"Local Watershed Considers a Rules Revision"

At their 11/09/15 meeting held in Barnesville, the Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), met with a landowner who discussed concerns about the BRRWD's policy regarding tile operation during downstream flooding events. Copies of permit applications, Rules, and Regulations for tile operation from the Bois de Sioux Watershed District were reviewed. The Board agreed to work on a revision of their Rules this winter. They will more than likely use the Red River Watershed Management Board's recommendations regarding tile operation as a template for their revisions.

Other business included:

- Approval of permits to: Brian Durensky to install 30 acres of pattern tiling in the SE1/4, Section 16, Atherton Township, Wilkin County; Roger Durensky to install 105 acres of pattern tiling in the SW1/4, Section 15, Atherton Township, Wilkin County; Ted Hegseth to install random tiling in the NE1/4, Section 5, Carlisle Township, Otter Tail County; Wayne Fuder to install a new culvert through a township road in the NE1/4, Section 6, Andrea Township, Wilkin County; Ted Hegseth to clean an existing ditch and install random tiling adjacent to the ditch in the NE1/4, Section 33, Oscar Township, Otter Tail County; Bryant Haugrud to install farm yard tiling in the northeast corner of the NW1/4, Section 24, Prairie View Township, Wilkin County; Brian Halverson to install random tiling in the S1/2NE1/4, Section 5, Oscar Township, Otter Tail County; Paul Aaberg to install random tiling in the E1/2NE1/4, Section 18, Oscar Township, Otter Tail County; Eldon Hermunslie to clean the County Road No. 3 west ditch to the existing culvert in 100th ST in the E1/2, Section 6, Deerhorn Township, Wilkin County; and Randy Johnk to install an 18" diameter culvert in 210th AVE between Sections 23 and 24, Deerhorn Township, Wilkin County.

- Noting that Vogel Law Firm has forwarded the law suit filed against the BRRWD to the BRRWD's insurance carrier for Project No. 77, Clay County Ditch (C.D.) No. 51-Lateral No. 3.

- Noting that Riley Brothers Construction, Inc. began slope repairs on Clay C.D. No. 11 and should complete the project by the end of the year.

- Noting that we have acquired six of the seven needed constructions easements for Phase 4 of Project No. 49, Oakport Flood Mitigation.

- Noting that BRRWD staff will meet with the six candidates for potential 2016 ring dike construction to determine their interest and complete some preliminary survey work.

- Noting that William Nichol Excavating, Inc., has completed ditch repairs for Project No. 30, Clay/Wilkin Judicial Ditch (J.D.) No. 1. Nichol will complete the final grading and seeding next spring.
Noting that William Nichol Excavating, Inc. plans to begin work on the outlet stabilizations on Wilkin C.D. Nos. 5A, 22, and 26 this week. HCI Commercial Landscape Contractors, Inc., will do the buffer strip seeding when conditions permit.

Noting that the next Mediation Project Team (PT) meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 10, 2015, in the Barnesville Watershed office, at 1:30 PM, when the PT will go to their winter daytime meeting schedule.

Noting that Houston Engineering, Inc. has completed the pipeline elevation survey for the Barnesville Township Area Study.

Approved a proposal from Terracon, Inc. for geotechnical services to complete additional soil borings for the Clay C.D. No. 33 ditch slope repair.

Noting that a landowner filed a complaint regarding ditch cleaning in the N1/2, Section 33, Kragnes Township, Clay County. Albright visited with the renters of the property regarding their activities and took some photographs for the Board’s review.

Noting that there are two beaver dams in Wilkin/Otter Tail J.D. No. 2. The BRRWD will notify our beaver trapper.

Noting that the Minnesota Association of Watershed District's Annual Meeting and Trade Show is scheduled for December 3-5, 2015, at the Arrowwood Conference Center, Alexandria, MN. Managers Kobiela and Fjestad were appointed as the BRRWD delegates with Manager Hanson as the alternate.

Noting that an application to Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for a 319 Fund match has been submitted for the Stony Creek channel restoration.

Approved repairs on a private ditch associated with Project No. 8, Stony Creek, in the SE1/4, Section 24, Barnesville Township, Clay County.

Noting that the 33rd Annual Red River Basin Land and Water International Summit Conference will be held at the Alerus Center, Grand Forks, ND, on January 19-21, 2016.

Approved the payment of bills, totaling $208,077.02.

The next meeting of the Board of Managers, BRRWD, is scheduled for Monday, November 23, 2015, at 7:00 PM in the Barnesville office, located at 1303 4th AVE NE. All meetings are open to the public. For more information, please visit our website at www.brrwd.org.