"Local Watershed Opens Construction Bids"

At their 11/12/07 meeting held in Barnesville, the Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), opened bids for two projects. The first bid opening was for Wolverton Creek Channel Restoration-Phase 1. Two bids were received, and the apparent low bidder is Northern States Excavating with a bid of $47,365.00. The work consists of erosion control on Wolverton Creek/Comstock Coulee downstream of Trunk Highway (T.H.) No. 75. The second bid opening was for Project No. 49, Oakport Flood Mitigation, and the 2007 Phase 1-Structure Demolitions. Ten contractors submitted bids, and the apparent low bidder is Master Construction, Inc. with a bid of $58,500.00. The work consists of removing basements, sidewalks, garage slabs, disconnecting utilities, and debris removal at 13 sites where houses were acquired by the BRRWD and moved this summer.

Other business included:

- Discussion with the Heng family regarding erosion in the E1/2, Section 11, Glyndon Township, upstream of Clay County Ditch No. 68. The field suffered erosion this summer after County Ditch No. 68 was finished in the fall of 2006. The BRRWD agreed they were responsible for repairing the damages. The Hengs have located a source for some possible fill material. The washout will be restored this fall. The BRRWD will work with the Hengs regarding a long-term plan to permanently correct this problem.

- Received a complaint regarding beaver dams on the South Branch of the Buffalo River in Manston Township, Wilkin County. The BRRWD had already authorized their beaver control person to address the problem.

- Agreed to purchase another house for the Oakport Flood Mitigation project along Wall Street. The closing is scheduled for 11/20/07.

- Approved permits to Gary Rosentreter to install a flapgate on the south end of a 24" dia. culvert under T.H. 10 between Sections 5 and 8, Lake Park Township, Becker County; Glyndon Township to modify culverts at the intersection of County Road (C.R.) No. 68 and 12th AVE S between Sections 9, 10, 15, and 16; Kuehl Bros. Farms to regrade a ditch to the South Branch of the Buffalo River along the south side of 12th AVE S in the NE1/4, Section 16, Glyndon Township; Arvid Thompson, to install approximately 300' of drain tile in a ravine to control seepage in the N1/2SE1/4, Section 29, Parke Township, Clay County; Lyle Hovland to install two sediment control basins in the NE1/4, Section 22, Prairie View Township, Wilkin County; Tri-T Farms to relocate a field approach along C.R. 69 in the W1/2NW1/4, Section 13, Alliance Township, Clay County; and Mark Nyquist to install a 30" dia. culvert in 50th AVE S between Sections 26 and 35, Moorhead Township, Clay County.

- Acknowledged receipt of the Memorandum of Understanding and Operation and Maintenance plans for the Manston Slough Restoration project as prepared by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The documents will be circulated for signature before the end of the year.
• Noting that a Technical Committee meeting for the Oakport Flood Mitigation project will be held on 11/27/07 at 9:00 AM in the Moorhead Police Department.

• Noting that Houston Engineering, Inc. (H.E.) is still working with Burlington Northern Sante Fe Railroad regarding the Kragnes Ringdike project.

• Noting that the next meeting of the BRRWD's Mediation Project Team will be held on 12/13/07 at 1:30 PM in the MSUM Science Center east of Glyndon.

• Authorized H.E. to work with the USFWS regarding a possible second wetland restoration project on the Todd Branden property in the W1/2SW1/4, Section 22, Audubon Township, Becker County. The restoration will be located on Becker County Ditch No. 5.

• Reviewed the final draft of the Hay Creek/Stinking Lake Sediment Reduction Project, which will be submitted for Clean Water Legacy funding. The application deadline is 11/15/07. The BRRWD/Becker Soil and Water Conservation District is seeking funding in the amount of $230,000 to address erosion control problems in this 24.1 square mile drainage area. Work would include bufferstrips and sediment control basins.

• Authorized repairs for Clay County Ditch Nos. 11, 33, 40, and Clay-Wilkin Judicial Ditch No. 1.

• Approved payment of bills totaling $202,305.79.

The Board of Managers, BRRWD, will hold their next regular meeting on Monday, November 26, 2007, at 7:00 PM in the Barnesville office. All meetings are open to the public. For more information, please visit our Website at www.brrwd.org.