

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

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## MINUTES FOR MANAGERS' MEETING July 11, 2016

The Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), held their regular meeting on Monday, July 11, 2016, at 7:00 PM in the Barnesville office. BRRWD Managers present were Gerald L. Van Amburg, John E. Hanson, Mark T. Anderson, Breanna L. Kobiela, Catherine L. Affield, and Peter V. Fjestad. Others attending included: Bruce E. Albright, Administrator, and Erik S. Jones, Engineer, Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI); and landowners: Tom Arnhalt and Thomas Paulson.

Chairman Van Amburg called the meeting to order at 7:06 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 06/27/16 regular meeting and the 09/03/09 special meeting. Affield noted two minor corrections. **Motion** by Anderson to approve the minutes, subject to correction. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved.**

**Treasurer's Report.** The Board reviewed the BRRWD's monthly financial statements, including the project account balance sheet, administrative disbursements, summary of income, and the accounts receivable report. Cash on hand is \$696,022.21. Administrative disbursements for the year total \$180,563.65. Current accounts receivable for 2016 totals \$8,149,835.44. Our income to date is \$2,986,388.33. Income since the 06/13/16 meeting totaled \$1,138,935.16, including 2016 1<sup>st</sup> half tax payments from Becker (\$101,604.62), Clay (\$442,868.57), and Otter Tail (\$348.56) Counties, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) (\$593,389.01) for Project No. 49, Oakport Flood Mitigation, and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) (\$412.75) for the Upper Red River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). Albright noted that the only payment still outstanding for the 1<sup>st</sup> half tax settlements is the Clay County ditch/project collections. He sent the Clay County Auditor an email message today requesting this payment. The office will prepare a pay request to the DNR this week for Oakport expenses. Albright also noted that the Midwest Bank Line of Credit was paid off, so we should have enough money with the cash on hand and the Line of Credit to pay tonight's bills, which total over \$1 million. The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) should be forwarding 50%, or \$1.4 million, of the \$2.8 million Targeted Watershed Program grant for the Wolverton Creek Restoration Project in the near future. The Board briefly discussed the Enbridge Ecofootprint \$100,000 grant for the Wolverton project and the Otter Tail River MPCA 319 grant. Those grants require that we submit invoices documenting expenditures prior to reimbursement.

The Board discussed scheduling their annual budget hearing and agreed to hold it during their 08/22/16 regular meeting at 9:00 PM. **Motion** by Fjestad to approve the Treasurer's Report and schedule the Annual Budget Hearing as referenced. **Seconded** by Kobiela. **Approved.**

**Permit No. 16-054, Tom Arnhalt.** Applicant proposes to straighten a waterway that runs through the middle of his field in the SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Section 20, Manston Township, Wilkin County, starting where the ditch comes under Trunk Highway (T.H.) No. 9 and ending where it drains into the DNR land to the west. Arnhalt would also like to straighten two areas in the same waterway in Section 21 and add a crossing wide enough to handle large machinery on the waterway on the west end of the project in Section 20. There are two 10' x 6' culverts in T.H. No. 9 that convey 14 square miles (sq. mi.) of waterway area through the highway. Albright suggested that Arnhalt might be able to find used culverts for the crossing. The Board discussed the proposal. Van Amburg was concerned about removing the natural waterway meanders. Anderson suggested that Arnhalt

could install buffers on the straightened ditch to reduce erosion and consider installing the crossing in the future once he sees how the project functions. Jones was concerned with possible erosion impacts downstream from the crossing on T.H. No. 9. After further discussion, **motion** by Anderson to approve Permit No. 16-054 to straighten the waterway, as proposed, with the recommendation that Arnhalt work with HEI on the waterway and crossing designs to minimize erosion and other impacts. Approval is subject to the installation of buffers along the straightened channel and keeping the existing drain open until the new waterway is completed and the buffer seeding is established. If Arnhalt decides to install the crossing in the future, it would be covered under this permit, subject to the referenced criteria. **Seconded** by Hanson. **Approved.**

Albright will check with the Wilkin County Highway Department to find out if they have any used culverts that Arnhalt could use for his crossing.

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

**Permit No. 16-021, KTM Farm.** We are awaiting receipt of the signed downstream notification form, which was sent to the applicant on 03/23/16.

