BUFFALO-RED RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

BARNESVILLE, MINNESOTA 56514

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MINUTES FOR MANAGERS’ MEETING
September 11, 2017

The Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), held their regular meeting on Monday, September 11, 2017, at 7:00 PM in the Barnesville office. BRRWD Managers present were Gerald L. Van Amburg, Jay A. Leitch, Mark T. Anderson, John E. Hanson, Troy E. Larson, and Peter V. Fjestad. Others attending included: Erik S. Jones, Engineer, and Bruce E. Albright, BRRWD Administrator, Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI); and landowners: Bradley Nelson and Jay Nord.

Chair Van Amburg called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM and announced that the proceedings were being video recorded to aid in preparation of the minutes.

Secretary's Report. The Board reviewed draft minutes for the 8/28/17 regular meeting. Motion by Leitch to approve the minutes. Seconded by Anderson. Approved.

Treasurer's Report. The Board reviewed the BRRWD’s monthly financial statements, including the project account balance sheet, administrative disbursements, summary of income, and the accounts receivable report. Cash on hand is $2,235,580.07. Administrative disbursements for the month are $36,446.70, and for the year total $346,707.32. Current 2017 accounts receivable totals $3,961,096.22. Our total income for the year is $1,721,162.03. Income since the 8/14/17 meeting is $799,201.85, primarily from Clay County for their first half 2017 ditch/project taxes ($598,118.73), the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for Project No. 49, Oakport Flood Mitigation ($180,254.41), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for the Ottertail River Planning 319 Grant reimbursement ($9,249.63), and Otter Tail County for 1st half 2017 Waterfowl Production Area (WPA) tax settlement ($413.51). The balance of the income came from bank interest, office rentals, and a credit from Wilkin County for a ditch repair billing error ($10,103.18).

Albright noted that the administrative expenditures for M-Files, permit suite archiving, and the 2017 Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP) are one-time outlays that will not be repeated once the work on these projects is completed. The Midwest Bank line-of-credit paperwork has been signed, and the loan is in place. Motion by Anderson to approve the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Leitch. Approved.

Project No. 21, Wilkin County Ditch (C.D.) No. 13-Lateral Crossing. Landowner Bradley Nelson asked the Board to consider relocating a C.D. No. 13-Lateral crossing on his property from the NE1/4 of the SW1/4, Section 23, Deerhorn Township, to the east line of the SW1/4 to provide better access to his field from the south via an existing approach off 140th ST. His neighbor could also use the crossing. The Board discussed area drainage patterns. Jones will review the potential hydraulic impacts of the proposed change.

Project No. 79, Wolverton Creek Restoration. The project hearing was held on 8/15/17. Albright noted that he received a letter from Jim and Jerry Briks, who encouraged the Board to move forward with the project as soon as possible. Albright explained that one of the decisions the Board will have to make is the adoption of a water management district (wmd) fee, based on runoff and drainage within the Wolverton Creek "watershed" boundary, which could raise up to approximately $100,000/year to help fund the local share of the project construction costs beginning in 2018 and could also provide a funding source for future maintenance costs, to be levied on an annual basis for a period of 10 years from the date of the Order. Albright explained that at the meeting, landowners had the opportunity to make notes regarding drainage patterns/benefit areas shown on a large project area wall map. He and Jones prepared a packet for the Board’s review, which shows how those comments were incorporated into the final wmd fee calculations per parcel.
Jones removed 47.2 acres from the wmd as a result of the comments. Albright also noted that some area landowners also have concerns about future project maintenance if Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) funding is used for the project. Albright noted that if CREP funds are utilized, we will need to have an Operation and Maintenance (O&M) agreement in place between the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) to address project maintenance.

The Board reviewed the Order that Albright prepared to establish Project No. 79, Wolverton Creek Restoration. Albright noted that language to establish the wmd fee is included in the Order with the stipulation that the wmd fee could be levied at less than the maximum to pay for project maintenance. **Motion** by Fjestad to adopt the Order to establish Project No. 79, Wolverton Creek Restoration, incorporating the assessment of a wmd fee for a 10-year period with the amount of the annual fee dependent on future funding needs. **Seconded** by Anderson. **Approved.** The Order will be subject to a 30-day appeal period, expiring on 10/10/17. **Motion** by Anderson to authorize HEI to advertise for construction bids for Project No. 79, Wolverton Creek Restoration, Phase 1. **Seconded** by Hanson. **Approved.**

Jay Nord asked where Phase 1 channel work will be located. Phase 1 runs north from County Road (C.R.) No. 30 to the Clay County line. Phase 2 will be from C.R. No. 30 south to the upstream end of Wolverton Creek. Phase 3 work will be to remove debris, etc. in the channel in Clay County and the installation of a few side inlets. Albright noted that with the adoption of the Order and wmd fee, project development is now complete. The next steps will be to advertise for construction bids. Once a bid is awarded, staff will meet with the Phase 1 landowners individually to obtain the construction easement.

