

# ***BUFFALO-RED RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT***

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## MINUTES FOR MANAGERS' MEETING September 26, 2016

The Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), held their regular meeting on Monday, September 26, 2016, at 7:00 PM in the Barnesville office. BRRWD Managers present were Gerald L. Van Amburg, John E. Hanson, Breanna L. Kobiela, Catherine L. Affield, and Peter V. Fjestad. Others attending included: Bruce E. Albright, BRRWD Administrator, and Erik S. Jones, Engineer, Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI); and Oakport landowner Duane Egge.

Chair Van Amburg called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM and announced that the proceedings were being recorded to aid in the preparation of the minutes.

**Secretary's Report.** The Board reviewed draft minutes for the BRRWD's 09/12/16 regular meeting and the 10/07/13 Project No. 46, Turtle Lake Outlet Redetermination of Benefits hearing. Affield noted a few minor corrections. **Motion** by Affield to approve the minutes, subject to correction. **Seconded** by Kobiela. **Approved.**

**Treasurer's Report.** The Board reviewed the BRRWD's financial status. Cash on hand is \$1,662,506.30. Income since the 09/12/16 meeting totals \$97,579.85, including \$81,093.87 from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for work on Phase 4 of the Oakport Flood Mitigation Project and \$16,485.98 from the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) for reimbursement of Mediation Project Team (PT) Fiscal Year 16 (FY16) expenditures.

**Duane Egge Approach Complaint.** Duane Egge, a landowner on Phase 4 of the Oakport Project, discussed a complaint regarding the location of an approach that was installed off County Road (C.R.) No. 1/Broadway on BRRWD property. Egge had concerns about the purchase agreement for the two BRRWD buyout lots north of his property to Andy Noah, which Albright noted, had been extended until Phase 4 construction could be started. He feels Noah was given special treatment in regards to a closing date for the sale and also the approach installation. Albright pointed out that the approach is located on BRRWD property, and if it is partly on Egge's property, we can have the contractor move it. There is also a possibility that the County might be willing to give Egge a variance of their driveway restrictions to install another approach for his lot, if it ever becomes necessary in the future. After an extended discussion, Egge and the Board came to an impasse regarding his concerns. Egge requested a copy of the recording of his discussion with the Board. Albright plans to meet with Egge to field verify the location of the approach in question.

### **Other Business brought before the Board included:**

**Permit No. 16-060, Douglas Etten.** Albright contacted Karlo Etten regarding what the Board needs to release his father's (Douglas) permit application to pattern tile approximately 230 acres in the S½, Section 26, Meadows Township, Wilkin County. The permit was approved on 07/25/16, subject to receipt of signed downstream landowner notification forms from the other landowners along the drainage outlet route. To date, we are still waiting to receive the notification forms. Albright mentioned that Douglas was copied on the email message to Karlo. **Tabled.**

**Permit No. 16-092, James Klein.** Applicant proposes to install tiling in the southeast part of the S½, Section 15, Nilsen Township, Wilkin County, to outlet via a lift station to County Ditch (C.D.) No. 3 to which the property is assessed. We are still waiting to receive Klein's tiling plan. **Tabled.**

**Permit No. 16-093, Century Link.** Applicant proposes to directional bore through the north levee of the Oakport Flood Mitigation project, underneath C.R. No. 93 at the intersection with C.R. No. 1 in the NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Section 18, Oakport Township, Clay County. Jones contacted Charles Grummons, Century Link, to advise him to contact the project engineer, Kris Carlson, Ulteig Engineers, Inc. (UEI), to be sure that their utilities are flood proofed according to levee certification requirements. Jones recommended permit approval, subject to contact with UEI and our standard utility disclaimers.

**Permit No. 16-094, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).** Applicant proposes to restore five wetlands in the SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Section 28 and the N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, Section 29, Parke Township, Clay County, using a scraper to remove sediment in the bottom of the wetland areas and to place it on the upland areas. All wetland outlets will be left unchanged. Jones noted that any seepage would only affect the actual landowner's adjacent property, and he recommended approval.

