Workshop in Detroit Lakes.

Comprehensive Planning. Mark Aanenson has scheduled a conference call for 1/30/07 to discuss an agenda for the kickoff meeting with the Technical and Citizen Advisory Committees (TAC/CAC). Albright noted that we still need to find a few additional TAC and CAC members. When that is completed, the office will send a letter to the CAC and TAC regarding their meeting dates/time preferences.

Becker County Ditch No. 19. H.E. has completed an area lake elevation survey using GPS. Albright sent the results to the landowners. The Holmesville Township Supervisors sent a letter asking the BRRWD to ask Becker County to remove or lower the excess riprap located on the 48" dia. culvert between Rock and Rice lakes on C.R. 27. They feel the riprap is causing an artificially high elevation on Momb Lake. **Motion** by Hanson to contact Becker County and request that they remove the excess riprap. **Seconded** by VanAmburg. **Approved.**

RRBC Conference. The RRBC has scheduled their 24th Annual Red River Basin Land & Water International Summit Conference for Tuesday-Thursday, January 23-25, 2007, at the Ramada Plaza Suites in Fargo. Advance registrations cost \$155 and were due by 12/31/06. VanAmburg, Hanson, and Ellefson plan to attend. Albright distributed their reservation confirmations slips. The RRBC has

selected the BRRWD's nominee, Sheila Carlson, Barnesville River Watch Program Coordinator, to receive the 2006 RRBC Communication/Education Award. Carlson will receive her award at the Wednesday night awards ceremony.

Becker County Ditch No. 5. Jones prepared recommendations for the Todd Krieger repair request for 1.5 miles of Ditch No. 5 in Sections 15 and 16, Audubon Township, from C.R. 11 downstream to the outlet. Sediment depths vary from 1.5' to 3' with a proposed 0.09% grade. Jones noted that we may need permission to work in the adjacent wetland areas, and will also need permission to level spoil from the neighboring landowners. Jones also recommended upgrading a 24" dia. culvert in a private field crossing to two 42" dia. culverts. Albright will forward the report to Krieger for his review and comments. **Tabled.**

RRWMB Membership. The BRRWD and the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) cancelled their 1/16/07 negotiation meeting in St. Paul, as both VanAmburg and Ellefson were unable to attend. Albright forwarded the BRRWD's response to the RRWMB regarding their 11/28/07 proposals.

Tiling Workshop. The U of M and the NDSU Extension Services are sponsoring the 2007 Agricultural Tile Drainage Design and Soil Water Management Workshop on February 14-15, 2007, at the Courtyard by Marriott Conference Center, Moorhead. Early registration is \$160 for 2 days, and is due by 2/05/07. The workshop is an opportunity for interested parties to learn about a variety of topics related to agricultural drain tile.

Lobbyist Consulting Agreement. BRRWD Lobbyist Joel Carlson forwarded a signed Consulting Agreement for the Board's signature. He agreed to the Board's proposal to increase his fees to \$800/month in 2007 and \$850/month in 2008. The Board approved the fee increase at their 1/08/07 annual meeting.

Watershed Management Report. The Minnesota Office of the Legislative Auditor will release their report on Watershed Management to the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee on 1/25/07. The issues to be covered in the report are as follows: 1.) How well is Minnesota managing its watersheds? 2.) Are state agencies providing adequate oversight of local water management entities? 3.) How should the state promote consistent and effective watershed management?

Landscaping Workshop. The DNR has scheduled a Landscaping for Wildlife and Water Clarity Workshop for Local Units of Government on 2/22/07 at The Lodge on Lake Detroit in Detroit Lakes from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Registration deadline is 2/16/07. The workshop is free to agency personnel. Albright noted that we may have to change the February PT meeting date, as it conflicts with this workshop.

Becker County Commission Liaison. Becker County notified the BRRWD that they have appointed Commissioner Barry Nelson to act as Board Liaison with the BRRWD. There had been some confusion about Commissioner Nelson's appointment to the BRRWD, as Manager Hanson is the current Becker County Manager appointee. Albright called Becker County to clarify Nelson's liaison status. Manager Hanson noted that he had discussed an issue regarding assessments according to parcel numbers with Commissioner Nelson, who informed him that the County will have to use the old hand entry system until they upgrade to a new software program in two years.

Wilkin County Envirothon. Diane Lommel, Envirothon Committee, sent a request to the BRRWD for a contribution to their 2007 Area II Envirothon. **Motion** by Hanson to contribute \$100 to the event as in past years. **Seconded** by VanAmburg. **Approved.**

Engineering Consultant Proposal. The Board approved H.E.'s proposal for their 2007 engineering services at the 1/08/07 annual meeting. Ellefson signed the consulting agreement on behalf of the Board.

Meeting Room Policy. The City of Moorhead has revised their meeting room policy, including a new application process and fee schedule effective 1/01/07. The Board reviewed the policy changes.

