

BUFFALO-RED RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

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MINUTES FOR MANAGERS' MEETING April 13, 2015

The Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), held their regular meeting on Monday, April 13, 2015, at 7:00 PM in the Barnesville office. BRRWD Managers present were Gerald L. Van Amburg, Breanna L. Kobiela, Mark T. Anderson, John E. Hanson, Catherine L. Affield, and Peter V. Fjestad. BRRWD Staff attending included: Erik S. Jones, Engineer; Wade Opsahl, Technician, and Julie Jerger, Resident Senior Administrative Assistant, Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI). Others attending included: Caroline Swenson, Terry Czichotzki, Sherwood Peterson, Trana Rogne, Delyle Fankhanel, Arnold Fankhanel, and Ron Erdman.

Chairman Van Amburg called the meeting to order at 7:11 PM. He announced that the proceedings were being recorded to aid in the preparation of the minutes. He noted that Bruce E. Albright, BRRWD Administrator, wouldn't be attending tonight's meeting, but he did provide a memo for the Board's review regarding a number of tonight's agenda items.

Secretary's Report. The Board reviewed draft minutes for the 03/23/15 regular meeting and the 09/04/14 Project No. 30, Clay/Wilkin Judicial Ditch No. 1 (J.D. 1) informational meeting. **Motion** by Affield to approve the minutes. **Seconded** by Kobiela. **Approved.**

Treasurer's Report. Jerger presented the monthly financial statements, including the project account balance sheet, administrative disbursements, summary of income, and the accounts receivable report. Cash on hand is \$1,640,121.08. Income since the 03/09/15 meeting totaled \$555,890.32. Payments came from the Minch Family LLLP (\$10,000) for their second Project No. 77, Clay County Ditch (C.D.) No. 51-Lateral, petition bond payment; Wilkin County (\$544,951.45) for the transfer of their ditch systems to the BRRWD in conjunction with the Watershed District Enlargement (WDE) process; and \$676.88 from Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for the Upper Red River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) project. Total Administrative Disbursements for the year are \$92,388.67. The BRRWD should start to receive the 2015 first-half property tax proceeds from the counties in early June. In his meeting memo, Albright said that he plans to work with Midwest Bank to renew the BRRWD's \$600,000 operating loan, which will expire on 6/01/15. He also noted that the BRRWD's Minnesota Statutes Annotated (M.S.A.) 103D.905 fund is currently at -\$2,749.75, which is the first time the account has had a negative balance. He suggested that the Board could talk about finding funding sources for future BRRWD activities at the 04/27/15 BRRWD meeting, including the option of rejoining the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB). **Motion** by Anderson to approve the Treasurer's Report. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved.**

Business brought before the Board included:

Permit No. 15-015, Excel Energy. Applicant proposes to directional bore a 4" natural gas main at a minimum of 5' under Clay C.D. No. 41 in Section 4, Moorhead Township. **Motion** by Anderson to approve Permit No. 15-015, subject to the BRRWD's standard utility disclaimer. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved.**

Permit No. 15-020, Jerry Janssen. Applicant proposes to install an erosion control project designed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in the SW¼, Section 24, Humboldt Township, Clay

County. **Motion** by Anderson to approve Permit No. 15-020, subject to the BRRWD's standard tiling disclaimer. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved**.

Permit No. 15-021, Jerry Janssen. Applicant proposes to install an erosion control project designed by the NRCS in the SE¼, Section 23, Humboldt Township, Clay County. **Motion** by Anderson to approve Permit No. 15-021, subject to the BRRWD's standard tiling disclaimer. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved**.

Permit No. 15-023, Ivan Nelson. Applicant proposes to install 520 acres of pattern tiling in parts of Sections 29 and 30, Prairie View Township, Wilkin County, outletting via lift stations in the southwest and southeast corners of the sections to Wilkin C.D. No. 43 to which it is assessed. **Motion** by Anderson to approve Permit No. 15-023, subject to the BRRWD's standard tiling disclaimer. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved**.