**Permit No. 16-095, USFWS.** Applicant proposes to restore 14 wetland basins in Section 36, Cuba Township, Becker County, near LaBelle Lake. Future restorations in this area would be completed via a separate permit application. The work will be accomplished with scraping, and the excavated material will be placed in the downstream channels. Seepage would only affect the USFWS property. The BRRWD has an easement for the LaBelle/Boyer Lake Outlet project in this area, but Jones noted that the proposed work would not affect the project outlet and recommended permit approval.

**Permit No. 16-096, USFWS.** Applicant proposes to restore 6 drained wetlands in the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Section 18, Audubon Township, Becker County, by scraping the sediment out of the basins and placing the sediment in the basin drainage ditches. The only property that could be affected by seepage is owned by the applicant. Jones recommended permit approval.

**Permit No. 16-097, Brian Wang.** Applicant proposes to install 150 acres of pattern tiling, outletting via gravity flow in the southeast corner of the NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Section 9, Moland Township, Clay County, to Clay C.D. No. 3, as assessed. Jones recommended permit approval.

**Motion** by Hanson to approve Permit Nos. 16-093 to 16-097. Permit approval is subject to the applicable standard tile and utility disclaimers, state/federal agency permitting requirements, and road authorities' permission to work within their right-of-way (r-o-w). **Seconded** by Kobiela. **Approved.**

**Permit No. 16-098, Deal Bros.** Applicant proposes to fill in a natural waterway through the middle of Section 10, Andrea Township, Wilkin County, and install a ditch along the east (C.R. No. 19) and south lines of the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, outletting to Wilkin C.D. No. 31, as assessed. Steve Nepl, Wilkin County Highway Department, told Tim Deal that the County would give him a permit to do the work in the field r-o-w when he received the BRRWD permit. Rosella Nordick is the landowner. Using the overhead monitors, the Board reviewed land elevations for the proposed and existing drainage routes. **Tabled**, pending more information and a Manager field review.

**Thompson Drainage Complaint.** The Managers discussed a drainage dispute regarding unpermitted culverts that have been installed in Section 5, Barnesville Township, Clay County. Shane Thompson has installed a 24" dia. culvert in the quarterline with a flapgate on the north end of the pipe. Steve Thompson questioned if Shane had a BRRWD permit to do this work. Using the overhead monitors and a LiDAR map, Albright explained the area drainage patterns. He noted that Steve Thompson recently installed an approach with 12" and 15" dia. PVC pipes apparently without a BRRWD permit. When Shane Thompson called the office, he noted that he didn't expect the Managers to do anything about Steve's project, but talked about the need for a drainage survey in Section 5 to make sure that the system works for all the landowners.

**Lake Fifteen Drainage Complaint.** Marita Palya, a homeowner on Lake Fifteen, which is associated with the outlet for the Turtle Lake project, called the office regarding concerns about drainage issues for their new

house driveway culvert. The Board discussed issues the Palyas are having with their neighbor. Albright will contact the Parke Township Chairman regarding the driveway/culvert issue in regards to their road r-o-w.

**Project No. 77, Clay C.D. No. 51-Lateral.** The Board has scheduled the hearing to abandon Project No. 77 prior to our 10/11/16 regular meeting at 6:45 PM. Hearing notices have been sent to the affected landowners and to the F-M Extra newspaper. Albright has prepared the Abandonment Order for the Board's consideration at the meeting following the hearing.

Robert Norby's attorney, Zenas Baer, has contacted Albright and Chairman Van Amburg to schedule their depositions for Norby's lawsuit. The original deadline for Attorney Baer to complete the depositions was 10/07/16, but this has now been extended by the Court, per BRRWD Attorney Norgard's agreement.

**Project No. 56, Manston Slough Restoration.** Jason Ehlert has been hired to make two cuts in the spoil bank in the SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Section 20, and to remove a flapgate on a culvert in an approach located by the minimum maintenance township road (230<sup>th</sup> AVE). We are still waiting for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to approve the Conditional Use Permit for the work on their easement. The spoil will need to be hauled offsite.

Scott Sellin, Sellin Bros., Inc., notified Jones that they have some used pipes that Tom Arnhalt might be able to use for his crossing in Section 20, Manston Township. Jones will investigate further.

