

BUFFALO-RED RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

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MINUTES FOR MANAGERS' MEETING December 12, 2016

The Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), held their regular meeting on Monday, December 12, 2016, at 7:00 PM in the Barnesville office. BRRWD Managers present were Gerald L. Van Amburg, John E. Hanson, Mark T. Anderson, Catherine L. Affield, Jay A. Leitch, Troy E. Larson, and Peter V. Fjestad. Others attending included: Bruce E. Albright, BRRWD Administrator, and Erik S. Jones, Engineer, Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI).

Chair Van Amburg called the meeting to order at 7:02 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 11/28/16 regular meeting. **Motion** by Affield to approve the minutes. **Seconded** by Leitch. **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 \$2,213,142.66. Administrative disbursements for the month are \$29,684.48 and for the year total \$361,804.91. Current 2016 accounts receivable totals \$3,539,220.23. Our total income for the year is \$10,232,147.34. Income since the 11/14/16 meeting was \$1,832,435.75, including county payments from Becker (\$75,998.700), Clay (\$368,574.67/property only), Otter Tail (\$19,445.15) and Wilkin (\$396,308.92) for their 2nd half property and ditch taxes; the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for Project No. 49, Oakport Flood Mitigation (\$411,900.21); the Clay County Highway Department for reimbursement per the BRRWD's construction contract for the County's Wall Street milling/overlay project (\$485,899.38); the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) 319 Grant for Otter Tail River Planning (\$54,972.05); bank account interest from Midwest and Wells Fargo Banks (\$280.54); and the monthly office rent reimbursement from HEI (\$225). **Motion** by Hanson to approve the Treasurer's Report. **Seconded** by Anderson. **Approved.**

Albright noted that he will be meeting on 12/20/16 at 9:30 AM with the Clay County Commissioners to present our 2017 Minnesota Statutes Annotated (M.S.A.) 103D.905, Subd. 3, taxation petitions. The BRRWD needs a resolution from a political subdivision for the BRRWD to use this tax levy. He explained that since Clay County has the largest tax base within the BRRWD, the Board usually goes to them for the petitions, but if necessary, we could ask any of the other Counties. Albright will provide the petition/resolution information to the Managers prior to the County meeting.

Later in the meeting, the Board talked about possible topics the Clay County Commissioners might bring up when we meet with them, including the BRRWD's membership in the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) and the BRRWD's decision to opt out of the Fargo-Moorhead Diversion Authority's (DA) Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). Regarding the RRWMB membership, Jones noted that the consensus coming out of the Flood Damage Reduction (FDR) landowner meetings held last spring was that the majority supported the BRRWD's use of M.S.A. 103D.905, Subd. 3, to raise funding for FDR projects instead relying on the RRWMB membership levy. The Managers spent some discussing possible RRWMB membership.

Other Business brought before the Board included:

Permit No. 16-021, KTM Farm. Applicant proposes to pattern tile the NE¼, Section 21, Alliance Township, Clay County, outletting via a lift station to the County Road (C.R.) No. 58 ditch. The project will need to drain along other properties before reaching the South Branch of the Buffalo River. The Board approved this permit on 03/28/16, subject to receipt of the downstream notification forms, which we provided to the applicant so that he could forward the document to the downstream landowners. To date, there has been no response from the neighboring landowners. **Tabled.**

Permit No. 16-052, Troy Goltz. Applicant proposes to install tiling on land he rents from Frank Farrar in the S½ and NW¼, Section 31, Prairie View Township, and the N½, Section 6, Tanberg Township, Wilkin County, outletting via a lift station in the northwest corner of the NW¼, Section 31, Prairie View Township, to Wilkin County Ditch (C.D.) No. 43 on the north side of C.R. No. 30. Currently, all of the noted property is assessed to drain south to C.D. No. 40. About 40 acres in the northwest corner of Section 31 drains naturally northwest to C.D. No. 43, but the remainder of the land drains west and south to C.D. No. 40. The Board approved the application, subject to petitions to add/remove lands in the referenced ditch system benefit areas, which Albright is preparing. Ditch system hearings will also be held. Permit approval noted that Goltz could proceed at his own risk, but to date, Goltz hasn't done much work on his project because of the wet conditions. **Tabled.**

