

BUFFALO-RED RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

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MINUTES FOR MANAGERS' MEETING May 9, 2016

The Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), held their regular meeting on Monday, May 9, 2016, at 7:00 PM in the Barnesville office. BRRWD Managers present were Gerald L. Van Amburg, John E. Hanson, Mark T. Anderson, and Peter V. Fjestad. BRRWD Staff attending included: Bruce E. Albright, Administrator, and Erik S. Jones, Engineer, Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI). Others attending included landowners: Kevin Olsgaard, Nick Olsgaard, Jay Nord, and Don Nelson.

Chairman Van Amburg called the meeting to order at 7:04 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 04/25/16 and the 09/14/09 regular meetings. **Motion** by Anderson to approve the minutes. **Seconded** by Hanson. **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 \$94,015.56. Administrative disbursements for the year total \$120,717.10. Current accounts receivable for 2016 totals \$9,259,209.39. Our income to date is \$641,163.35. Income this month totaled \$3,457.56 from Otter Tail County for delinquent 2015 property (\$29.16) and ditch (\$80.44) tax collections, Vogel Law Firm for Project No. 77, Clay County Ditch (C.D.) No. 51-Lateral No. 3 (\$506) and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for the Upper Red River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Study (\$2,572.75), plus interest received from the bank accounts (\$44.21) and HEI office rent (\$225). Albright noted that we will start receiving the 2016 county tax proceeds in the next few weeks. Until then, he and Treasurer Anderson will work with Midwest Bank to access our operating loan line of credit to cover tonight's bills. The office sent a pay request last week to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for Project No. 49, Oakport Flood Mitigation expenses (\$128,477.43). Albright intends to send another pay request this week to the DNR for tonight's Oakport billing (\$362,568.41). **Motion** by Hanson to approve the Treasurer's Report. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved.**

Other Business brought before the Board included:

Permit No. 16-039, Clay County Highway Department. Applicant proposes to replace an existing bridge over Clay C.D. No. 68 on Clay County Road (C.R.) No. 117 (Parke AVE S) in the SW¹/₄, Section 11, Glyndon Township, within the City of Glyndon. The replacement structure will be two lines of 10' x 4' reinforced concrete box culvert (RCB). The work will include minor grading, riprap installation, and seeding. Jones recommended permit approval.

Permit No. 16-040, Wilkin County Highway Department. Applicant proposes to replace culverts and clean existing ditches along County State Aid Highways (CSAH) Nos. 19 and 23 in and around the City of Foxhome in Sections 2 and 3, Foxhome Township, plus bituminous mill and patching in various locations. Using the overhead monitor, Jones described the County's culvert replacements and sizing changes. Along CSAH No. 19 between Broadway AVE and Park AVE, the County plans to raise the dike to elevation 1031.00 and increase the 18" dia. x 50' pipe in the berm to a 36" dia. x 50' corrugated metal pipe (CMP).

The drainage along CSAH No. 19 flows to Wilkin C.D. No. 4 to which it is assessed. Jones thought that the changes would improve drainage for the City of Foxhome and recommended permit approval.

Motion by Fjestad to approve Permit Nos. 16-039 and 16-040. 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). **Secoded** by Anderson. **Approved.**

Duane Boeder Complaint. Albright has not had time to respond to the Boeder family with a final solution to their concerns about Frank Schindler's removal of a dry approach on their property.

Clay/Wilkin County Line Drainage Concerns. Kevin and Nick Olsgaard questioned the status of a petition for a legal ditch system on the south side of the county line in Wolverton Township west of Trunk Highway (T.H.) No. 75. Albright has visited with Matt Ness and Mark Askegaard, who are interested in circulating a petition. The Quinnild property in the N½, Section 6, Wolverton Township, has eight separate owners, which might pose problems meeting the petition requirements for obtaining signatures from the owners of the land the proposed ditch will pass over. Once Albright gets the petition drafted, he will meet with the interested landowners to discuss the petition process. The group discussed the project benefits and the potential obstacles to obtaining the required signatures.