**Permit No. 16-036, Brice Bellmore.** The permit was tabled pending a Manager field review. Albright will contact Bellmore to schedule a meeting to review his proposal to install a new culvert in County Road (C.R.) No. 151 in the NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Section 26, Roberts Township, Wilkin County.

**Permit No. 16-052, Troy Goltz.** Albright is working on the petitions to add and remove land from Wilkin County Ditch (C.D.) Nos. 40 and 43.

**Permit No. 16-055, Century Link.** Applicant proposes to place various size fiber optic cable under multiple ditches in Clay County. Jones recommended permit approval.

**Permit No. 16-056, Red River Valley Co-op Power Association.** Applicant proposes to bore a 3-phase high voltage power line in three 2" flexible plastic conduits under the Oakport dike in the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Section 17, Oakport Township, Clay County, according to recommendations from Ulteig Engineers, Inc. (UEI). The work will provide electric service for the stormwater pond, which is not serviced from the City of Moorhead because the project is not within the city limits.

**Permit No. 16-057, Brent Torkelson.** Applicant proposes to install tiling in the SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Section 11, Nilsen Township, Wilkin County. The Wilkin County Highway Department approved the project in 2012 and Torkelson only installed the main line at that time. Since the BRRWD now has jurisdiction over the project area, Torkelson was asked to apply for a BRRWD permit for the project. Manager Larson conducted a field review of the proposed work and told Albright that he recommended permit approval. Torkelson gave a copy of the project plan to Manager Larson, who will bring it into the office when he returns from his trip, so it can be attached to Torkelson's permit application.

**Motion** by Fjestad to approve Permit Nos. 16-055 through 16-057. Permit approval is subject to the applicable standard disclaimers, state/federal agency permitting requirements, and road authorities' permission to work within their road right-of-way (r-o-w). **Seconded** by Anderson. **Approved.**

**Clay/Wilkin County Line Drainage Concerns.** Albright met with Luther Blilie, Matt Ness, Larry Ness, and Mark Askegaard this morning to discuss the legal petition process to make a new drainage system along the north line of Section 6, Wolverton Township, Wilkin County, on the south side of the county line west of T.H. No. 75. The landowners also considered the option of doing the work themselves by BRRWD permit. The Board discussed the adequacy of the proposed ditch outlet to the Red River of the North. The landowners

will check with the Quinnild family who own land along the ditch alignment regarding their interest in the proposed project. Albright will compile a fact sheet regarding the proposed project for the landowners. Anderson observed that the proposed ditch could provide a somewhat better outlet for the 2 to 5-year floods, but for the larger floods, the new ditch wouldn't provide any better drainage than the current natural alignment.

**Al Korinek Tile Complaint.** Landowner Al Korinek (Section 15, Breckenridge Township, Wilkin County) called the office recently regarding a tiling project that Matt Hasbargen constructed in 2013 in the SW¼, Section 21, Sunnyside Township, which outlets along the north ditch of C.R. No. 158 for several miles, crossing T.H. No. 75, and finally entering the Red River. The ditch has become overrun with cattails and landowners along the alignment have concerns about the condition of the road ditch. In 2013, prior to the boundary relocation, part of Hasbargen's project was located in the BRRWD and part in the Bois de Sioux Watershed District (BDSWD). Now that the new boundary has been established, Hasbargen's property is no longer in the BRRWD. The BRRWD approved Permit No. 13-02 for Hasbargen on 04/22/13, subject to our standard tiling disclaimer and approval from the BDSWD. Albright plans to contact BDSWD to find out if they approved a permit for the part of the project within the BDSWD.

**Raymond Reading Subdivision.** Albright is working with Raymond Reading regarding a proposed 80-lot subdivision development in Sections 8 and 17, Hawley Township, Clay County. The Board had concerns about the location of the proposed subdivision, as it is in a low, wet area with abandoned gravel pits. Reading still needs to work with the Clay County Planning and Zoning, the MPCA, and other agencies. Albright noted that the BRRWD doesn't have permitting authority over subdivisions, except for drainage issues, including roads/culverts.

**Project No. 77, Clay C.D. No. 51-Lateral No. 3.** Jones reported that Roger Minch hired HEI at his own expense to provide a plan to restore the natural drainage on the property in Section 28, Kragnes Township, Clay County, which his family recently purchased from Robert Norby. Minch will submit a permit application for this proposed work in the near future. The drainage plan includes removing the dikes and restoring the natural drainage to the northeast via two natural field "swales".

The Minch Family dropped their Federal lawsuit against the BRRWD, and now the only litigation left is between the BRRWD and Robert Norby. Albright explained that there is a \$9,937.57 deficit in the project financial account. Since the BRRWD made an Order to move forward with Project No. 77 and adopted the Viewers' Report at their 09/14/15 meeting, the outstanding costs are now project costs, and can no longer be billed to the petitioner. Albright will discuss the cost issue and the question of how to dismiss the project with BRRWD Attorney Tami Norgard, Vogel Law Firm.

**Project No. 49, Oakport Flood Mitigation.** Manager Van Amburg and Albright met with Van Raden a few weeks ago regarding his temporary easement. Van Raden indicated that when Albright completes the revisions, his bank will sign off on it.

The recent rainy weather has slowed Phase 4 construction. Jones reported that the contractor opened Wall Street so traffic can now use the bridge again. The Board discussed the Fischer temporary easement negotiations. Van Amburg visited with Elaine Gess, one of the Fischer family members.

The Board had an extended discussion regarding concerns from Rozanne and Kelly Larson, who represent, a project landowner, Rose Kopperud, regarding the Phase 4 project construction. Century Link is moving their telephone cable located on the west side of Broadway ST NW. Larson contacted Century Link with allegations that they were trespassing on her property, and they subsequently stopped work. The Kopperud property is on the east side of the road and is actually not affected by the cable relocation. At their 06/27/16 meeting, the Board authorized Attorney Norgard to send Larson a letter to notify her that her harassment of

the contractors and false allegations could delay project construction, which could expose her to potential financial liability if the contractor doesn't meet his project completion deadline. The Larsons are now threatening a lawsuit for damages and other easement issues. Century Link is concerned that they might need additional easement documentation from the owners of the property on the west side of Broadway ST NE, Karl and Julie Goehring and the BRRWD (permanent easement acreage), before they will continue the cable relocation. The Board is concerned that these legal issues could delay the project construction and add to the overall project costs in the event the contractor decides to move on to another project.

The BRRWD needs to enter into a new contract with Excel Energy to provide electric service to the Phase 4 stormwater pond. **Motion** by Hanson to approve the contract. **Seconded** by Affield. **Approved**. The Board briefly discussed future ownership of the project once it's completed.

**Project No. 48, Clay C.D. No. 59.** Jones reported that the contractor is nearly finished with the repairs/culvert installations. HEI will submit a final pay request for the contractor, Tim Crompton, at the next meeting.

**Project No. 39, Georgetown Levee.** Adam Grothmann, Northern States Excavating, has completed the remaining cleanup items and the baseball diamond grading/seeding and submitted a billing. Wade S. Opsahl, Technician, HEI, is working with the City Council and area residents (Cody Wambach) on project weed control/mowing. HEI will look at preparing an Operation and Maintenance (O&M) agreement with Wambach regarding the project haying. The final project costs will be determined once the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) determines what they will pay for the 2011 flood damages. The Board briefly discussed the Greywind condemnation, which is currently on hold until Greywind can address some financial encumbrances.

**Project No. 30, Clay/Wilkin Judicial Ditch (J.D.) No. 1.** In accordance with Minnesota Statutes Annotated (M.S.A.) 103E.238, Albright forwarded the petition for a diversion on the county line to BRRWD Attorney Tami Norgard, Vogel Law Firm, for her review a month ago. We are still waiting for her response.

**Project No. 14, Clay C.D. No. 10.** Jones reported that the contractor, R.J. Zavoral and Sons, Inc. plans to start the slump repairs in the next few weeks.

**Mediation Project Team (PT).** The next PT meeting will be held on Thursday, August 18, 2016, in the Barnesville office at 7:00 PM. The Fall Tour has been tentatively scheduled for Thursday, September 8, 2016.

**Upper South Branch of the Buffalo River.** Albright and Jones will prepare a mailing list of all the agencies with easements/interests in the proposed project area and the Townships to schedule a meeting to discuss the Phase 1A project concept, which is a restoration project in the upstream reaches of the South Branch of the Buffalo River east of T.H. No. 9. They also met with Wilkin County last week to discuss a possible BWSR Accelerated Project grant application for this area.