Permit No. 15-024, Brian Strawsell. Applicant proposes to install an approach/culvert for a proposed building site in Winnipeg Junction, Section 33, Highland Grove Township, Clay County. **Motion** by Anderson to approve Permit No. 15-024, with the understanding that the culvert size matches existing area culverts. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved**.

Permit No. 15-025, Cory Heng. Applicant proposes to install an approach/culvert along 100th AVE S to provide an entrance for larger machinery and better field access in the NE¼, Section 26, Elkton Township, Clay County. The existing approach is located in a low wet area and is too narrow. The Board recommended a 15" dia. pipe to match the existing approach culvert sizes. **Motion** by Anderson to approve Permit No. 15-025, subject to the recommended culvert size and Township approval to work within their road right-of-way (r-o-w). **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved**.

Scott McCaslin Tiling Outlet Concern. Manager Hanson reported that he has not made progress with McCaslin and his neighbors regarding their drainage/tiling dispute in the NW¼, Section 24, Hamden Township, Becker County. He suggested the Board authorize Albright to send McCaslin a letter instructing him to open the culvert he blocked, which is restricting his neighbor's tile outlet. **Motion** by Hanson to authorize Albright to send the letter, as referenced. **Seconded** by Affield. **Approved**.

Erdman/Fankhanel Complaint. The Board discussed a complaint from Ron Erdman regarding a dike installation on the Ivan Fankhanel property in the SE¼, Section 22, Atherton Township, Wilkin County. Albright conducted a field review on 04/03/15 and took photographs, which the Board reviewed. The Fankhanel property (NE¼) had been rented by Ivan Nelson for several years, and during that time, he installed a ditch that drains south across the Fankhanel property and across Nelson's property directly into Deerhorn Creek. In 2014, Ronnie Erdman started renting the Fankhanel property, and this spring, Nelson came in and installed a dike on the line, blocking Fankhanel's flow to the south. The Board discussed the issue and decided they should meet with Nelson to discuss his activities. **Motion** by Anderson to authorize Albright to send an invitation to Nelson to attend the 4/27/15 BRRWD meeting to discuss his justification for plugging the ditch without a BRRWD permit. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved**.

Ron Erdman and Arnold Fankhanel arrived later in the meeting to discuss their concerns about Nelson plugging the drainage ditch on Fankhanel's property. Fankhanel said that he had to pay for a new survey because Nelson allegedly removed the property pins. Van Amburg explained the action the Board approved earlier in the meeting.

Czichotzki/Krueger Drainage Concern. Terry Czichotzki discussed his concerns about work completed by Kurt Krueger in the NE¼, Section 7, Manston Township, Wilkin County, and distributed photographs of the cleanout project for the Board's review. Albright noted in his meeting memo that last fall, Kurt Krueger hired HEI to survey the road ditch along the north line of Section 7, which drains into Wilkin C.D. No. 13-Lateral, to which the property is assessed. There is a field approach/culvert located on the quarter line with a 36" dia. pipe. On 03/18/15, Kurt Krueger filed a BRRWD permit application to regrade the existing road

ditch along County Road (C.R.) No. 182 for approximately 0.75 miles and to reset the existing culvert in the field approach to grade. Approximately 1,000' of the work is located along Czichotzki's property. At that time, Krueger asked Albright to contact Czichotzki to discuss the project with him. On 03/23/15, the BRRWD approved this permit subject to Wilkin County Highway Department approval to work within their road r-o-w, and downstream landowner approval, since part of the work was occurring on Czichotzki's property. Albright visited again with Krueger on 3/25/15 and told him that he had not yet had chance to visit with Czichotzki about the project. On 04/02/15, Czichotzki called Albright to report that Krueger had completed ditch work and that no one had contacted him about the project. Czichotzki came into the office on 04/03/15 to review a copy of the survey. He said the contractor had done a nice job, but he still was concerned that no one had contacted him. Czichotzki wanted to build up the property line along an old fence line, as he thought water will run from Krueger's property onto his property. Albright contacted Krueger and met him in the field on 04/03/15. Krueger had pictures and said that to his knowledge, water has never gone over the line, but if Czichotzki felt the line needed to be raised, he should do the work. Krueger also alleged that the fence line was entirely on his property, and he might remove the entire fence line/ridge. Albright relayed his conversation with Krueger to Czichotzki on 04/06/15, which included Krueger's comment that if Czichotzki wanted the fence line raised, he should do it himself.