A meeting with the State and Federal agencies is scheduled for Tuesday, September 26, 2017, at 8:30 AM to discuss easement issues. Albright noted that if we can get construction underway yet this fall before the agency easements are in place, the BRRWD will work with the landowners to obtain BRRWD temporary construction easements so that the project construction can move forward. The BRRWD will also work with the landowners to obtain the permanent easements.

**Other business brought before the Board included:**

**Permit No. 17-054, City of Barnesville.** The Board approved the first two parts of the City's permit for drain tile installation and resetting sewer pipe along 13th ST SE on 6/26/17. The City notified Albright recently that landowner negotiations regarding Part 3 of their application have successfully concluded. The work includes regrading approximately 2,000' of the east ditch of 13th ST SE to drain north at a 0.13% grade, and the removal an existing 18" dia. centerline pipe. Albright recommended that the Board could approve Part three of the permit application.

**Permit No. 17-060, Kelly Etten.** At their last meeting, the Board approved Etten's permit application to pattern tile the NE¼, Section 21, Foxhome Township, Wilkin County, outletting in the northwest corner via a lift station to drain west in the ditch along C.R. No. 162, eventually to Wilkin C.D. No. 4, pending the results of a field meeting held 9/1/17. Albright and Manager Larson attended the meeting, and the landowners agreed to have the Wilkin County Highway Department survey the downstream ditch along C.R. No. 162. That work has now been completed, and Albright shared the survey results with the Board. It appears that the ditch grade is adequate to convey the tile water with some spots where minor ditch cleaning would be needed. The survey found that the culverts are all sized and set correctly. Albright plans to mail the survey to the downstream landowners with recommendations that they work with the County to repair their ditch as shown on the plans. He will also notify Etten that he can move forward with his project.

**Permit No. 17-081, Wilkin County Highway Department.** At their last meeting, the Board approved this permit application with the provision that Albright discuss the County's proposal to replace an existing culvert on Wilkin C.D. No. 26 along 170th ST in the NW¼, Section 8, Mitchell Township, with one line of 12' x 5'.
precast concrete with the upstream neighboring landowner, Mark Zimmerman. Albright noted that he has not had time to contact Zimmerman.

**Permit No. 17-082, Wilkin County Highway Department.** At their last meeting, the Board approved this permit application with the provision that Albright discuss the County's proposal to replace an existing 10' 3" x 6' 9" corrugated metal arch pipe (CMPA) with 54 square feet (sq. ft.) of waterway on Wilkin C.D. No. 22 in the NW¼, Section 32, Deerhorn Township, with one line of 12' x 5' precast concrete box culvert with 58 sq. ft. of waterway. Albright contacted Askegaard, who agreed to the work.

**Permit No. 17-088, Axton Wetland Restoration.** Shawn May, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), filed the application for a wetland restoration project on Jeff Axton's property in the N½SW¼, Section 14, Holmesville Township, Becker County. Six wetlands will be restored by filling in the ditches near the wetland areas, and a seventh wetland on the west side of the property will also be restored by filling in the ditch if the landowner to the north of Axton's property (Brett Hukriede) will accept the water. The project's goal is to create a fully functioning wildlife habitat. Jones recommended approval, subject to the neighboring landowner approval for the one noted wetland.

**Permit No. 17-089, Nate Thompson/Four Hill Farms.** Applicant proposes to install water and sediment control basins consisting of two surface inlets with perforated pipes outletting via gravity flow to daylight into a low area on his property in the SE¼, Section 22, Humboldt Township, Clay County. The NRCS designed the project. Jones recommended permit approval.

**Permit No. 17-090, Wayne Krump.** Applicant proposes to install 2-3 field laterals through a north-south strip of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage along C.R. No. 3 in the SE¼, Section 30, Mitchell Township, Wilkin County. The CRP blocks drainage from the west part of the quarter to the road ditch. Jones recommended approval.

