"BRRWD Awards Construction Contract"

At their regular meeting held on May 11, 2020, at 7:00 PM in Barnesville, the Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), awarded the Wolverton Creek Restoration Phase 2 construction contract to Gladen Construction, Laporte, MN, with their bid of $864,833. The Engineer's estimate was $1,227,599. The Phase 2 earthwork is to be completed by 6/30/21 with the seeding to be completed by 7/20/21. Sellin Brothers, Inc. is working on Phase 1 construction. The Board extended their contract deadline last fall until 6/22/20.

Other Business included:

- Approved the BRRWD’s 5/11/20 financial reports, including the project account balance sheet, administrative disbursements, and summary of income. Cash on hand is $1,719,012.53. Administrative disbursements since the 4/13/20 meeting equal $33,800.02, and for the year, total $150,609.03. Total income this year is $328,921.06. Income received since the 4/13/20 meeting totaled $38,990.78. The Board approved payment of the bills, totaling $209,029.03. The Board also approved a motion to remove former Administrator Bruce E. Albright as a Midwest Bank signatory.

- Approved a permit to Shaun Thomssen to clean the south township road ditch in the NW¼NW¼, Section 26, Elkton Township, Clay County, to the original elevation to improve drainage, subject to township approval to work within their road right-of-way (R/W).

- Authorized signature and distribution of the Whiskey Creek Restoration project Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and to publish the EAW availability notice with a 30 day comment period.

- Approved repairs for Wilkin County Ditch (C.D.) No. 3, estimated to cost approximately $3,000 to $4,000.

- Approved repairs for Clay C.D. Nos. 9, 11, and 40. The estimated cost for C.D. No. 9 is $4,500-$5,500; C.D. No. 11 is $1,500-$2,500; and C.D. No. 40 is $2,500-$3,500. The work will consist of cleaning sediment away from the outlet ends of field side inlets.

- Approved a request from the Clay Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) for up to $8,000 in BRRWD Engineer Erik Jones' time to provide technical assistance for a streambank erosion problem property in Section 36, Moland Township. The BRRWD has technical assistance funding set aside in their 2020 budget, and last year, during the application process for the CWF grant, the Board approved up to $41,400 in technical assistance and design funding.

- Approved repairs for Project No. 16, Stinking Lake, for a field crossing washout over Hay Creek downstream of Stinking Lake. There is also a washout on an access trail adjacent to the Lake that was installed as part of the project where the culverts have failed and washed out. This repair will require a new culvert and clay fill. The estimated cost for both repairs is $4,500-$5,500.

- Received a report from the HR Committee regarding the potential transition of the three current HEI office staff members to BRRWD employees. The Committee plans to meet with representatives from the BRRWD Advisory Committee and County Commissioners to solicit input before making recommendations to the Board at the 5/26/20 meeting.

- Approved a motion to remove easement option payments from the bill list for two landowners impacted by the Stony Creek Water Resource Comprehensive Management Project and to slow down project development.

The Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District, will hold their next regular meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2020, at 7:00 PM in the Barnesville office. Due to the COVID-19 emergency, we are going to hold an electronic meeting in accordance with Minnesota Statutes Annotated, Section 13D.021. The conference line information is: Toll Free 1-833-403-3948 or Local 701-499-9476. Access Code 2503. Conference PIN 1401. More information will be posted on the BRRWD's website prior to the meeting at www.brrwd.org.