Wilkin C.D. No. 42 Outlet Concerns. Albright noted that Ron Erdman has repeatedly contacted the office regarding the blocked outlet on property he rents from the Fankhanel family in the NE¼, Section 22, Atherton Township, Wilkin County. Erdman reported that Ivan Nelson still hasn't done any work to restore the drainage he blocked in 2014. Nelson could either install a shallow ditch to drain Fankhanel's field to Deerhorn Creek, or install tile line to tie into a main on Nelson's property, which also takes the water to Deerhorn Creek. Another possibility would be to install a larger separate tile line to drain to the Creek. Nelson's 4" dia. tile might not be large enough to handle the amount of water coming off Fankhanel's property. The Board directed Albright to invite the affected parties to a future meeting to find a solution to this ongoing issue.

Project No. 77, Clay C.D. No. 51-Lateral No. 3. Albright reported that the Minch Family Partnership is currently working with landowner Robert Norby to purchase the 67 acres in Section 28, Kragnes Township, Clay County, where the proposed lateral would be constructed. Minch has indicated that if the purchase goes through, he would drop his federal law suit against the BRRWD and move forward with the project. Once Minch owns the Norby property, there could be alternative drainage plans he could implement by BRRWD permit that would be less expensive than Project No. 77. The Norby project appeal would be dismissed, but the lawsuit against the BRRWD is still active. Recently Norby's Attorney, Zenas Baer, offered to drop the lawsuit if the Managers were willing to pay Norby \$50,000. The Board decided to defer to our insurance company regarding any possible payments to Norby in an effort to settle the lawsuit. Jones' deposition is tentatively scheduled for sometime in July. The project is on hold until these issues are resolved.

Project No. 56, Manston Slough Restoration. With the recent rains, Wade Opsahl, Technician, HEI, took photographs of the site in operation. Van Amburg asked if the DNR has done any controlled burning on their property to address the tree growth. Albright observed that the recent high winds probably curtailed any plans for burning. The group discussed area road conditions. Opsahl plans to meet with the Townships/County to review their concerns about this issue.

Project No. 49, Oakport Flood Mitigation. The Board discussed the Howard Fees house, which needs to be either moved or demolished to make way for the Phase 4 construction. Andy Noah acquired the property several years ago and had until May 1, 2016, to decide what to do with it. Noah has decided to move the house, and the BRRWD is working with him while he prepares a new location for the house.

According to the contractor's timeline, the house needs to be moved by Memorial Day weekend. The BRRWD will still need to have the basement demolished and filled in.

Albright reported that last week, he had a phone call from the Fischer Family regarding their temporary storage easement. Earlier this year, BRRWD Attorney Tami Norgard, Vogel Law Firm, suggested that the Board put the easement negotiations on hold until the project is completed this fall, and then work with the Fischers on a final settlement once the site restored. At the 02/08/16 BRRWD meeting, the Board approved a motion to make a final offer of \$24,153.27 to the Fischer Family for their easement in an attempt to settle this issue, but the Fischers countered with \$35,000. The group discussed the easement negotiations with the Fischers over the past four years. Manager Fjestad pointed out that we offered the Fischers much more for their easement than the other landowner whose land was also used for a temporary fill storage site. Albright noted that when the project was designed, the area retention pond was sized to allow the Fischers the option to develop their land for a housing subdivision. Jones added that their initial easement agreement for the project included hookups for sanitary sewer and water services on their property, and the BRRWD also bought land from the Fischers for the project. After discussion, the Board agreed not to change their final offer. Albright will contact the Fischers to relay the Board's decision. The Board will also discuss this issue further with Attorney Norgard.

Jones noted Mike Staber has been hired to mow the dike this summer. Albright received a letter and photograph from a local homeowner regarding someone driving on the dike to dump grass clippings in the channel in the Crystal Creek/McCann's Addition area. Opsahl will investigate.

Ulteig Engineers, Inc. (UEI) submitted Pay Request No. 2 to R. J. Zavoral and Sons, Inc. for \$361,356.60 and Change Order No. 1 to add \$57,487.00 to the contract, which includes some requested changes from the City of Moorhead for additional traffic control, water, and sanitary sewer services that will be installed now while the roads are still open. **Motion** by Anderson to approve Pay Request No. 2 and Change Order No. 1. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved.**

Project No. 39, Georgetown Levee. Opsahl is working with the DNR to officially close out the grant. The easement obligation form still needs to be submitted. Jones sent the Letter of Map Revision (LOMAR) information for the Josh Wambach property to Tim Magnusson, Clay County Planning and Zoning, who informed Jones that the City of Georgetown administers its own floodplain. Jones will send the documents to the City for their signature on the Community Acknowledgment form. Opsahl is working with the City regarding the local share of the project costs.

Project No. 34, Clay C.D. No. 41. American Crystal Sugar Company (ACSC) has decided to just monitor the site this year and not proceed with the slide repair work in the factory yard.

Albright mentioned that he recently learned that the Oakport Township Hall including two parcels of land is for sale. Opsahl visited with Township Supervisor Tim Brendemuhl regarding a possible BRRWD purchase of this parcel as a buffer for the C.D. No. 41 outlet. There are 4.6 acres with a total value of \$112,800. Albright noted that there are few slide/slumping sites in this stretch of the ditch alignment, and it would be best if the site weren't developed. Albright will contact Brendemuhl to discuss a possible offer for the parcels.

Project No. 30, Clay/Wilkin Judicial Ditch No. 1 (J.D. 1). Albright completed a review of the petition for an outlet diversion to take water out of J.D. No. 1 to flow west along the south side of the County line to Wolverton Creek. He marked up a J.D. No. 1 benefit map showing the area that currently floods and then highlighted the land that the petitioners own and forwarded it to HEI. Once HEI prepares the benefit map, Albright will pass on the petition to Attorney Norgard for her review. If Norgard determines that the petition is valid, the Board could authorize Jones to prepare the Preliminary Engineer's Survey Report.

Jay Nord asked if the Board will authorize a determination of benefits for the project. Albright said that Viewers will need to determine who benefits from this project. The group briefly discussed the project design, which would include some type of spillway to take high flows west to Wolverton Creek.

Project No. 14, Clay C.D. No. 10. Ronnie Tang contacted Albright to report that the DNR has acquired some land on the upper end of the ditch system in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 23, Flowing Township, Clay County. They removed an existing dam/berm in the northwest corner of their property and partially filled in a ditch without a BRRWD permit. The berm directed water coming from the east to the north in a ditch on the quarter line to C.D. No. 10. With the dike gone and the ditch partially filled, part of Tang's property (SW $\frac{1}{4}$) flooded this spring. Albright contacted Don Schultz, Area Wildlife Manager, DNR, regarding this issue. The referenced quarter is part of the DNR's Flowing Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Schultz was not aware that the dike had been removed. Albright and Tang will meet with Schultz to conduct a field review this week. The Board reviewed aerial photos of the parcel and agreed that the DNR will need to restore the dike and ditch as soon as possible.

Project No. 54, Whisky Creek Tributaries. Albright reported that in order to address a seepage problem on the Nichols Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) site three years ago, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) supposedly took the boards out of the stoplog structure to drop the water level at the site. This spring, Brian Durenky's field west of this area was wet and overrun by waterfowl. Durenky called today to complain about the water problem. NRCS personnel were onsite Thursday morning and reported to Albright that the logs were in the control structure and should be removed. Opsahl drove out to the site that afternoon and removed them. Plans are to remove the stoplogs permanently to lower the water and operate the site for retention only and to fix the embankment. The BRRWD will assume the maintenance as part of our Whisky Creek Tributaries project. Albright explained that we are still waiting for NRCS funding to repair the embankment where muskrats burrowed holes, which caused the seepage. Jones will follow up with Dave Jones, NRCS, to find out the status of their funding to complete the repairs. Fjestad questioned if the BRRWD should make an effort to encourage NRCS to maintain their site so that it doesn't affect adjacent farmland.

Jay Nord discussed the seepage problems he's experiencing on his property that is located adjacent to the Peterson WRP site near Wolverton in the W $\frac{1}{2}$, Section 28, Wolverton Township. The group discussed possible design changes that might alleviate the downstream seepage issues, including a tiled spillway or a Clemson leveler.

Project No. 7, Clay C.D. No. 39. Landowner Gerald Zimmerman contacted Jones regarding repairs for a 100' long slide on C.D. No. 39 along of his field in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 31, Morken Township. Zimmerman has a plan to reinforce the ditch bank with power poles at his own expense. A supply line for Zimmerman's sub-irrigation line broke and leaked water underground in the area where the slide developed. NRCS is also investigating the channel condition, and they have taken borings. Dave Jones, NRCS, plans to meet with the Clay NRCS engineer regarding this issue. Jones has not heard what their decision was regarding possible repairs. The Board discussed concerns about allowing Zimmerman to work on the ditch slope. They decided to allow NRCS to complete their study, which the BRRWD wants to review, before giving Zimmerman permission to go forward with his repair plan.

Clay C.D. No. 59 Repair. HEI opened bids today for the installation of 38 inlet culverts on the east end of C.D. No. 59. When the ditch was improved in 2003, landowners were concerned about the project costs, and so most of the field inlets were not installed to save money. Since then, it became apparent to the landowners that the inlet culverts were needed to reduce sediment entering the drainage system and to prevent water from backing up in their field inlets, causing flooding. The BRRWD has not been successful in procuring Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) funding to install the inlets. The work will be completed as a project expense this summer.

The following bids were received for the proposed C.D. No. 59 inlet installations:

CONTRACTOR	TOTAL BID
Tim Crompton Excavating, Inc. Pelican Rapids, MN	\$62,210.52
Northern States Excavating, Inc. Fargo, ND	\$76,267.38
Finish Grade Construction, LLC Moorhead, MN	\$83,257.42
Jed Bommersbach Hankinson, ND	\$89,278.00
Steven Johnson Excavating, Inc. Ottertail, MN	\$89,679.00

After tabulation, Jones determined that Tim Crompton Excavating, Inc. was the low bidder. Jones prepared the notice of award for the Board's approval and signature. **Motion** by Anderson to award the contract to Tim Crompton Excavating, Inc. for his bid of \$62,210.52 and authorize Van Amburg to sign the award notice on behalf of the Board. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved**.

Mediation Project Team (PT). The next PT meeting will be held on Thursday, June 16, 2016, in the Barnesville office at 7:00 PM.

Upper South Branch of the Buffalo River. The BRRWD authorized HEI to develop a restoration site plan in the upstream reaches of the South Branch of the Buffalo River east of T.H. No. 9.

Barnesville Township Area Retention. Albright will prepare information regarding easement values for the Board's review.

Stony Creek Off-Channel Storage Site. Jones reported on the meeting he had with the DNR Dam Safety staff regarding the dam classification. The DNR would like to review more modeling data before they sign off on the dam. Jones noted that they were satisfied with the proposed downstream farmstead ringdikes. They also had concerns about the effects of a dam breach on the proposed diking along the west side of Interstate-94 (I-94). Jones explained the various dam breach scenarios he has modeled for on each side of the project. Jones felt that with a few minor adjustments, the DNR will reconsider their dam classification.

Watershed District Enlargement (WDE)/Revised Watershed Management Plan (RWMP). Albright and Jones are working on a few final sections of the RWMP. They plan to have the final draft RWMP ready for the Board's review at an upcoming meeting.

Albright reported that there was a border issue in Section 9, Western Township, Otter Tail County, where a Wilkin County gravel pit is split between the BRRWD and the Bois de Sioux Watershed District (BDSWD). Albright pointed out that the pit is tax exempt anyway, so it really didn't matter where the pit was located. The majority of the parcel is in the BDSWD, so everyone agreed to leave the parcel in the BDSWD without splitting it.

Buffalo River/Upper Red River TMDL Studies. Tim James, MPCA, is now in charge of the Upper Red River TMDL Study, and Mark Deutschman, HEI, indicated to Albright that he doesn't think the study will be completed by the target date of 06/30/16. The Buffalo River TMDL Study should be on schedule to be completed by the same target date. The Board discussed MPCA's lack of movement regarding the completion of these studies. In 2008, the BRRWD was a pilot watershed for the Buffalo River TMDL, and we expected to be one of the first to complete our TMDL and be eligible for grant funding. Currently, most of the watersheds have completed their TMDL studies, but our TMDL is still not finished after 8 years.

The BRRWD is missing out on some grant opportunities because we don't have a TMDL in place. Van Amburg felt we may have to visit with the State MPCA office regarding the lack of local progress/interest.

Elkton Township Wetland Restoration. Albright reported that we are still waiting for Kristie Mack, BWSR, to forward the easement documents to the BRRWD for landowner signatures.

Chuck Anderson told Albright that he expects to be able to negotiate a settlement regarding his crop loss claim with the contractor's insurance company, Auto Owners Insurance, in the near future. Anderson also discussed a proposal from a local landowner to graze cattle on the Elkton WRP site. The landowner plans to work with the NRCS to develop a grazing plan for the site, which will be subject to the Board's approval after their review. Albright observed that the proposal could save the BRRWD the cost of mowing and weed control.

Army Corps of Engineers (COE) Fargo-Moorhead (FM) Diversion. Albright forwarded information about the Diversion project and timeline to the Managers regarding his meeting with Eric Dodds, AE2S on 05/04/16. Two 6-Entities meetings have been scheduled for May 10 (5:30 PM) and May 12 (2:00 PM) in the Fargo City Commission Chambers to review the current draft of the revised Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). The Board has scheduled a special meeting to review the revised JPA with BRRWD Attorney Norgard tomorrow at 3:30 PM at the Vogel Law Firm Fargo office prior to the 5:30 PM 6-Entity meeting. The COE is anxious to acquire right-of-entry (ROE) for the Minnesota properties in the staging area to complete their surveys. They have indicated that they would be satisfied if they could get access by the end of the year. The Southeast Cass Water Resource District (SCWRD) has been handling this issue for the COE in North Dakota. Albright noted that the SCWRD has already had to use court action to access some properties under their jurisdiction. Clay County and the City of Moorhead has invited the BRRWD to a meeting they have scheduled for June 2, 2016, at 1:00 PM in the Moorhead City Council Chambers.

The DNR plans to release their final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on May 16, 2016. The Board has until their June 13, 2016, meeting to make a decision about signing the new JPA. Anderson asked about how the easement values would be calculated. Albright said the easements and buyouts would be based on appraisals. Anderson was concerned about appraisals based on current values versus replacement value. Albright noted that Dodds had indicated that no Diversion work is expected to take place on the Minnesota side of the Red River until at least 2019 and easements for the staging area won't need to be in place until 2022. The COE plans to start on the inlet structure in North Dakota this summer. Albright asked if Dodds had a map showing the dike alignment and which properties will need to be bought out in the staging area. Dodds explained that Version 8 of their hydraulic analysis should answer those questions, which is expected to be released later this summer/fall. Albright suggested that the DA needed to contact Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT) and the Burlington Northern/Sante Fe (BNSF) Railroad regarding the impact of the staging area on their facilities.

The Board had an extended discussion regarding the project timeline, the current proposed project design as it relates to the BRRWD, and the BRRWD's proposed responsibilities as defined in the new JPA. Albright observed that the Board will need to consider if it would be better to participate in the Diversion project development so that we have some influence on the direction it takes, or should the BRRWD step back and allow other entities to make decisions that will affect the landowners within the BRRWD. The Board also reviewed a response Attorney Norgard prepared to a letter we received from the Wilkin/Richland Joint Powers Board regarding the legality of the Board signing the JPA. They agreed to wait until tomorrow's meeting with Norgard before authorizing her to send it.

Bufferstrip Legislation. HEI has prepared county ditch buffer maps from the DNR online data of the BRRWD ditch systems. Albright and Jones will review the maps to check them for accuracy and prepare comments.

Wilkin C.D. No. 6A. Landowner John F. Beckman submitted a request to have his land in the NE¹/₄SW¹/₄, Section 9, Akron Township, and the SE¹/₄NE¹/₄, Section 21, Tanberg Township, Wilkin County, removed from the C.D. No. 6A benefit area. His land is native prairie with no manmade drainage improvements and claims that the parcels don't meet the definition of "benefitted" land in accordance with Minnesota Statutes Annotated (M.S.A.) 103E.315. Albright noted that The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the DNR own the rest of the property around where Beckman's land is located. Albright pointed out that the BRRWD could go through a redetermination of benefits proceeding to remove this property from the ditch system. Albright will research Beckman's request and the history of the drainage system.

Clay C.D. Nos. 10, 32, and 33. The Board discussed the proposed slope failure repairs for C.D. Nos. 10, 32, and 33. The Morken Township Supervisors decided they want to have the slope on C.D. No. 10 repaired along 130th AVE N in Section 13, Kragnes Township, and Section 16, Morken Township. The BRRWD plans to advertise for bids for this work and then review the results with the Township. Depending on the bid results for C.D. No. 10, we could consider completing the repairs for the other two ditches south of Moorhead. We plan to work with the Clay County Highway Department to discuss the repairs and develop a cost share formula for C.D. No. 32.