Czichotzki pointed out that he wouldn't have stopped the project, but he felt that someone should have contacted him about the proposed work. He has already installed fill on the fenceline along his field, and he wanted the Board to acknowledge his right to restore the berm in the future should it washout, etc. He feels Krueger illegally completed his project because he didn't contact Czichotzki and didn't get County approval for work in their road r-o-w, as stipulated on the approved permit. Czichotzki commented that the BRRWD needs to set penalties/fines for Rule violations. He thought the fines should be high enough to discourage abuses. The Board discussed his suggestion and how to deal with violations. Hanson noted that the BRRWD's only recourse for a violation is to refer it to the County Attorney, who has the discretion to pursue prosecution. Jones suggested that HEI could get few survey shots of the fenceline to be sure Czichotzki restored it to the correct elevation and to establish a record of the berm height. He also advised Czichotzki to file a permit application for restoring the fenceline berm. **Motion** by Anderson to authorize Albright to send a letter to Krueger pointing out that he has not met the permit stipulations. A "friendly" amendment was added to authorize HEI to conduct the elevation survey as referenced, and for Czichotzki to file a permit application for his fenceline restoration work. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved.**

Brian Kritzberger Drainage Concern. Last fall, Spring Prairie Colony regraded the ditch along the west side of C.R. 54 in Sections 27 and 34, Alliance Township, Clay County. This spring, Kritzberger claimed they filled in the ditch to the point where his field ditch no longer drains in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 34, Alliance Township. Kritzberger provided photographs of the Colony's work for the Board's review. In his memo, Albright reported that he has contacted Spring Prairie Colony regarding Kritzberger's concerns. Joe Wipf from the Colony explained that their ditch work was not finished, but they have done some temporary cleanup to address this issue. Anderson reported that he visited with Kritzberger today, and he told Anderson that the work is acceptable for now, but the site is still pretty rough, and hopes final cleanup will be completed when conditions permit.

Upper South Branch of the Buffalo River Erosion Concerns. Carolyn Swenson discussed her concerns about a proposed project to repair breakouts on the South Branch of the Buffalo River on her property in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 6, Manston Township, Wilkin County. She feels the project would cost her more money and would not benefit her property. She has already lost a significant amount of rental income and property devaluation as result of the erosion problems on her property. Jones and Van Amburg made a few suggestions about other programs offering perpetual easements that Swenson could consider, for example, Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM). Swenson explained that she has already signed the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contract to enroll more of her property. She thought that the proposed channel restoration/retention project for the South Branch of the Buffalo River from Trunk Highway (T.H.) No. 9 to Wilkin C.R. No. 30 could probably improve drainage for her property. Swenson distributed a letter to the Board. She referenced a project upstream of her property where the BRRWD cleaned the outlet of Wilkin

C.D. No. 44 several years ago. She thought this work drained more water onto her downstream property. She expressed her disappointment with the BRRWD's efforts to address the erosion problems and the length of time she has wasted working with the BRRWD on this issue, and at that point, she left the meeting. Jones discussed his efforts to work with the NRCS and the Wilkin County Farm Service Agency (FSA) to get approval and funding for the current proposed design for a dike on Swenson's property, which has proven to be difficult given the agency regulations, etc. He pointed out that the Wilkin C.D. No. 44 outlet repair did not affect her property. Van Amburg commented that the BRRWD did not create the problems on the South Branch of the Buffalo River that affected Swenson's property, and he stressed that we have tried to assist her. He noted that the real problem is the current ongoing wet cycle, and that a comprehensive project for the Upper South Branch of the Buffalo River will take time to complete.