**Barnesville Township Area Retention.** Manager Anderson noted that one of the pipeline companies is apparently lowering their facilities from County State Aid Highway (CSAH) No. 2 to the south across the west side of the Grommesh property.

**Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Work Group (RRBFDRWG).** Jones reported that at the last RRBFDRWG meeting, the group decided to prorate billings over \$15,000 for each entity, to divide up their remaining funds. The BRRWD submitted bills totaling approximately \$23,000.

**Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB).** Albright mentioned that the BDSWD would like to meet with the BRRWD regarding their concerns.

**BRRWD Advisory Committee.** Van Amburg suggested we extend an invitation to Roger Haglund, who lives in Oakport Township, to join the Advisory Committee. Van Amburg will contact him in this regard. **Motion** by Anderson to extend an invitation to Roger Hagland to serve on our Advisory Committee. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved.**

**Watershed District Enlargement (WDE)/Revised Watershed Management Plan (RWMP).** Albright is working on his review of the draft RWMP. No BWSR grant funding will be available for projects in the new BRRWD area until the RWMP is completed. The Wilkin Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and the County are eligible to apply for grants in this new area.

**Elkton Township Wetland Restoration.** Albright reported that Chuck Anderson was in the office today to report that he finally settled his crop loss claim with Auto Owners Insurance Company. Anderson will also mow the restoration site when conditions allow. The wetland credit banking process is on hold until BWSR completes the easement language. We are currently on the third round of easement review and landowner signings because of BWSR staffing changes.

**Wolverton Creek/Comstock Coulee.** Using the overhead monitors, Jones shared some information about the implementation of wetland management districts (wmd) (M.S.A. 103D.729) that could be used to raise funds for the local grant match. He explained that land use is uniform throughout the watershed with 93% of land in the project area being used for agriculture, and the next largest use is developed open space (roads). The soil types range from heavy clay to lighter sand from the north to southeast. In regards to runoff potential, Jones explained that soil type is an important factor. If we used only runoff to determine wmd fees, the northern tier of the project area could be assessed at a higher rate: \$2.50 per acre compared to \$0.50 per acre in the south. Another factor he investigated was sediment contribution where he found a wide variation across the watershed with the same rate spread of \$0.50 per acre compared to \$2.50 per acre. Jones explained that the third option would be to combine runoff and sediment contribution with the rates based on 50% runoff and 50% erosion. The final option would be to simply charge the same rate per acre of property within the watershed.

Anderson asked if the fee could be based on land value. Jones explained that according the BWSR, the fee is not supposed to be based on land value, as that did not fit in with wmd philosophy. Albright noted that he plans to visit with Tera Guetter, Administrator, Pelican River Watershed District, who has implemented wmds for a couple of their projects.

Anderson asked about homestead rates versus cropland rates. Jones explained that if we use the combined runoff/erosion option, the fee would be based on what type of soils the farmstead was built on and the existing cover (pervious/impervious).

Albright explained that in our current Comprehensive Watershed Plan (2010), the wmd rates were set at \$0.50-\$1.00 per acre. In the new Revised Plan, he recommended that the Board consider raising the fee cap to about \$2.50 per acre to give us the ability to raise more revenue, if necessary, and to cover the cost of inflation. Jones pointed out that the process also includes a public hearing before the BRRWD can assess a wmd fee. The Board discussed the wmd process, which includes 8 steps: 1. Amend the Watershed District Plan to create a wmd; 2. Approval of Plan; 3. Watershed District refines fee computation; 4. Watershed District determines and sets charges for all properties within the wmd after identifying scope of project and deciding method(s) of funding project; 5. Watershed District develops collection mechanism, including working with County to collect, private vendor, or collection by Watershed District; 6. Watershed District

holds hearing, orders in project and initiates wmd charges; 7. Watershed District establishes a separate fund for wmd proceeds; 8. Resolution of disputes. Jones noted that the BRRWD is at about Step 3 in the process.