Clay County Ditch No. 40. H.E. has completed the hydraulic analysis for Jimmie R. Nelson for a crossing in Section 25, Kurtz Township, and Albright forwarded the results to the landowners. Orlen Valen, Jr., contacted Albright with several concerns regarding the proposal. He feels the proposed crossing could back up water and cause upstream flooding. Of the two alternatives, he would rather have the larger structure installed. Jones felt that the smaller culverts would perform better than the larger structure, but agreed to take another look at the design. Jones noted that the design is for a 5-10 year event. Valen was also concerned about the expense to the ditch system. The estimated crossing cost is approximately \$20,000. Valen indicated that the new crossing might not be necessary since they already farm this property without a crossing in this location. Albright noted that if we could find a used pipe for this crossing, Valen might be more interested.

Digital Elevation Model (DEM). Albright, Chuck Fritz, International Water Institute (IWI), and Former North Dakota Governor George Sinner met with Senator Keith Langseth on 1/05/07 to discuss the DEM effort. Langseth and Senator Rod Skoe have agreed to support the DEM. Albright wrote a bill that would provide \$600,000 for the IWI to develop a DEM for the Red River Basin. Albright noted that recently the Environmental Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC) has indicated that the DEM should be under their jurisdiction. Fritz is planning to testify in Washington, DC, regarding the DEM on February 6-7, 2007.

Southside Flood Control Project (SSFC). Mayor Dennis Walaker, City of Fargo, sent the BRRWD an invitation to a presentation of the SSFC on Tuesday, February 6, 2007, at 6:00 PM in the Fargo City Commission Room to review the project alternatives. Walaker asked Albright to participate on an Advisory Committee comprised of local agency and jurisdictional representatives, to provide the City with a broad based perspective in selecting a preferred project alternative. Managers Olson and Nelson also wanted to participate on the committee. The Board discussed local concerns about the effects of the project on Moorhead area flooding problems. The City has recently postponed the selection of a project alternative until 5/1/07. The City has hired local engineering firms to review Moore Engineering's work.

Hamden Slough NWR. Michael Murphy, Refuge Manager, Hamden Slough National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), asked the BRRWD to contact our Congressional delegation regarding the proposed closing of the Hamden Slough NWR headquarters by 2/04/07. The Board discussed this issue. **Motion** by Hanson to send the requested letters of support. **Seconded** by Olson. **Approved.**

River Keepers Funding. Albright noted that the City of Moorhead's resolution for River Keeper's funding was for \$40,000 for 2007/2008, not the \$36,000 as listed on the Minnesota Statutes Annotated (M. S. A.) 103D.905, Subd. 3, budget, which was discussed at the 1/08/07 meeting. The Board agreed to the noted changes.

LiDAR Mapping. Nelson questioned the status of Clay County's LiDAR mapping project. Albright reported that Tim Magnusson, Clay County Water Planner, said they have completed the studies for south Fargo and Oakport Township. The BRRWD approved a \$50,000 contribution to this project, in conjunction with our comprehensive planning process. BWSR will pay \$25,000, or 50%, of the funding, as planning costs. The County's contract with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for \$700,000 has expired. Albright asked Magnusson to check on the financial status of the project and advise the BRRWD how much funding the County will need to finish this project.

The following bills were presented for approval:

Accounts Payable	Description	Account	Amount
Petty Cash	Postage, supplies, etc.	Admin	\$ 100.00
J&J Braton Properties, LLC	February 2007 office rent	Admin	\$ 490.00
Premium Waters, Inc.	#366590-12-06	Admin	\$ 14.27
Northern States Excavating	1/06/07 repair bills	Clay 3, 33, Pj. 54, Ringdikes	\$ 17,735.58
Vogel Law Firm	#5, Johnson collection	Admin	\$ 140.00
Quill	#3489662, supplies	Admin	\$ 135.15
Joel Carlson	January Lobbyist fees	Admin	\$ 800.00
Moorhead Public Service	January utilities statements	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 147.19
Vogel Law Firm	#10, buyouts	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 8,822.03
Xcel Energy	#51-8056889-8	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 9.07
MAWD	2007 membership dues	Admin	\$ 2,000.00
Red River Valley Coop	1/10/07 billing statements	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 452.22
UEI	#26696, 10/01-12/31/06	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 36,841.66
Joel Carlson	February Lobbyist fees	Admin	\$ 800.00
IRS	1st Qtr.2006 Form 941C	Admin	\$ 81.00
ICS Agency, Inc.	#36229, insurance	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 1,245.00
TDS Metrocom	1/12/07 long distance	Admin	\$ 44.21
Wilkin SWCD	Area II Envirothon	Admin	\$ 100.00
			\$ 69,957.38

Motion by VanAmburg to approve payment of the bills pending availability of funds. **Seconded** by Nelson. **Approved.** Albright noted that the DNR will reimburse 98% of the BRRWD Oakport project expenses.

Next Meeting. The Board of Managers, BRRWD, will hold their next regular meeting on Monday, February 12, 2007, in the Barnesville office at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment. Chairman Ellefson adjourned the meeting at 10:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Hanson, Secretary