Permit No. 16-098, Deal Brothers. Jones contacted the Wilkin County Highway Department regarding the applicant's proposal to fill in a natural waterway through the center of Section 10, Andrea Township, Wilkin County, and to install a ditch along the east (C.R. No. 19) and south lines of the NE¼, outletting to Wilkin C.D. No. 31, as assessed. Steve Nepl, Assistant Engineer, Wilkin County Highway Department, provided dimensions (5' shoulder with 4:1 sideslopes) for their future project to resurface C.R. No. 19 when they will expand the road shoulders to meet road standards. The Deals hired HEI to design a plan for their project that meets all the requirements, and Jones is currently working on this project. Thomas Deal was also interested in asking the County to do the actual construction. This project will not be constructed until 2017. **Tabled,** pending receipt of the HEI plans. Deal will also have to discuss the project with his neighbor to the south regarding the spoil bank/dike placement.

Permit No. 16-110, Chad Nelson. At their 10/24/16 meeting, the Board approved this permit to install one 12" dia. tile line from the south quarterline of Section 34 in the NW¼, Norwegian Grove Township, Otter Tail County, on Wayne Paulson's property, running north through the center of the quarter to a natural waterway, eventually outletting into the Trunk Highway (T.H.) No. 108 road ditch. The approval was subject to Manager field review regarding the adequacy of the T.H. No. 108 road ditch. Albright and Manager Fjestad plan to conduct a field review and visit with John Boen, who is the neighboring downstream landowner, regarding the proposed project and its effects on the private drainage system in this area. This project will not be constructed until 2017. **Tabled.**

Permit No. 16-122, Ted Peterson. Applicant proposes to replace the existing 24" dia. culvert under 240th ST in the SE¼, Section 7, Akron Township, Wilkin County, with the same size culvert and to lower it 6" to 8". Manager Larson reported that the downstream landowner (Henderson) is opposed to the proposal. The Board agreed that if Peterson is determined to complete this project, he will need to work with his neighbors on an agreement. **Tabled.** The office will notify Peterson regarding the Board's decision.

Permit No. 16-124, Spring Prairie Hutterian Brethren, Inc. Applicant proposes to clean their ditch dividing the SW¼, Section 13, Spring Prairie Township, Clay County, and to clean about 300' further into Section 14. The project will only affect applicant's property.

Motion by Anderson to approve Permit No. 16-124. If applicable, permit approval is subject to our 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 Larson. **Approved.**

Haugrud Drainage Complaint. Albright received the survey results that the Board authorized HEI to conduct at their 11/28/16 meeting. This work was in response to a drainage complaint filed by the Lindholm family regarding ditching activities completed by the Haugrud family in Section 23, Prairie View Township, Wilkin County, upstream of the Lindholm property. The Haugrud's contend that the downstream channel on the Lindholm property is blocking their drainage and needs to be cleaned. The survey shows that while there are a couple of spots downstream of the culverts in C.R. No. 19 where there is some sediment buildup, there is still enough elevation to provide drainage for the Haugruds' field. Using the overhead monitors, Jones explained the survey findings. There is about 350' of the channel downstream of the 48" dia. reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) under C.R. No. 19 on the Lindholm property where about 1.5' of sediment could be cleaned and another 500' stretch further downstream from a second culvert where about 2' of sediment could be removed. Manager Anderson conducted a field review after the 11/28/16 meeting and noted that water is currently draining in and out of the Lindholm property. Albright will forward the survey to the Lindholms and Haugruds. He noted that any work in this regard would be a 2017 project. Lindholms' renter, Lyle Hovland, has the equipment needed to complete the work next year if the landowners can come to an agreement.

Lake Fifteen Drainage Complaint. The Board discussed the issues Tom and Marita Palya, Lake Fifteen homeowners, are having with their neighbor, