



Board Meeting Minutes
Monday November 8, 2021

Managers Present: Peter Fjestad, Catherine Affield, John Hanson, Troy Larson, Gerald Van Amburg, Paul Krabbenhoft, Mark Hanson (remote).

Staff Present: Kristine Altrichter, Administrator.

Consultants Present: Bennett Uhler, Engineer, Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI).

Others Attending: Karleen Mjolsnem, Tony Leaf, Greg Anderson, Doug Mjolsnem.

President Fjestad called meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Agenda: Additions to agenda Project 81, Whiskey Creek, Clay County Ditch No. 16. **Motion** to approve agenda with additions by J. Hanson, **Seconded** by Affield. **Approved.**

Secretary's Report: **Motion** to approve October 28, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes by Affield, **Seconded** by Krabbenhoft. **Approved.**

Treasurer's Report: Account balance was \$3,043,861.56. Income received since October 28, 2021, totals \$92,445.94, and for year, totals \$5,385,044.16. \$305,832.95 were collected from accounts receivable this month. **Motion** to approve Treasurer's Report by Van Amburg, **Seconded** by Larson. **Approved.**

Permits:

Permit No. 21-126. David Steffl. Applicant proposing to install pattern tile in W ½ NW ¼, Section 26, Riceville Township, Becker County. Uhler recommended approval subject to standard tiling conditions and approval from Becker County to work within road right-of-way (ROW).

Permit No. 21-135. William Norris. Applicant proposing to install 18" corrugated metal pipe (CMP) into 2931 145th ST. S, Glyndon, MN, in Section 21, Riverton Township, Clay County. Uhler recommended approval subject to installation of 18" culvert and approval from Riverton Township to work within ROW.

Permit No. 21-139. Peter Aasness. Applicant proposing to install approach with culvert in NE ¼, Section 11, Foxhome Township, Wilkin County. Uhler recommended approval subject to installation of 18" culvert and approval from Foxhome Township to work within ROW.

Permit No. 21-140. Peter Aasness. Applicant proposing to install four approaches with culverts in each quarter of Section 10, Foxhome Township, Wilkin County. Uhler recommended approval subject to installation of 24" culvert for all four proposed approaches and approval from Foxhome Township to work within ROW.

Permit No. 21-141. Ted Hegseth. Applicant received approved permit (Permit No. 15-137) to clean ditch and install tile in NE ¼, Section 33, Oscar Township, Otter Tail County. Ditch was cleaned, however, permit expired prior to installation of tile. Applicant proposing to install tile previously approved under Permit No. 15-137. Uhler recommended approval subject to standard tiling conditions.

Permit No. 21-142. Michael Hansen. Applicant proposing to build driveway in W ½ NW ¼, Section 28, Hawley Township, Clay County. Proposed approach is located on top of hill; therefore, no culvert is needed. Uhler recommended approval with no culvert required, subject to approval from Hawley Township to work within ROW.

Motion to approve Permit Nos. 21-126, 21-135, 21-139, 21-140, 21-141, and 21-142 with conditions outlined above by J. Hanson, **Seconded** by Affield. **Approved.**

Ditches:

Becker County Ditch No. 5. Repair Recommendation. Sean Felker, Audubon Township Supervisor, reported damage to culvert through 175th St. near middle of Section 26, Audubon Township. Existing culvert is 30" X 50' cmp. Uhler recommended replacing culvert with 30" X 70' cmp. Estimated cost is \$6,000-\$7,000 for materials and installation. Audubon Township requested 50 percent cost share with BRRWD. **Motion** to approve repair and 50 percent cost share by J. Hanson, **Seconded** by Krabbenhoft. **Approved.**

Clay County Ditch No. 21. Repair Recommendation. Uhler recommended mowing tree and brush growth along bufferstrip in Section 2, Elmwood Township. Estimated cost is \$1,000. **Motion** to approve repair by Van Amburg, **Seconded** by Larson. **Approved.**

Clay County Ditch No. 16. Repair Recommendation. Landowners requested cleaning to remove accumulated sediment from ditch. Proposed work would begin at outlet on south line of Section 29, Highland Grove Township and proceed through Sections 29, 30, 20, and to ¼ line of Section 21. This portion of cleaning is 2.75 miles. Remaining ½ mile in Section 21 and 1,171.84 feet of Section 22 is surrounded by United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and MN Department of Natural Resources (DNR) land and may not require cleaning. Uhler recommended completing cleaning. Estimated cost is \$10,000 per mile, estimated total cost is \$27,500 to \$42,500 depending on amount of cleaning completed. **Motion** to approve cleaning of Clay County Ditch No. 16 from the south line of Section 29, Highland Grove Township through Sections 29, 30, 20, 21, and 22 as needed by J. Hanson, **Seconded** by Larson. **Approved.**

Projects:

Project 46, Turtle Lake Outlet. Long Lake Outlet Alternatives. HEI conducted feasibility study to investigate alternatives to reduce operation and maintenance costs of Long Lake siphon system, installed in 1999. Operation and maintenance costs for Turtle Lake and Long Lake have averaged \$32,000 per year. Uhler presented alternatives A, B, and C. Board of Managers discussed cost of alternatives compared to current maintenance. Impacted landowners present discussed desire to move forward with alternative B. Alternative B proposes to abandon existing fish barrier inlet at west end of Long Lake and replace with non-fish barrier inlet on west end of wetland between Long Lake and current project outlet. 300 feet of pipe would be regraded, starting at outlet and alignment would veer away from existing location towards new inlet in wetland. Proposed alignment would require 900 feet of pipe salvaged from existing siphon alignment. Excavation (maximum depth of 2.7 feet, 300 feet in length) between Long Lake and wetland would also be required. Estimated cost of alternative B is \$767,951.00. **Motion** to authorize staff to work with permitting agencies, complete initial survey work, and hold landowner informational meeting by Krabbenhoft, **Seconded** by Van Amburg. **Approved.**

Project 56, Manston Slough Restoration. Repair Recommendation. Michael Oehler, DNR, requested BRRWD install staff gauges to improve water level management. Uhler recommended installing gauges on north structure, south structure, and DNR moist soil unit structure. Estimated cost \$800-\$1,200. **Motion** to approve installation of three staff gauges by Van Amburg, **Seconded** by J. Hanson.

Project 79, Wolverton Creek Restoration Phase 2. Final Pay Request. Motion to approve Final Pay Request to Gladen Construction Inc. for \$25,562.33 by J. Hanson, **Seconded** by Larson. **Approved.**

Project 81, Whiskey Creek Enhancement Project Change Order 1. Motion to approve Change Order 1 of \$535,082.94 to extend contract with Ehlert Excavating Inc. to include restoration of Whiskey Creek through Sections 5 and 8, Connelly Township, and Section 32, Nordick Township, Wilkin County by Larson, **Seconded** by Affield. **Approved.**

Other:

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD). Annual Meeting Materials. Board of Managers discussed BRRWD's 2021 Delegate Appointment for Annual Meeting. Board of Managers agreed Fjestad and Van Amburg would be delegates and Krabbenhoft would be an alternate.

Bills. Motion to approve bills totaling \$256,058.24 by J. Hanson, **Seconded** by Larson. **Approved.**

Next Regular Meeting. Monday November 22, 2021, at 7:00 PM in the Barnesville office. Agenda will be posted on BRRWD's website prior to meeting.

President Fjestad adjourned meeting at 8:16 PM.

/s/ John Hanson
Secretary