Project No. 77, Clay C.D. No. 51-Lateral No. 3. The Board adopted the Preliminary Findings and Order at their 03/23/15 meeting. Jones plans to have the Detailed Engineer's Survey Report ready for the Board's review on 04/27/15. Once the Survey Report is filed, the Viewers (Ron Ringquist, Rick Battles, and Rod Knutson) can begin their work to determine if the project will provide enough benefits to move forward.

Project No. 75, Wilkin C.D. No. 31-Lateral. The office mailed easement agreements to the four landowners affected by the project following the last BRRWD meeting. Albright had a field meeting on 04/11/15 with two of the landowners, Sharon Josephson and Clayton Rogers, to discuss the project. He has talked with Eric Skolness, Farmers National Company, who represents the Harvey Whitfield (WFFN LLC) property, regarding that easement, and Dan Swedlund, Wilkin County Highway Department, plans to contact Thomas Vertin regarding his easement. Hopes are to have all the easements signed by the 04/27/15 BRRWD meeting.

Project No. 56, Manston Slough Restoration. The BRRWD has not heard from Gladen Construction, Inc. regarding the Czichotzki crop loss claim. Their insurance company is working on it.

The Minnesota Environmental Initiatives (MEI) awards ceremony is scheduled for 05/21/15 in Minneapolis in the Nicolet Island Pavilion, Minneapolis, MN at 5:30 PM. Van Amburg noted that he plans to attend. He questioned if other agency personnel involved with the project should be invited. The Board thought that Albright might want to consider contacting the other project participants. Some of the Managers weren't sure about their availability and decided to discuss the event reservations again at the 04/27/15 meeting.

Project No. 49, Oakport Flood Mitigation. Oakport is in the Governor's 2015 bonding budget for the required \$5.66 million to complete Phase 4. However, there is still no guarantee that the project will get funded this year.

The Audubon Society and the BRRWD are preparing an Agreement for native grass seeding on the west side of Broadway. Audubon will pay for the seeding, and the BRRWD's/project costs will be for site preparation. In his memo, Albright suggested that the BRRWD use the same contractor to do the site preparation that Audubon hires to seed the native grasses. The agreement will eventually be signed by both the BRRWD and the City of Moorhead.

Project No. 39, Georgetown Levee. The Board approved a Resolution of Condemnation on the Greywind house and authorized the appraisal at their 03/23/15 meeting. Charles Anderson, ARC Appraisals, completed the appraisal and submitted it to the BRRWD on 04/06/15. The appraised value was \$20,000. Albright has forwarded the appraisal to Corey Elmer and Tami Norgard, Vogel Law Firm. Van Amburg discussed the condemnation proceeding with Attorney Norgard today, who will be forwarding the appraisal to the lending institution and homeowner. They have 60 days to review the information and either obtain a different appraisal or negotiate with the BRRWD.

Project No. 30, Clay/Wilkin J.D. 1. Jones noted that Attorney Norgard is seeking clarification of the petition requirements, as the petitioners have had some trouble getting signatures to create a diversion on the County line. Opsahl reported on the status of the limited channel cleanout. Once the road restrictions are off this spring, the contractor should be able to finish the work.

Project No. 23, Becker C.D. No. 15 Repair. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) hired Nanik Construction to repair C.D. No. 15 through the Hamden Slough National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) last fall, but the contractor did not start the work. The BRRWD had planned to have the contractor continue the repairs on the ditch channel starting in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 11, Audubon Township. Nanik has now subcontracted with Higher Ground Construction, so Opsahl will contact them to do the work south of the NWR on the remaining portions of the ditch system. Jones noted that the contractor tried to start the work in March, but the ditch was still frozen.

Mediation Project Team (PT). The next PT meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, May 07, 2015, at 7:00 PM in the BRRWD office. The meeting time will change because the PT meets in the evening during the summer.

Upper South Branch of the Buffalo River Erosion Concerns. Van Amburg noted that we heard from Carolyn Swenson earlier in the meeting that she is no longer interested in an erosion control project for her property. Jones briefly discussed a potential flood control site in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 10, Manston Township. Using the overhead monitors, Jones displayed a map of the NRCS property in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 11, Manston Township, where a possible retention site could also be created. Jones will investigate these options.

