"BRRWD Awards Construction Contract"

At their regular meeting held on June 25, 2018, at 7:00 PM in Barnesville, the Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), reviewed the construction bid results for Project No. 79, Wolverton Creek Restoration-Phase 1. The low bid was $1,813,440.40 from Sellin Brothers, Inc. The Engineer's estimate was $2,180,510. The Board awarded the contract to Sellins, subject to the completion of the Phase 1 temporary easement acquisitions.

Other business included:

- Reviewed the BRRWD's financial status. Cash on hand is $2,032,098.74. Income since the 6/11/18 meeting was $125,158.71 from Becker County for their 2018 1st half tax proceeds. Total 2018 income to date is $1,197,981.65. The Board approved the payment of bills totaling $12,309.13.

- Approved permits to Robert Yaggie for his 2017 tile project in the SW¼, Section 26, Manston Township, Wilkin County, subject to County approval to work within their road right-of-way and for County approval of the revised ditch plans with the agreement that the tile operation be stopped if downstream flooding occurs before the outlet is modified; Eglon Township to remove/reset an existing 18” dia. culvert in the N½, Section 29 near Hawley and remove/replace approximately 500’ of road section on 255th ST S; Elkton Township to replace an existing 48” pipe with 42” round culvert in 120th AVE SE in the SE¼, Section 36, with a new line of 57” x 38” arch pipe with aprons; John Boen to clean a natural waterway in the E½, Section 29, Norwegian Grove Township, Otter Tail County, for about 2-3 acres on the east end of the waterway; Oscar Township to install a storm water pond for the East View 4th Addition in the W½SE¼, Section 1, Moorhead Township, Clay County.

- Noted that a landowner informational meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, June 28, 2018, at 8:00 AM in our Barnesville office to discuss the proposed ditch along 220th ST. The ditch would route water west in Sections 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35, Mitchell Township, Wilkin County, outletting to Whiskey Creek.

- Discussed a possible plugged or broken tile in Sections 16 and 21, Norwegian Grove Township, Otter Tail County, that is backing water into Sections 15 and 16. The staff will work with the landowners to help them address their drainage problem.

- Discussed Humboldt Township's permit application to replace an existing 60” dia. culvert and two lines of 48” dia. pipe with two lines of 64” x 43” corrugated metal arch pipe (CMP-A) and one line of 77” x 52” CMP-A for the Pearl View Estates subdivision in Section 27. The Township will need a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources permit to work in protected waters.

- Agreed to hire a helicopter service to spray the vegetation along Wolverton Creek prior to construction.

- Noted that BRRWD Attorney Tami Norgard, Vogel Law Firm, has determined that the petition and bond are adequate to proceed with the partial improvement of Clay/Wilkin Judicial Ditch (J.D.) No. 1. Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI) will prepare the Preliminary Engineer's Report, and the BRRWD will schedule a petitioners' meeting to discuss the project development process.
• Noted that the Wilkin/Otter Tail J.D. No. 2 Ditch Committee will meet on Thursday, July 12, 2018, at 11:00 AM in Fergus Falls. Managers Fjestad, Anderson, and Larson serve on the Committee along with two appointees from Otter Tail County.

• Approved a proposal from Prairie Restorations, Inc. to restore a wetland mitigation site for the Oakport Flood Mitigation project that isn't meeting the Wetlands Conservation Act establishment criteria due to the lack of site hydrology. The cost estimate for the restoration is $15,000. Board approval is subject to a cost share from Audubon Dakota and agency approval to retain 50% of the wetland credits.

• Noted that a hearing to review two petitions to add and remove lands in Wilkin County Ditch (C.D.) Nos. 44, 13, and 13-Lateral is scheduled for 6/26/18 at 7:30 PM in Barnesville.

• Approved a Clay C.D. No. 40 bridge removal project in Section 27, Kurtz Township, estimated to cost $2,000.

• Approved a $200 contribution to the Becker Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Annual Soil Health event in Lake Park on August 29, 2018.

• Approved entering into a Percent Based Conservation Practices contract with the Clay SWCD for partial funding for the Clay C.D. No. 23 outlet stabilization repairs.

• Reviewed the results of HEI's preliminary survey and drone flight for the waterway passing through Sections 1, 2, and 12, Glyndon Township, Section 7, Riverton Township, and Section 35, Moland Township, Clay County. The survey results were also forwarded to the City of Glyndon.

The Board of Managers, BRRWD, will hold their next regular meeting on Monday, July 9, 2018, at 7:00 PM in the BRRWD Office, located at 1303 4th AVE NE, Barnesville, MN. All meetings are open to the public. For more information about the BRRWD, please visit our website at www.brrwd.org.