Albright pointed out that in the current Comprehensive Plan, the BRRWD proposed to assess the wmd fees according to each planning region. The Wolverton Creek project area is just part of the Western Planning Region, so the fee for the landowners not located within the actual project area would probably be set at zero. Jones noted that in the new Revised Plan, he added the provision that wmds can be established based on "planning region or within subwatersheds of the planning region." BWSR officials agreed that this was a reasonable revision. To match the current BWSR \$2.8 million Targeted Watershed grant, the local match would be 25%, or about \$700,000. Only non-state funds can be used for the local matching funds. The BRRWD has already raised funds (approximately \$25,000) for project development using our District-wide taxing authority in accordance with M.S.A. 103D.905, Subd. 3.

**Otter Tail River Restoration.** Albright and Jones met with Wilkin County regarding project funding. At this time, Wilkin County has four BWSR grants in effect, and they would like to get the work completed for the current funding before submitting more grant applications.

**Whiskey Creek Restoration.** Jones will prepare a survey update for Wilkin County, and we will submit a pay request to BWSR in the near future for reimbursement.

**Wilkin County Highway Department Ditch Repairs.** Albright reported that Wilkin County is working on repairs for C.D. No. 3-Lateral No. 2. When that work is finished, the County plans to move to C.D. No. 6A to do some work for the Ouse family. HEI will prepare plans and specifications to let bids for C.D. No. 7. An informational meeting will be scheduled with the C.D. No. 7 landowners in the near future. We then plan to open bids and start construction sometime after Labor Day. Jones reported that HEI did some survey work on C.D. No. 6A for the County. He said that the repair plans for C.D. No. 7 are nearly finished, and he will present the plans with a report to the Board at their 07/25/16 meeting. The Board will address the easement acquisition issues at that meeting. Jones noted that the County plans to do some outlet repair work on C.D. No. 4 this fall, and they have asked HEI to prepare the repair plans. Jones explained that HEI is doing some additional survey work on this system to add to the County's information.

**Clay C.D. No. 33.** Charles Skatvold contacted the office regarding his 2016 assessment. Albright prepared a packet of informational materials regarding his concerns, which he picked up last week. Albright observed that C.D. No. 33 has a number of slides that are going to be expensive to repair, which could significantly increase the ditch assessments for a few years.

**Minnesota Water Resources Conference.** The University of Minnesota is sponsoring a water resources conference at the St. Paul RiverCentre on October 18-19, 2016. The conference will offer water resource engineering solutions, management techniques, and current research about the State's water resources. Van Amburg plans to attend, as a RRBFDWG or BWSR Board member.

**Project No. 16, Stinking Lake Detention.** Jason Mikkelsen contacted the office recently with a request to repair a cattle crossing with culverts on Hay Creek that the BRRWD installed for Mikkelsen's father, Mike, around 1995, as a project expense. The old crossing consisted of two 24" dia. pipes that washed out over the years. Opsahl met with Mikkelsen, and Jones prepared a recommendation to restore the crossing with two lines of 73" x 55" corrugated metal pipe (CMP) with an estimated cost of \$10,000-\$15,000. He noted that the new larger culverts will be of benefit to the project because they will provide increased capacity (160 cubic feet per second (cfs)) to allow for quicker reservoir drawdown. The old structures were inadequate for the operation of the upstream impoundment. The increased sizing is in line with the other structure updates we have completed in the last 10 years downstream of Stinking Lake. Albright will send the

recommendations to Mikkelsen for review and will inquire if he would be willing to make a contribution to the crossing costs.

**Wilkin County Ditch Buffer Strips and Inlet Installations.** HEI has developed a plan to reduce sediment runoff into Wilkin C.D. Nos. 13, 13-Lateral, 40, 41, 42, 43, and 44 by installing side inlets and grassed bufferstrips. These erosion control practices will ultimately reduce sediment contribution to the South Branch of the Buffalo River. Jones proposes to install 46 side inlets ranging from 18" to 30" dia. with steel flap gates at a probable cost of \$68,750. The proposal also includes 55.4 acres of one-rod (16.5') grassed bufferstrips. The cost of the seeding is estimated at \$60,900, and the easement acquisition costs will be based on the 2015 Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) rates, which could total approximately \$230,000. Viewers' Reports would need to be completed for the acquisition of the easements, followed by ditch system hearings. Once the hearings are completed, HEI would solicit bids for these projects. Jones explained that we currently have \$170,000 available in a 2013 Clean Water Fund (CWF) grant, which without an extension, will expire on 12/31/16. This funding could partially be used for the erosion control practices (inlet pipe/bufferstrips), but not the actual easement costs. HEI has prepared easement exhibits for all the ditches systems. Albright noted there are other conservation projects pending in Wilkin and West Otter Tail Counties that would also qualify for the CWF grant. Albright asked if the costs for any of the Upper South Branch of the Buffalo River Phase 1A project study or analysis work might qualify for funding under this CWF grant. Jones will check with Pete Waller, BWSR, on that question. The group briefly discussed what work could potentially be needed for each of the ditch systems. Albright explained that the proposed conservation work for these ditches could be implemented in the event we have money left over in the CWF grant after other conservation projects have been completed.