Barnesville Township Area Drainage. Jones plans to have his draft report ready for the Board's review at their 04/27/15 meeting. Once that report is completed, the BRRWD plans to share the information with landowners at a meeting to get feedback from them regarding a number of issues, including existing conditions, channel restoration, retention site locations, and rural residence protection.

Haick/Peppel Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) Site. Jones reported that the draft report has been completed, except for two items. The soil borings will be completed this week, as well as details regarding the exact alignment of the water inlet into the site. One of the next steps would be to schedule a landowner informational meeting for some time in early May.

Reep Lake. Albright plans to schedule a meeting with landowners Mike and Zita Jacobson to determine their interest in an easement with the Watershed District.

Stony Creek Comprehensive Project. Jones reported that the soil borings are done, and analysis will be completed in the next 30-60 days. Using the overhead monitors, he discussed some design modifications for the site to create one slightly larger retention site instead of two, which potentially could yield about 10,000-12,000 acre-feet of storage. The cost of the change will be analyzed. The group discussed the details of the proposed design changes. Jones noted that we will also need hydraulic information for Clay C.D. No. 31.

Sherwood Peterson owns property in Section 32, Elkton Township, Clay County. He asked why we want to use his productive agricultural property for a storage site instead of a low spot in the same area that is always wet. He pointed out that his land has never been flooded and has been cropped for several decades. He questioned the value of reducing flows by only an estimated 3" on the South Branch of the Buffalo River. Peterson asked about the Mediation Agreement goals, specifically about protecting against 10-year summer storms for "intensively farmed land". He questioned how the BRRWD could plan to use his property for a retention site, which is intensively farmed land that has never flooded; especially, in light of the fact that there is a low spot in the area already. Van Amburg explained the creation and function of the Mediation Agreement/PT. He noted that the goal Peterson quoted refers to creating ditch systems to

protect farmland. There is nothing in the Agreement about prohibiting retention site creation on farmland. Van Amburg discussed easement values for land to be used for retention. He noted that the BRRWD has an obligation to the landowner to provide a fair price for his easement and an obligation to the taxpayers to spend their money wisely. Anderson commented that he would not be in favor of a project that would take someone's land without their agreement. Peterson noted that it will be difficult to find renters for land within a retention site. He discussed the low area south of his property that hasn't been farmed for years. Peterson pointed out that the reason he came to the meeting was to make his concerns known to the Board while the project was still in the design stage.

Jones asked the Board to approve some additional channel surveying on Stony Creek to move forward with the project design process. **Motion** by Anderson to authorize HEI to conduct the surveys, as requested. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved.**

Revised Watershed Management Plan (RWMP)/WDE. Albright provided a memo from the 04/02/15 agency with Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). The BWSR Northern Committee met on April 8, 2015, and approved the BRRWD's revised schedule to complete our RWMP and submit it for the Committee's review on 09/09/15. The BRRWD still needs to schedule Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings.

Army Corps of Engineers (COE) F-M Diversion. There was more information regarding the 2015 Diversion Authority (DA) budget in the Board's packets. Representatives from the DA might attend the 04/27/15 BRRWD meeting to discuss any possible amendments to the 2015 budget.

Redetermination of Benefits for Clay C.D. Nos. 9, 32, and 33. The Redetermination Hearing was held on 04/09/15. The Viewers met with landowners on 04/07/15 at an open house held at the Courthouse, Moorhead. Opsahl reviewed comments made at the Hearing regarding the benefits for several pieces of property on the east side of C.R. No. 11 on C.D. No. 9. He made the necessary adjustments, and the Orders for all the ditch systems are ready to sign. Opsahl noted that another landowner contacted the office today regarding his benefits to C.D. No. 32. Steve Meixner thinks he should be in C.D. No. 40, and not in C.D. No. 32. Opsahl explained that this has been ongoing question with this property, and he probably does belong in the C.D. No. 40 benefit area. A new proceeding would have to be held to add Meixner to C.D. No. 40. After an extended discussion, the Board decided to wait until this issue has been resolved before signing the Redetermination Orders. **Motion** by Anderson to table signing the Redetermination Orders, pending an investigation of Meixner's benefits. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Tabled.**

MAWOCP. West Otter Tail and Wilkin Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) continue to work with landowners regarding certification. The program ends in June 2016. The Department of Agriculture will be hosting a tour coming up in the month of June. The Board discussed tour attendance.