Albright noted that Carolyn Clarin, NRCS, told Albright that they have accepted bids from a contractor in Moorhead to manage several Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) tracts in the Manston Slough area for a three-year period. Part of the work will include the wetland restorations and tree removal. Clarin has requested that the BRRWD remove the stop logs in the spillway to drain the water from the site. Albright observed that with the rainfall this summer, we finally have water in the project, but according to the project Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), we will need to cooperate with the NRCS so that they can complete their phase of the project construction. Clarin has also contacted the DNR and USFWS regarding her request. After discussion, the Board agreed to work with NRCS to get their work completed. Albright will check with the other MOU partners regarding NRCS's request. Assuming no problems, he will contact Opsahl to remove the stop logs.

**Project No. 49, Oakport Flood Mitigation.** Albright toured the project with the project engineer, Kris Carlson, UEI. He reported that the Phase 4 stormwater pond is nearly excavated, and observed that there will be even more excess dirt to deal with once the pond work is completed. Carlson is considering raising the pond elevation by spreading some of the spoil back onto the pond bottom because there is already more storage worked into the pond design than Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) requires. Albright also reported that some areas will be ready for Audubon to seed yet this fall. He will contact Marshall Johnson with the Audubon Society, to see how they wish to handle this item. The mill and overlay of Wall ST NW should start this week. They plan to keep the street open to traffic. Once that work is completed, the contractor will repair Broadway. Albright commented that most of the Phase 4 dirt work has been completed, with only the area south of the gas station in need of Class V gravel.

The Board discussed the Fischer spoil pile easement. Albright reported that the clay has been removed from the site with only black dirt remaining to be leveled. The Fischers also agreed to allow another pile of black dirt, located east of their property, to be blended into their field. The contractor has one remaining pile of clay stockpiled on the north side of Wall ST NW. Albright noted that the pile has been shaped and graded to drain. He thought that we could seed it and probably be able to mow the area. Albright plans to contact Carl Pierce to see if he would be interested in using this remaining dirt for a possible future housing development on his property.

**Project No. 48, Clay C.D. No. 59.** Jones reported that the contractor, Crompton Excavating, Inc., has only a few cleanup items left to complete on his project. When this work is finished, HEI will submit a final pay request.

**Project No. 39, Georgetown Levee.** Albright reported that there was another delay regarding the Greywind condemnation. He also said that to date, there has been no decision regarding a proposal to ask the Fargo-Moorhead (F-M) Diversion Authority (DA) to fund permanent road closures in the Georgetown project area.

Albright noted that the State requires that the BRRWD file a certification of declaration in acknowledgement of deed restrictions for each buyout property and easement. Albright will work with Attorney Corey Elmer, Vogel Law Firm, to get this item addressed.

**Project No. 30, Clay/Wilkin Judicial Ditch (J.D.) No. 1.** Attorney Norgard had concerns about the petition signatures in accordance with Minnesota Statutes Annotated (M.S.A.) 103E.238, for a diversion on the county line. Albright will redraft the petition and then contact the landowners to acquire the proper signatures for their petition, so it can be resubmitted.

**Project No. 24, Wilkin C.D. No. 44.** Wade Opsahl, Technician, HEI, hired Jason Ehlert to remove the two culverts from 170<sup>th</sup> AVE between Sections 3 and 10, Manston Township, per the Board's decision at their 08/22/16 meeting. Albright contacted Manston Township regarding the work.

**Project No. 14, Clay C.D. No. 10.** The contractor, R.J. Zavoral and Sons, Inc., has finished construction and seeding. Jones noted that Zavoral has been asked to add some additional gravel to the east site, and the contractor is working on the cleanup items.

**Mediation PT.** The next PT meeting will be held on Thursday, October 13, 2016, in the Barnesville office at 7:00 PM. The Fall Tour was held on 09/22/16. Albright reported that most of the locations on the tour route were in Becker County. The Board briefly discussed our funding partnership with the Becker County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to construct many of the projects we toured. Jones noted that we are starting to record improved water quality results in the areas where sediment control basins have been installed in Becker County.