**Permit No. 17-091, Century Link.** Applicant proposes to install buried optic cables along C.R. No. 10 east of Sabin in the N½, Sections 22, 23, 24, Elmwood Township, and Section 19, Elkton Township, Clay County, following the C.D. No. 55 alignment. Albright noted that at first, Century Link planned to put the cable in the bottom of the ditch, but he advised them that this would not be possible. Jones will forward the right-of-way (R/W) tables to Century Link. The Board discussed the practice of installing utilities on ditch R/W and reviewed the project plans. The BRRWD permits have a utility disclaimer, which states that if for any reason the utility is in the way of a BRRWD project, the facility will be moved at the company's expense. Manager Anderson commented that Century Link has already buried the cables in the bottom of the ditch in his area along Clay C.R. No. 2, and he provided photographs of the work for the Board's review. Albright suggested that the Board approve the application with the condition that the cable be located 5' or less from the edge of the ditch R/W, with our standard utility disclaimer, as referenced above, road authority approval to work within their road R/W, and restoration of any disturbed areas.

**Permit No. 17-092, Kevin Etzler.** Applicant proposes to pattern tile the S½SW¼, Section 27, Andrea Township, Wilkin County, outletting via a main tile line to be installed by the Yaggies across Etzler's property (Permit No. 17-051). The main outlets to C.D. No. 7 to which the property is assessed. Jones recommended approval, subject to our standard tiling disclaimer.

**Permit No. 17-093, Wilkin County Highway Department.** Applicant proposes to install a 24" dia. corrugated metal pipe (CMP) inlet pipe through the existing dike into C.D. No. 22-Lateral 1, with a flapgate on the outlet end in the SE¼, Section 34, Deerhorn Township. The proposed pipe drains to a gravel pit, and the gate will keep water from backing out of the ditch and filling up the pit. Jones recommended approval.

**Permit No. 17-094, Kevin Hanson.** Applicant proposes to install pattern and random tiling in the NE¼, Section 34, Hamden Township, Becker County, outletting via gravity flow to C.D. No. 15, to which it is
assessed. Jones recommended approval, subject to our standard tiling disclaimer, and downstream landowner notification.

** Permit No. 17-095, Jerry Janssen.** Applicant proposes to install two NRCS designed sediment control basins in the SW¼, Section 24, Humboldt Township, Clay County, connected by tile, and outletting via gravity flow to the Trunk Highway (T.H.) No. 34 ditch. Jones recommended approval.

** Permit No. 17-096, Jerry Janssen.** Applicant proposes to install two NRCS designed sediment control basins, in the SW¼, Section 24, Humboldt Township, Clay County, connected by tile, and outletting via gravity flow to the Trunk Highway (T.H.) No. 34 ditch. Jones recommended approval.

** Permit No. 17-097, Harmon Tande.** Applicant proposes to install 80 acres of pattern tiling in the W½NW¼, Section 25, Oakport Township, Clay County, outletting in the northwest corner of Section 25 through a culvert in C.R. No. 18, then north for one mile in the east ditch of C.R. No. 90 to C.D. No. 35 to which the property is assessed. The water will flow past two different downstream properties before reaching C.D. No. 35. Albright recommended approval, subject to our standard tiling disclaimer and downstream landowner approval.

** Permit No. 17-098, Tyler Zimmerman/Pheasants Forever (PF).** Applicant proposes to install wetland restorations consisting of shallow scrapes, ditch filling, and tree and debris removal in the SE¼, Section 21, and the SE¼, Section 28, Skree Township, Clay County. Jones recommended approval, subject to downstream landowner notification.

** Permit No. 17-099, Brian Piekarski.** Applicant proposes to install random tile in a portion of low ground in the SW¼, Section 15, Holy Cross Township, Clay County, outletting via gravity flow through 150th AVE S in two locations to C.D. No. 53 for which the property is assessed. Manager Anderson noticed tile stockpiled on Daugherty's field and notified Albright, who contacted Daugherty today to advise him that he needed a BRRWD permit for his project. Daugherty has already obtained a wetland determination from the NRCS and thought that was all he needed. Motion by Anderson to approve Permit No. 17-105, subject to our standard tiling disclaimer. Seconded by Hanson. Approved.

** Permit No. 17-100, Robert Hovland Wetland Restoration.** NRCS and the Wilkin Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) propose to develop a Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) restoration site in the SW¼, Section 16, Prairie View Township. The work will consist of filling in two existing shallow ditches and scaping to construct shallow ponds of 18” or less depth. The site will be graded to match existing ground on the east side of the western boundary ditch, two rock piles will be buried, and the trees will be grubbed in the northeast corner of the field. Jones recommended approval.