Elkton Township Wetland Restoration. Albright has forwarded the information regarding Charles Anderson's crop loss claim to the Ziegler Excavation, Inc., and to date, there has been no response. In his memo, Albright noted that Jim and Jerry Birks would like to purchase an additional 0.1 acres of wetland banking credits to mitigate for a small wetland in a field that they are tiling. He suggested that the Board could discuss their request at the 04/27/15 meeting.

BWSR Conservation Drainage Grant. A Drainage Water Management Plan from Rick Maier for 65 acres of pattern tiling in Section 6, Atherton Township, Wilkin County, has been completed. BWSR has indicated that the BRRWD should transfer the balance of the grant proceeds to the Wilkin SWCD to fund their work. The grant ends 12/31/15. After deducting the cost for Maier's plan, structures, and incentive payments for three years, the balance of the funds can be transferred. **Motion** by Anderson to transfer the balance of the BWSR grant to the Wilkin SWCD. **Seconded** by Hanson. **Approved.**

Buffalo River/Upper Red TMDL Studies. MPCA noticed completion of the Buffalo River TMDL/Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) Reports in the Minnesota State Register the week of March 30, 2015, for a 30-day comment period, which will end on 4/29/15. Van Amburg noted that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has already reviewed the TMDL and gave some minor comments, which did not call for any changes to the document. Jerger noted that she worked with Tim James, MPCA, to create a new page for the WRAPS/TMDL studies, and the reports are now posted on the BRRWD's webpage under "Current Projects".

Wolverton Creek/Comstock Coulee. Albright provided a memo in the Managers' packets from the agency meeting held on 04/02/15. At that time, it was determined that the project was not ready to be submitted for NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding. There are several things that need to be done, including a NRCS review of the design to make sure it meets with their approval and is eligible for funding. Other ideas were to package the project and submit it to a number of other agencies for potential funding. The BRRWD also needs to setup up the water management district (wmd) fees, which could be based on contributing waters within the planning regions. The Board briefly discussed how to refine the scope of "contributing waters" to Wolverton Creek and the beneficial features of the proposed project.

Otter Tail River Restoration. An agency meeting, arranged by Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Fisheries, Fergus Falls, was held on 04/07/15 in Breckenridge to discuss a potential restoration project for the Otter Tail River. The Wilkin SWCD, DNR Fisheries, and others would be interested in restoring parts of the straightened river channel. Plans from the COE project back in the 1950s will be sent to the BRRWD office. There appears to be an opportunity for a Clean Water Fund (CWF) project on the Etten erosion site. The site was submitted for a grant back in 2013, but was not funded. Using the overhead monitors, Jones discussed the Etten site. He explained that a few miles south of this site, the Wilkin County Highway Department is doing road reconstruction on C.R. No. 8, and they need approximately 8,000 cubic yards (c.y.) of material. Jones explained that the County has agreed to do the earthwork for the Etten project, which would include a toe-wood debris bank restoration on about 1,500' of waterway channel. Jones estimated that the wood debris work would cost about \$50,000, and the earthwork would cost about \$30,000. The landowners would enroll a 100' strip along the project site in RIM. The DNR is prepared to issue a permit for restoration of this erosion site. The other agencies have asked the BRRWD to fund the remaining cost for this one site. The Board agreed to wait until the 04/27/15 meeting to finalize the costs with Wilkin County. They will address possible funding sources.

LaBelle Lake. Peter Mead, District Administrator, Becker SWCD, has requested that the BRRWD consider contributing \$39,863 for a shoreland restoration project on LaBelle Lake. The SWCD has Conservation Corp workers lined up to do the manual labor. In his memo, Albright suggested that the BRRWD might not be prepared to fund additional projects at this time. Currently, our M.S.A. 103D.905, Subd. 3, account balance is a negative. He recommended that this type of project would be eligible for some sort of grant funding in the future. **Tabled**, pending future discussions regarding possible funding sources.