**Upper South Branch of the Buffalo River.** The Nature Conservancy (TNC) would prefer that we keep the drainage route for the Phase 1A work off their property in the W½, Section 12, Manston Township. The Rogelstad family hasn't been contacted yet by the office regarding the drainage route proposed across their property. Jones discussed possible alternate drainage routes in light of TNC's decision. He suggested that the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) might be able to install some retention features they considered earlier in the design process as a result of the route change. He thought that the design concept might change, but we'd still be able to achieve similar benefits. Thomas Eskro, Engineer, HEI, contacted Albright today to suggest we contact the affected landowners regarding the proposed project to ask them to decide if they want to work jointly on one project, or as individual entities.

**Stony Creek Restoration.** Based on a conference call with the DNR regarding our modeling information about the downstream flooding impacts below the proposed dam, DNR has indicated that they will be lowering the dam classification to a medium hazard structure. Jones thought that DNR will probably require that we provide flood protection for the farmsteads downstream of the dam, which the project design already includes.

**Watershed District Enlargement (WDE)/Revised Watershed Management Plan (RWMP).** Albright is working on his review of the draft RWMP. The BWSR Northern Committee will be meeting on January 17, 2017. Albright noted that we will try to have our review completed before then, and the RWMP submitted to BWSR for review at their meeting.

**Army Corps of Engineers (COE) F-M Diversion.** The Board discussed Governor Dayton's letter regarding the Diversion project.

**Otter Tail River/Buffalo River/Upper Red River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)/Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS).** Jones noted that the MPCA recently asked for more information regarding the Buffalo River TMDL, which was sent to Tim James, MPCA, today. In August at the Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Work Group (RRBFDRWG) meeting, Jim Courneya, MPCA, had told Jones the Buffalo River TMDL was approved, but now, he isn't sure about the status because they are still asking for more information, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is still reviewing the documents.

Albright reported that he doesn't know the status of the Upper Red River TMDL/WRAPS Study. Mike Vavricka, Watershed Modeling, MPCA, told Albright that they planned to hire a contractor to complete the Hydrological Simulation Program-Fortran (HSPF) modeling for the Upper Red River.

Albright didn't have an update regarding the status of the Otter Tail River TMDL/WRAPS studies.

HEI has prepared the Water Quality Communique the Board authorized to provide detailed results and methods regarding an assessment of the upstream watershed condition based on our water quality monitoring within the BRRWD Regional Assessment Locations (RALs), which could ultimately be added to the BRRWD Website for public access and updated periodically. Albright will review the document, and a final copy should be ready for the Board's review at their next meeting.

**Wilkin C.D. No. 7 Repairs.** HEI prepared bid documents for the C.D. No. 7 repairs and distributed them to a number of area contractors. The bid request will also be published in the Wahpeton Daily News on 09/27/16, and it was posted last week online in the Construction Bulletin. Bids will be opened at 10:00 AM on 10/11/16 at the Fargo HEI office. Jones will tabulate the bids and bring a recommendation to the Board meeting that night. Albright noted that we will need an agreement with the Wilkin SWCD to use their BWSR Clean Water Funds (CWF). Jones has already contacted Don Bajumpaa, Wilkin SWCD Manager, regarding this issue.

**Wilkin C.D. No. 6A Repairs.** Krause Brothers Construction, Wahpeton, ND, submitted a bid to haul the riprap (1,324 Tons) for \$44,817.40. Jones described the County's practice of sorting the riprap to get the best configuration when they install the rocks. The riprap will be hauled onsite after freeze-up in December. Using the remainder of the approximate \$100,000 funding for this project, the County will start the slope work this fall on both sides of the first mile of ditch in Section 31, Tanberg Township. Jones thought the County plans to start their work this week. **Motion** by Fjestad to accept the bid from Krause Brothers Construction, and to authorize Albright to sign the contract on behalf of the Board. **Seconded** by Affield. **Approved.**

At their 09/12/16 meeting, the Board approved a motion to begin a redetermination of benefits for C.D. No. 6A. The office will send a letter to the ditch systems landowners to notify them about the repair project and the redetermination of benefits. HEI has revised the benefit maps to reflect the current benefit area and provided a revised mailing list to the BRRWD office. The Viewers should be able to start their work in the near future. Manager Fjestad asked if Jones has investigated contributing waters coming from Nelson Lake in Otter Tail County into C.D. No. 6A. Jones will take a look at this issue.