**Groundwater Workshops.** The DNR and the Minnesota Association of SWCD (MASWCD) are sponsoring a series of free workshops for SWCD staff, titled "Groundwater: Managing an Invisible Resource". The workshop in our area will be held in the Thief River Falls at the DNR/Pennington County Joint Operations Facility on August 4, 2016, from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. There is also a 2-hour session, titled "Understanding Groundwater: An Invisible, Critical Resource", to be held from 4:00-6:00 PM, targeted to County Commissioners, City Council member, SWCD Supervisors, Rural Water Associations, and Watershed District Managers.

**Army Corps of Engineers (COE) FM Diversion.** Albright printed a copy of the DNR's Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Record of Decision for the Board's review.

**River Watch Newsletter.** Albright provided copies of the River Rendezvous newsletter from River Watch/International Water Institute (IWI) for the Board's review.

**BRRWD Data Backup.** Albright noted that Administrative Assistant Julie Jerger provided him with a brief report about the office backup protocols. HEI hosts and backs up the BRRWD email data every night on their server. The BRRWD onsite server is backed up to an external device every night, and Jerger backs up that data every day to another external USB device that is stored in a safe in the office garage. The BRRWD permit suite data is backed up nightly by HEI at the Maple Grove office to a cloud server. The BRRWD server is not backed up by HEI, as we previously thought. The Board might want to consider working with HEI to host their server in the future.

Kent Bergeron, NetWork Communications Center (NCC), is working on quotes to upgrade the BRRWD's Audio-Visual (AV) system. The upgrade would include the following: video camera replacement with an optional master power switch and AV input capability to the Boardroom desk. We expect to receive his estimate for the Board's review in the near future.

**MASWCD Workshops.** MASWCD, the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD), and the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) are conducting regional buffer workshops in August. The roundtable workshops will provide the latest buffer information, including buffer law amendments, processes, timelines, DNR buffer mapping projects, etc. The workshop in our area will be held in Detroit Lakes on August 4, 2016, with registration from 12:30-1:00 PM, workshop from 1:00-4:00 PM. Albright noted that the BRRWD has begun the process of buffering our legal ditch systems.

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Red River Valley Agricultural Water Resources Forum.** There are two Forums scheduled in our area: the Ray Johnson farm near Glyndon on 07/14/16 from 8:00 AM-12:00 PM and the Chad and Troy Larson Farm near Rothsay on 07/15/16 from 8:00 AM-12:00 PM. Albright and Manager Van Amburg plan to attend the event at the Johnson farm. Managers Fjestad and Hanson plan to attend the Larson Forum.

**Todd Torkelson Erosion Concern.** Albright plans to meet with Torkelson regarding erosion concerns on his farmstead on the Buffalo River south of Hawley along T.H. No. 31.

**Data Practices.** Albright noted that a number of Watershed Districts are considering data practices policy amendments to address personal non-work related data privacy.

**Tansem Township Complaint.** Tansem Township contacted the office to report that someone is dumping trees and rocks in Whisky Creek, east of Barnesville. Albright will investigate.

**Project No. 38, Farmstead Ringdikes.** Albright commented that it appears the BRRWD won't have any ringdikes to construct this year. Kyle Schiefert decided not to invest any money in a ringdike for his property. Schiefert was satisfied with the dike design, but was concerned about the cost estimate (\$26,205). Schiefert's share of the project costs would be 25% or \$6,551. There are also two other sites for Doug Butenhoff and Robert Nord, which qualify for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding, and will be handled by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Nord missed the 2016 funding deadline, but the NRCS could have funding for his dike in 2017.

**BRRWD Goals.** Albright distributed an updated copy of the 2016 BRRWD goals for the Board's review. The highest priority currently would be to complete review of the draft RWMP. Albright discussed some changes he made to the 2016 list.

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

Accounts Payable	Description	Account	Amount
Ackerman Land Surveying, Inc.	Survey, research, easements	Wilkin C.D. No. 23	\$ 19,546.00
AmeriPride	June office rugs (2)	Admin.	\$ 64.14
Breanna L. Kobiela	#16-19, 05/01/16-06/30/16	Admin.	\$ 207.79
Bruce E. Albright	The Framer, BRRWD/State map	Admin.	\$ 44.61
Catherine L. Affield	#16-15, 05/01/16-06/30/16	Varies	\$ 376.41
Dacotah Paper Co.	#67072, paper towels	Admin.	\$ 26.28
Finish Grade Construction	Beaver dam removal	Varies	\$ 1,985.00
Fuchs Sanitation	June garbage billing	Admin.	\$ 42.12
Gerald L. Van Amburg	#16-21, 05/01/16-06/30/16	Varies	\$ 2,182.73
HEI	June Billing summary	Varies-see attached	\$ 253,613.98
I.S.D. #146	#2385 2015/2016 River Watch	M.S.A. 103D. 905, Sub 3	\$ 835.83
John E. Hanson	#16-18, 05/01/16-06/30/16	Varies	\$ 1,595.87

Liberty Business Systems	#247237, 03/22-06/21/16 overage	Admin.	\$ 142.43
Mark T. Anderson	#16-16, 05/01/16-06/30/16	Varies	\$ 427.31
Northern States Excavating	#859, dike cleanup/ball diamond	Pj. 39, Georgetown	\$ 1,530.00
Northern Technologies, LLC	#17967, 06/01/16-06/30/16	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 38,070.99
Peter V. Fjestad	#1617, 05/01/16-06/30/16	Varies	\$ 1,663.34
Premium Waters, Inc.	#366590-06-16, June service	Admin.	\$ 73.62
Purchase Power	07/01/16 billing, postage	Admin.	\$ 100.00
R. J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc.	Payment Request No. 4-Phase 4	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 656,044.35
Riley Bros. Construction, Inc.	Pay Request No. 3-Final	Clay C.D. No. 11	\$ 12,808.42
RMB Laboratories, Inc.	#318024, WQ testing/analysis	Buffalo River TMDL	\$ 711.00
RMB Laboratories, Inc.	#318454, WQ Testing/Analysis	Buffalo River TMDL	\$ 316.00
RMB Laboratories, Inc.	#319211, WQ testing/analysis	Buffalo River TMDL	\$ 316.00
RMB Laboratories, Inc.	#319443, WQ testing/analysis	Buffalo River TMDL	\$ 477.00
RMB Laboratories, Inc.	#319537, WQ testing/analysis	Buffalo River TMDL	\$ 104.00
Roger Lundberg	07/05/16 beaver control billing	Varies	\$ 5,106.38
RRVCPA	06/01/16-07/01/16 service (3)	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 248.35
United States Treasury	2nd Qtr. Form 941 taxes	Admin.	\$ 929.48
Vogel Law Firm	#178107, May billing	Admin.	\$ 144.50
Vogel Law Firm	#178108, May billing	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 621.00
Vogel Law Firm	#178109, May billing	COE Diversion	\$ 3,868.70
Wm. Nichol Excavating, Inc.	#199, ditch repairs	Pj. 47, Clay C.D. No. 53	\$ 14,175.00
WREC	05/17/16-06/18/16 service (2)	Pj. 46, Turtle Lake	\$ 67.56
Xcel Energy	05/25/16-06/25/16 service (1)	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 76.11
			<b>\$ 1,018,542.30</b>

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

**Next Meeting.** The BRRWD will hold their next regular meeting on Monday, July 25, 2016, at 7:00 PM in our Barnesville office. Albright noted that he will not attend the upcoming meeting, but Wade Opsahl, HEI, will fill in for him.

**Adjournment.** **Motion** by Anderson to adjourn the meeting. **Seconded** by Affield. **Approved.** Chairman Van Amburg adjourned the meeting at 10:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Hanson, Secretary