Motion by Anderson to approve Permit Nos. 17-054, and 17-088 through 17-100, subject to the referenced disclaimers and conditions. Seconded by Fjestad. Approved.

** Wentz Tile Complaint.** At their 8/28/17 meeting, the Board authorized Albright to send John Steffl a letter notifying him that he has 10 days from the date of the letter to stop his tile operation. At the end of the 10-day period, the BRRWD will inspect the site, and if the tile is not plugged, the Board will seek a Becker County court order to stop his tile operation. Albright plans to send the letter this week.
Frank Schindler Drainage Concern. Albright met with Ron Erdman prior to tonight's meeting regarding his excavation in a waterway on his property in the W½SE¼, Section 1, Barnesville Township, Clay County, which includes a wetland. Erdman's work has allegedly caused erosion on Frank Schindler's downstream property because of the steep area grades. Albright suggested that Erdman install a 24” dia. culvert at the outlet of the waterway to control runoff/erosion and 2-3 field inlets into his ditch to further prevent soil erosion. The site will also need to be reseeded. Erdman agreed to file a permit application for the referenced work. Using the overhead monitors, the Board reviewed the area drainage patterns.

Haugrud Drainage Complaint. The Board discussed the status of the dispute between the Lindholm and the Haugrud families regarding the silt deposits immediately downstream of the culverts through C.R. No. 19 in Section 22, Prairie View Township, Wilkin County, on natural waterways through the Lindholms' CRP acreage. The Haugrud family, who farm upstream of the Lindholm property, filed a complaint requesting that the Lindholms clean the waterway on their land. The Lindholms want the Haugruds to implement better farming practices to prevent future downstream sedimentation on the waterway. According to Farm Service Agency (FSA) rules, CRP maintenance is prohibited between 6/01/17 and 8/29/17, so now that the nesting season is over, the Haugruds are again asking that the BRRWD pressure the Lindholms to clean their waterway. Jimmie Lindholm is working with the Wilkin County FSA office regarding their CRP maintenance regulations, and he plans to get an estimate for the work. Albright pointed out that the Haugruds didn't have any damages this growing season on their upstream cropland.

Keith Skalin Concern. Keith Skalin contacted the office regarding his neighbor's plan to store up to 30 "collector" cars on his property in Section 27, Audubon Township, Becker County. Skalin was concerned about the potential for gas, oil, etc., to seep into the nearby C.D. No. 5 and eventually into the Buffalo River. The neighbor, Ryan Hough, filed a Planning and Zoning permit for his proposed car storage site, which the County will review tomorrow night at their meeting. Albright filed a notice with Planning and Zoning, stating that while the BBRWD doesn't have Rules regarding automobile salvage lots, MPCA does, and he attached a copy of their Rules.

Clay SWCD Tour. The Clay SWCD has scheduled their Fall Tour for Thursday, September 14, 2017, leaving from the Fryin' Pan Restaurant in Moorhead at 8:15 AM, and returning at Noon for a meal. Albright will not be attending the tour and forwarded the RSVP request via E-mail to the Managers so that they can handle their own registrations. Van Amburg plans to attend.

Wilkin County Ditch Repairs. The Wilkin County ditch hearings have been rescheduled for Tuesday, September 26, 2017, at 7:00 PM in our Barnesville office. The BWSR grant for the South Branch of the Buffalo River expires on 12/31/17, which still has an outstanding balance of approximately $150,000. BWSR has approved our proposal to use this funding for the incremental installation of buffer strips and side inlets for several ditches that outlet to the South Branch: C.D. Nos. 40, 41, 42, 43, and 44. Jones suggested that the Wilkin SWCD could seed the buffer strips. Don Bajumpaa, SWCD District Manager, thought they could get this work done yet this fall and then also handle weed control by mowing the buffers for two years.

Mediation Project Team (PT). The Fall Tour has been scheduled for Thursday, September 28, 2017. The bus will leave The 34 (former Galaxie Supper Club) at 1:30 PM, followed by supper at 5:30 PM. Notices will be mailed tomorrow. The next PT meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 12, 2017, at 7:00 PM in the BRRWD office, Barnesville.