**MPCA MS4.** Albright noted that the MPCA Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) permit application needs to be submitted by 10/25/16. Jones will have the application completed for the Board's review at their 10/11/16 meeting. Albright noted that the Board should probably hold a special meeting to review the MS4 program and to consider adding a section regarding MS4 permitting in our new RWMP and Rules.

**Elkton Township Wetland Restoration.** Albright reported that BWSR forwarded another form for the Harlan Manston Estate to sign. BRRWD Attorney Cory Elmer, Vogel Law Firm, thought that once this last form was submitted, BWSR would send the easements to the BRRWD for recording.

**Breckenridge Outdoor Education Classroom.** Don Bajumpaa, Wilkin SWCD District Manager, forwarded a request from Breckenridge 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher Abbi Paulseth for a contribution to their 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Outdoor Education Classroom. The Board discussed the request. **Motion** by Fjestad to contribute \$400 to the referenced activity. **Seconded** by Kobiela. **Approved.**

**Wolverton Creek/Comstock Coulee.** A meeting was held on 09/22/16 with a few of the Phase 1A landowners to discuss submitting their applications for the NRCS Wetland Reserve Enhancement (WRE) program. The office mailed a follow up letter to all the affected landowners to remind them that the NRCS WRE program signup deadline is 10/01/16. Lynette Dietrich, NRCS Program Officer, St. Paul, attended the meeting. The WRE is a continuous sign-up program, so landowners can submit applications at any time. Federal funding for the program will probably be allocated following the Presidential election in November.

Albright reported that the office sent follow-up letters to each of the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) members, thanking them for their consideration of our project and listing the project benefits. The Council is meeting again on 09/29/16. Jones noted that this year, the Wolverton Creek project has been recommended for varying amounts of funding by 11 of the 12 members, so if they conduct their selection process the same way as last year, the BRRWD should get some funding.

**Otter Tail River Restoration.** At the 09/26/16 Board meeting, Jones presented the channel survey results. He noted that the COE has agreed to issue a permit for the channel restoration project if we conduct an archeological review. Jones contacted George Holley, Moorhead State University Archaeology Department, who plans to conduct his review on 10/02/16 for approximately \$2,000. Rich Baker, DNR, Minnesota Endangered Species Coordinator, has also asked for a mussel survey and possible relocation prior to issuing the DNR permit. There are a number of certified individuals who could conduct the survey and relocation, including Professor Andre Delorme, Valley City State University. The Board discussed the requested endangered species survey process. Jones will keep Don Bajumpaa, SWCD Director, updated regarding the project development/extra costs.

**Whiskey Creek Restoration.** The office forwarded a letter regarding permission to survey to six landowners who did not respond our request for access in April. Albright will forward the list of landowners to Manager Affield to see if there is anyone on the list she knows and could contact. Once the crops are off, we will be able to start the survey on land where we have permission to enter.

**Clay C.D. No. 10.** Terracon Consultants, Inc., forwarded an Authorization to Proceed form for the Board's signature for soils analysis pertaining to the road slope repairs on C.D. No. 10. **Motion** by Hanson to authorized Chairman Van Amburg to sign the contract on behalf of the BRRWD. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved.**

**RRBC Conference.** The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Red River Basin Land and Water International Summit Conferenced, titled "*Passport to Progress: Thinking Beyond Our Borders*", will be held on January 17-19, 2017, at the Ramada Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, Fargo, ND

**The following bills were presented for approval:**

	<b>Description</b>	<b>Account</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Ackerman Land Surveying, Inc.	#16156-CorRec, Corner records	Wilkin C.D. No. 7	\$ 660.00
American Enterprises, Inc.	#1555, mowing	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 3,680.00
American Enterprises, Inc.	Pay Request No. 5-Final	Pj. 37, Clay 41-Lat. 1	\$ 8,927.80
Barnesville EDA	Commercial Park sign directory	Admin.	\$ 500.00