Wolverton Creek/Comstock Coulee. Jones is working on a funding application for the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) Conservation Partners Legacy Grants (CPLG) Program, which is due on May 25, 2016. BWSR will announce their funding selections for the Targeted Watershed Program on that same date.

Otter Tail River and Whiskey Creek Restoration. The BRRWD sent out reminder post cards to the affected landowners to return their "permission to survey" forms last week. Jones noted that the HEI survey crew was out to test their equipment on the Otter Tail River last week, and they started work on the Whiskey Creek survey. To date, there has been no further information from the COE regarding funding for the Section 1135 program on the Otter Tail River.

Clay C.D. No. 28. Landowner Melvin A. Richards submitted a petition to have his land in the SE¹/₄ (less tracts), Parcel I.D. No. 18017400, Section 17, Kragnes Township, removed from the C.D. No. 28 benefit area. This land drains south to a private ditch system and not into C.D. No. 28. Albright suggested that since the ditch system has a small benefit area with only a few affected landowners, a hearing could be held in conjunction with a regular Board meeting.

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) Summer Tour. MAWD has scheduled their 2016 Summer Tour for June 22-June 24, 2016 in Winona. The office has already made hotel and event reservations for Managers Hanson, Van Amburg, and Fjestad.

BRRWD Rules. The Managers have copies of the draft Rules. The Board might need to schedule a special meeting to complete their review. Once the Managers have approved a final draft, the office will distribute the Rules to BWSR and other governmental agencies for the mandatory 60-day review and comment period. The BRRWD must also hold a public hearing before adopting the new Rules.

Clay C.D. No. 3 Repair. HEI provided recommendations for repair of approximately 2,200' of C.D. No. 3, located in the NE¹/₄, Section 17, Spring Prairie Township. The work area is located immediately downstream of T.H. No. 9 to Jerry Wetterlin's driveway. Average sediment depths range from 0.5' to 1.5'. This ditch does not have the one-rod grassed buffer strips. Wade Opsahl, Technician, Houston Engineering, Inc. will work with the landowner to see if the ditch can be cleaned this summer or if it has to wait until later this fall when the crops are harvested. **Tabled.**

Wilkin C.D. No. 41 Repair. HEI provided repair recommendations to remove approximately 200' of sediment in C.D. No. 41 in Section 16, Atherton Township, to provide drainage for a tile project that Brian

Durensky installed last fall. **Motion** by Hanson to approve the referenced repair. **Seconded** by Anderson. **Approved.**

Wilkin C.D. Nos. 5A, 22, and 26, Outlet Grade Control Structures. Jones submitted Pay Request No. 2-Final and Change Order No. 1 totaling \$2,242.02 to HCI Commercial Landscape Contractors, Inc. for the bufferstrip seeding on the three referenced ditch systems. **Motion** by Anderson to approve Pay Request No. 2 and Change Order No. 1. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved.**

Otter Tail River Monitoring. The MPCA will be conducting biological monitoring work throughout the Otter Tail River watershed this summer. In addition to biological data, lake and stream water chemistry samples will be collected to determine if water bodies meet standards for public health, recreation, and aquatic life. Because of the pending MPCA work, the BRRWD was able to eliminate a couple of their 2016 sampling sites.

Water Quality Monitoring. The International Water Institute (IWI) forwarded a revised contract for 2016 sampling for 21 sites. **Motion** by Fjestad to approve the 2016 IWI water monitoring contract. **Seconded** by Hanson. **Approved.**

Clay C.D. No. 50. Albright discussed a request from Tom Trowbridge, Engineer, City of Moorhead, regarding a potential project for a Churches United for the Homeless facility on a vacant parcel along 34th ST N between K-Mart and C.D. No. 50. Churches United has two alternatives for placement of the sanitary sewer. The preferred option is on hold because the neighboring property with the sewer line outlet is in foreclosure with an auction planned in June. The second option is to install a lift station with a forcemain along the south side of C.D. No. 50 r-o-w and to pump the wastewater west to 30th ST. Albright is working with Attorney Norgard to determine if we have the right to grant another entity permission to use the C.D. No. 50 ditch r-o-w.