1W1P. Jones noted that a meeting regarding the One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P) has been scheduled with the other Local Government Units (LGUs) for 9/25/17 at the BRRWD Barnesville office from 8:30 AM-12:30 PM. The agenda will include developing a draft Memorandum of Agreement, bylaws, and setting up a variety of project committees.

BWSR DRM Match Grants. The Board discussed BWSR's a new grant program for Drainage Records Modernization (DRM). The grant is capped at $75,000/entity with a 50/50 match, and the deadline for
submitting applications is 10/02/17. It might be possible to offset some of the administration costs to transfer our records into M-Files. M-Files has a public portal feature to allow the public access to selected documents. **Motion** by Fjestad to authorize Jones to apply for the DRM grant. **Seconded** by Hanson. **Approved**.

**Otter Tail/ Buffalo/ Upper Red Rivers Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)/Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS).** Albright recently participated in a conference call with Tim James, MPCA, regarding the Upper Red River TMDL study. MPCA sent out the Upper Red River TMDL/WRAPS to various agencies for the 30-day review and recently received comments from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, which will require written responses. Albright suggested that the Board authorize HEI to prepare the responses. HEI has submitted a cost estimate of $2,000 to do the work according the BRRWD's standard contract fees. Albright felt that if we leave it up to the MPCA to negotiate a contract with HEI, it will take much longer. **Motion** by Anderson to authorize HEI to prepare a response to the TMDL/WRAPS comments. **Seconded** by Leitch. **Approved**.

**Project No. 49, Oakport Flood Mitigation.** The Kopperud Family contacted BRRWD Attorney Tami Norgard, Vogel Law Firm, with an offer to settle their pending lawsuit with the BRRWD for a payment of $15,000 and the right to farm the project R/W. The Board discussed the fact that the levee is certified with all R/W intact, so we won't be able to give permission for one family to farm the R/W. Albright pointed out that their actions last summer delayed construction and caused the BRRWD to have to pay our contractor approximately $100,000 in delay claims. The Board wasn't interested in negotiating a settlement and authorized Albright to convey their decision to our Attorney.

The Board discussed an issue with the ditch for Tim Van Raden's property, which is located on the "wrong" side of our dike in the southwest corner of the SE¼, Section 7. He has an agreement with the BRRWD that his ditch will drain properly. The entire ditch will need to be cleaned for approximately one mile along C.R. No. 1 to the northwest corner of the NE¼, Section 7. Albright recommended that the Board authorize HEI to hire a contractor and work with the neighboring landowners to clean the ditch as a project expense. **Motion** by Leitch to do the referenced ditch repair as a project expense. **Seconded** by Hanson. **Approved**.

Jones noted that Northern States Excavating, Inc. has been contacted to do the repair.

**Project Nos. 47, Clay C.D. No. 53/No. 30, Clay/Wilkin Judicial Ditch (J.D.) No. 1 Repairs.** HEI submitted Change Order No. 1 and Pay Request No.2-Final for Sellins Brothers, Inc. for the outlet repairs on Clay C.D. No. 53 and J.D. No. 1. The pay request is for $8,580.40, which includes a change order for an additional $2,737.50 for the removal of seven loads of debris. **Motion** by Anderson to approve the referenced pay request and change order for a total of $8,580.40. **Seconded** by Larson. **Approved**.

**Easement Consultant.** A meeting with Steven J. Taff, Associate Professor Emeritus, Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota, was held last Friday to prepare a draft consultant contract. Albright sent a draft to the Managers via E-mail this afternoon for review. Manager Leitch provided a few comments on the contract. Albright will make Leitch's noted changes and forward the contract to Taff for signature.

**Leland Erickson Dam Repair.** Contractor Adam Schenck, Buffalo River Excavating, contacted Wade Opsahl, Technician, HEI, regarding a project that Leland Erickson has hired him to do in Section 6, Lake Park Township, and Section 31, Cuba Township, Becker County. There is a pond with a dam on the northwest side with an outlet structure that has washed out to the point where they can't drive across the dam. Schenck asked if the BRRWD would consider providing help with the design/dam repair and maybe some kind of cost share. Initially, the DNR might have built the pond/dam structure as a fish rearing pond. Jones suggested that he could investigate the origin of the structure. **Motion** by Fjestad to authorize HEI to investigate as referenced. **Seconded** by Anderson. **Approved**.