Beau Lofgren	04/06/16 RiverWatch meals-Subway	M.S.A. 103D. 905, Subd. 3	\$ 88.14
Beau Lofgren	09/20/16 RiverWatch meals-Whistle Café	M.S.A. 103D. 905, Subd. 3	\$ 100.00
Breckenridge Public Schools	4th Grade Outdoor Program	M.S.A. 103D. 905, Subd. 3	\$ 400.00
Bruce E. Albright	International Drainage Conference	Admin.	\$ 450.00
Bruce E. Albright	Menards building numbers (4)	Admin.	\$ 5.08
Bruce E. Albright	Hornbachers-tour pop/water	Admin.	\$ 30.10
BWSR	Agreement #3000004388 refund	MAWQCP	\$ 38,120.98
Catherine L. Affield	#1622, 07/01/16-08/31/16	Admin.	\$ 282.31
Chris Hoppe Lawn Care LLC	August mowing (5)	Admin.	\$ 534.38
Clay County Union	#1277, Budget Hearing notice (2)	Admin.	\$ 673.36
Cody Zarak	Rent-All, tour P.A. System	Mediation PT	\$ 106.41
Cody Zarak	Hornbachers-tour cookies/rolls	Mediation PT	\$ 54.76
Danielle Scheffler	Barnesville Grocery, tour supplies	Mediation PT	\$ 14.97
Desing's Eagle Café	Fall Tour Supper-45 at \$8	Mediation PT	\$ 384.75
Jerry Janssen	NRCS Sed Basins/Contribution (10%)	M.S.A. 103D. 905, Subd. 3	\$ 2,005.35
Joel Carlson, Inc.	October Lobbyist Fees	Admin.	\$ 850.00
L & M Road Services, LLC	#609, brush spraying	Clay C.D. No. 3/39	\$ 865.50
Liberty Business Systems, Inc.	#258114, 6/22/16-9/21/16 coverage	Admin.	\$ 32.03
NetWork Center	#0000041925, support service	Admin.	\$ 170.00
NTI	#18865, 7/31/16-8/31/16 testing	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 12,178.96
Quill	#917493, supplies	Admin.	\$ 72.20
Richards Transportation Service	#9939, tour bus	Mediation PT	\$ 600.00
RMB Environmental Laboratories	#328404, WQ Analysis	M.S.A. 103D. 905, Subd. 3	\$ 104.00
The Hawley Herald, Inc.	#3149, Budget Hearing notice (2)	Admin.	\$ 869.44
UEI	#59794, thru 08/31/16, Phase 4	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 55,316.36
UEI	#59905, thru 08/31/16, Wetland	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 1,245.60
Western National Insurance Group	#0001005701000, Commercial package	Insurance	\$ 14,272.00
Xcel Energy	08/23/16-09/22/16 service	Admin.	\$ 67.32
			<b>\$ 143,661.80</b>

**Motion** by Fjestad to approve payment of the bills. **Seconded** by Affield. **Approved.**

**Manager Resignation.** Manager Kobiela informed the Board that she will be moving to Fargo, ND, and will no longer be eligible to serve on the BRRWD Board. Kobiela has served as a Manager since November 2009. Albright will contact the Clay County Board of Commissioners regarding her resignation. He thought we might have a new Manager in place by January.

**Rules Revision.** Albright noted that the we plan to add a section on the MPCA's MS4 permitting to the Revised Rules.

**Clay C.D. No. 39 Repairs.** Jones presented a repair request for three inlets on C.D. No. 39 in the NE¼, Section 33, Morken Township, for Matthew Brandt. The estimated cost is \$5,500. **Motion** by Hanson to approve the referenced repairs. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved.**

**Wilkin C.D. No. 4A Repairs.** Jones filed a repair report regarding the County Highway Department plans to repair C.D. No. 4A along the Hasbargen property in Section 14, Foxhome Township. They are in the process of enrolling portions of this land into the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and the County wants to complete their repairs, which include flattening the ditch slope before the land is in the program. Jones will provide a copy of the repair recommendations to Dan Swedlund, Wilkin County Maintenance Supervisor.

**Buffer Symposium.** Van Amburg noted that he attended the Buffer and Science symposium on 09/16/16 in St. Paul. He discussed some of the buffer strip information that was presented at the event. Van Amburg reported that BWSR plans to ask the watershed districts to develop a buffer strip inspection and compliance enforcement protocol/template regarding the use of Administrative Penalty Order (APO). The Managers had a brief discussion about acting as the APO authority over our legal ditch systems and the DNR protected waters.

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**Adjournment.** Chairman Van Amburg adjourned the meeting at 9:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Hanson, Secretary