The following bills were presented for approval:

Accounts Payable	Description	Account	Amount
Ackerman Land Surveying, Inc.	#16023, R/W surveying	Wilkin C.D. No. 3	\$ 23,415.00
Allstate Excavating	#469122, seeding/leveling	Pj. 25, Wilkin C.D. No. 42	\$ 2,030.00
Allstate Excavating	#469121, 50% cleanout bills	Pj. 25, Wilkin C.D. No. 42	\$ 7,340.00
AmeriPride	April billing-rugs (2)	Admin.	\$ 53.44
Barnesville Phone Co.	04/25/16 billings	Admin.	\$ 290.41
Bruce E. Albright	MNDOT meeting dinner/Perkins	Admin.	\$ 37.00
Carmen Pattengale	April Cleaning (2)	Admin.	\$ 130.00
City of Barnesville	02/29/16-03/29/16 utilities	Admin.	\$ 509.33
Clay Co. Auditor/Treasurer	2016 Property tax	Clay Co. Buyouts	\$ 42.00
Clay Co. Auditor/Treasurer	2016 Property tax	Pj. 39, Georgetown	\$ 508.00
Clay Co. Auditor/Treasurer	2016 Property tax	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 1,642.38
Clay Co. Auditor/Treasurer	2016 Property tax	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 2,142.00
Dacotah Paper Co.	Nos. 391521/42281, paper	Admin.	\$ 391.54
Daily News/News Monitor	Landowner Forums notices (2)	Mediation PT	\$ 142.43
Fuchs Sanitation	April Garbage billing	Admin.	\$ 42.12
Gerald L. Van Amburg	#16-14, 03/01/16-04/30/16	Varies	\$ 1,792.84
HCI	Pay Request No. 2, R/W seeding	Wilkin 5A, 22, 26	\$ 2,242.02
HEI	April billing summary	Varies-see attached	\$ 181,024.76
JBX LLC	#531, Level spoil	Pj. 01, Wilkin 22	\$ 3,900.00
John E. Hanson	#16-11, 03/01/16-04/30/16	Varies	\$ 1,831.40
Julie Jerger	Office bell	Admin.	\$ 30.42
Kletsch Photography	Kobiela photograph	Admin.	\$ 76.95
Lawn & Driveway Service, Inc.	2016 Seeding	Wilkin C.D. No. 1C, 33, 34	\$ 41,526.00

Mark T. Anderson	#16-09, 03/01/16-04/30/16	Varies	\$ 999.49
MAWD	Summer Tour reservations (4)	Admin.	\$ 940.00
Peter V. Fjestad	#16-10, 03/01/16-04/30/16	Varies	\$ 1,431.98
Petty Cash	Postage, supplies, misc.	Admin.	\$ 200.00
Premium Waters, Inc.	#366590-04-16	Admin.	\$ 41.62
R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc.	Pay Request No. 2, Phase 4	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 361,356.60
RMB Laboratories, Inc.	#299942, WQ Analysis	Buffalo River TMDL	\$ 428.00
RMB Laboratories, Inc.	#300369, WQ Analysis	Buffalo River TMDL	\$ 474.00
RMB Laboratories, Inc.	#300181, WQ Analysis	Buffalo River TMDL	\$ 553.00
RMB Laboratories, Inc.	#300517, WQ Analysis	Buffalo River TMDL	\$ 474.00
Vogel Law Firm	#175136, April billing	Elkton Twp. Wetland	\$ 506.00
Wilkin Co. Hwy Dept.	Feb./March general billings	Varies	\$ 3,059.73
WREC	03/18/16-04/18/16 service (2)	Pj. 46, Turtle Lake	\$ 66.81
Xcel Energy	03/27/16-04/25/16 office	Admin.	\$ 67.32
Xcel Energy	03/28/16-04/26/16 service (1)	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 67.87
			\$ 641,806.46

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

Next Meeting. The BRRWD will hold their next regular meeting on Monday, May 23, 2016, at 7:00 PM in our Barnesville office.

Adjournment. Chairman Van Amburg adjourned the meeting at 10:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Hanson, Secretary