

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 28, 2010

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### **"Local Watershed Remains Busy"**

After holding three meetings in two weeks, the Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), finally got through their meeting agenda before midnight on 5/24/10. Considerable discussion took place regarding Project No. 64, LaBelle/Boyer Lakes Outlet. With the weekend rains and high southerly winds, the Minnesota Department of Transportation is having problems with water over the road on Trunk Highway No. 10. A motion was approved to award the construction contract to American Enterprises, Inc. for their bid of \$143,093.00. The BRRWD is still waiting for permits from the Army Corps of Engineers and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). It is hoped that both permits will be issued shortly. Because this is an "emergency" project, the Board authorized the contractor to begin work.

Other business included:

- Additional discussion regarding the need for a ringdike along the South Branch of the Buffalo River south of Sabin. A geotechnical investigation completed in 2008 showed that the soils in this area may not support the weight of a dike. Alternatives for installing a lighter dike built from Styrofoam blocks or railroad ties were discussed and will be investigated.
- Receipt of the 2009 audit by Harold J. Rotunda, Certified Public Accountant. The Auditor said the Board is doing a phenomenal job in managing the resources, and that the District is in good financial shape.
- Approval of a permit to the City of Moorhead for the Horn Park Levee.
- Noting a special meeting scheduled for 6/03/10 at 10:00 AM in the Barnesville office to open bids for construction Phases 1A and 3B, associated with the Oakport Flood Mitigation project. The DNR wants the actual bid dollar amounts before committing funding to the project in 2010.
- Noting that the next Mediation Project Team meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 17, 2010, at 7:00 PM in the MSUM Science Center.
- In conjunction with a request from the Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) regarding their Long Term Flood Study, authorized Houston Engineering, Inc. to conduct a modeling project to locate storage areas within the BRRWD with the objective to first reduce damages in the BRRWD by sizing the spillways accordingly. The impacts of the storage sites will be forwarded to the RRBC and their engineer for analysis regarding their effects on the Red River of the North.
- Scheduling of a meeting with the Barnesville High School Administration and School Board members to discuss the future of the River Watch Program.
- A donation of \$200 to the Otter Tail County Coalition of Lake Associations for development of a Shoreline Guide.
- Authorized seeding and mulching for work completed on the Buffalo River erosion site in the City of Hawley last fall.
- Approved payment of bills totaling \$34,256.74.

The next regular BRRWD meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 14, 2010, at 8:00 PM in the Barnesville office. All meetings are open to the public. For more information, please visit our Website at [www.brrwd.org](http://www.brrwd.org).