Lake Flora. Albright is working with the City of Lake Park regarding the possible restoration of Lake Flora. One of the problems is that they extended three softball fields into the wetland basin. Lake Flora was drained by the installation of Becker C.D. No. 7 in approximately 1906. Representatives from the City of Lake Park may be attending our 04/27/15 meeting to discuss their proposal. The BRRWD has contributed funds to a number of cities in the past, and may consider contributing some funding for this project if a practical and feasible concept can be developed.

Roger Ellefson Memorial. Anderson recommended that the Board pass a Resolution in recognition of Roger Ellefson's 41 years of service to the BRRWD in light of his recent passing on April 6, 2015. Van Amburg commented that Ellefson will be remembered as an outstanding Watershed District Manager, who

had a vast knowledge of the watershed district. **Motion** by Anderson, as referenced. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved.**

Special Meeting Topics. Van Amburg suggested that the Board discuss the issue of the BRRWD's rejoining the RRWMB at the next meeting if there is time. Affield would like to have the office send information about this topic to the Board in advance of a discussion regarding this issue.

The following bills were presented for approval:

Accounts Payable	Description	Account	Amount
AmeriPride	March billing for rugs (2)	Admin	\$ 53.44
ARC Appraisals	Greywind appraisal	Pj. 39, Georgetown	\$ 650.00
ARC Appraisals	Kent Rod & Gun Club hearing (3 hours)	Pj. 56, Manston	\$ 375.00
Barnesville Phone Co.	03/25/15 billing	Admin	\$ 288.66
Barnesville Record-Review	Hearing notice (3)	Clay 9, 32, & 33	\$ 1,782.00
Bruce E. Albright	Fjestad lodging, RRBFDROWG Conference	Mediation PT	\$ 141.74
Bruce E. Albright	Fry'n Pan, Viewers' dinner/lunch	Clay 9, 32, & 33	\$ 69.84
Bruce E. Albright	Fry'n Pan, Viewers' supper	Clay 9, 32, & 33	\$ 49.09
Carmen's Commercial Cleaning	March cleaning (2)	Admin	\$ 130.00
City of Barnesville	01/29/15-03/01/15 utilities	Admin	\$ 787.90
Galaxie Supper Club	03/31/15 Advisory Committee meals	Admin	\$ 370.00
HEI	March 2015 billing summary	Varies, see attached	\$ 130,498.09
Jason Rick Snow Removal	March billing (2)	Admin	\$ 130.00
L&M Road Services, LLC	#364, ditch repairs	Clay 21 & 55	\$ 791.25
New Century Press	Hearing legal notice	Clay 9, 32, & 33	\$ 607.50
Premium Waters, Inc.	#366590-03-15, water	Admin	\$ 51.62
Purchase Power	4/01/15 billing-postage	Admin	\$ 100.00
RRVCPA	02/28/15-03/28/15 service (3)	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 245.52
Thompson Greenery	Ellefson funeral flowers	Admin	\$ 80.15
United States Treasury	1st QTR Form 941 taxes	Admin	\$ 1,296.68
Vogel Law Firm	#150286, February billing	COE Diversion	\$ 3,795.00
Vogel Law Firm	#150287, February billing	Pj. 77, Clay 51- 3	\$ 92.00
Vogel Law Firm	#151267, February billing	Pj. 39, Georgetown	\$ 621.00
WREC	02/19/15-03/19/15 service (2)	Pj. 46, Turtle Lake	\$ 58.24
Xcel Energy	02/26/15-03/27/15 gas service	Admin	\$ 67.32
Xcel Energy	02/28/15-03/28/15 electrical service (2)	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 83.20
			\$ 143,215.24

Motion by Anderson to approve payment of the bills. **Seconded** by Affield. **Approved.**

Next Meeting. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 27, 2015, at 7:00 PM in our Barnesville office.

Adjournment. Chairman Van Amburg adjourned the meeting at 10:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Hanson, Secretary