**National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI).** NRCS sent notice of a NWQI request for proposals (RFPs) for the FY 2018 Implementation Phase of the NWQI to be submitted by 9/18/17. The NWQI was established in 2012 as a program to address agricultural sources of water pollution, specifically nutrients, sediment, and
pathogens in priority watershed throughout the country through the implementation of grade stabilization structures, field borders, buffer strips, drainage water management, stream management practices, etc. Albright suggested that this program could be a possible source of funding for the Wolverton Creek project.

**Town Hall Event.** Manager Van Amburg and Albright attended the Northwest Minnesota Water Town Hall on 9/5/17 at the University of Minnesota-Crookston regarding Governor Dayton's 25 By 25 water quality initiative. Albright reviewed the meeting discussion topics.

**BWSR Listening Session.** Manager Van Amburg and Albright attended a BWSR listening sessions on 9/6/17 in Detroit Lakes at the Minnesota Technical College. The meeting, which was meant primarily for Counties, SWCDs, and Watershed Districts, was focused on generating ideas and input to shape the Minnesota collective water management effort. Albright noted that the BRRWD will need to enact a Rule regarding buffer strip enforcement that will be submitted to BWSR by December 2017.

**DNR Listening Session.** Manager Van Amburg and Albright also attended a DNR listening session/forum with DNR Commissioner Thomas Landwehr on 9/6/17 at the USFWS office in Detroit Lakes with Becker SWCD staff.

**RRBC Drainage Tour.** Manager Leitch and Jones attended the Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) drainage management tour on 9/6/17. The tour focused on surface and subsurface drainage sites in Minnesota and North Dakota. The first site toured was the BRRWD's Project No. 56, Manston Slough Restoration. Jones discussed some of the farming practices that were featured on the tour.

**Water Quality Monitoring Conference Call.** Albright gave a presentation today about the BRRWD's water quality monitoring program via Skype from the BRRWD office for the DNR. Approximately twenty-five people participated from all around the State of Minnesota. Our monitoring program satisfies the Phase 8 requirements in the Mediation Agreement, which deals with post project water quality monitoring.

Albright noted that he sent a "Get Well" card to Nathan Strand, the Barnesville River Watch Team Coordinator, who has had some recent surgery. The Hawley River Watch Coordinator, Andy Ulven, volunteered to take the Barnesville Team to the upcoming River Watch kickoff meeting in Moorhead.

**86th AVE S Drainage Investigation. Permit No. 17-039, Parke Township.** Albright noted that he has received many E-mail messages regarding the neighborhood dispute about the Palya driveway installation off 86th AVE S in the SE¼, Section 15, Parke Township, Clay County. One of the property owners, Bryan Burnette, has concerns regarding the driveway and other drainage issues in this area. He requested that the BRRWD provide an Engineer's opinion regarding the area drainage. Albright and Jones conducted a field review on 6/19/17. Jones provided six recommendations, which were forwarded to Parke Township and the landowners in an effort to provide a plan that they can work on together. Apparently, Burnette wasn't satisfied with the BRRWD's proposal. The Township is anxious to move forward with the proposed road repairs, but Burnette is resisting their efforts.

The following bills were presented for approval:

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Motion by Larson to approve payment of the listed bills. Seconded by Leitch. Approved.

Project No. 27, Clay C.D. No. 55 Repair. Jones presented a repair investigation for the C.D. No. 55 main ditch, which begins on the east side of Section 20, Elkton Township, and runs west along the south side of C.R. No. 19 under Interstate-94 (I-94) then north for about 2,000’. The investigation found that much of the current ditch grade is close to the original grade, but sediment buildup along the toe of the channel slope has narrowed the bottom width. Channel centerline sediment depths are up to 1.8’ with more sediment along the toe slopes. The most work is needed in Sections 23 and 24, Elmwood Township, and Section 19, Elkton Township. Jones recommended that the ditch west of I-94 be repaired starting at Stony Creek, heading east to 130th ST. The opinion of probable cost for the repair is $45,000-$65,000. Permission to Level Spoil forms will be obtained from the landowners. The contractor will be asked to work on the repairs as crops are harvested so that the project can be completed yet this fall. Albright noted that the Board could hold a ditch system hearing this winter with the landowner to gauge their interest in a repair.

MPCA Stormwater Permit Closeout. Chair Van Amburg signed the MPCA’s permit closeout documentation for Project No. 52, Clay C.D. No. 69.

Next Meeting. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, September 25, 2017, at 7:00 PM in our Barnesville office.

Adjournment. Chairman Van Amburg adjourned the meeting at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Hanson, Secretary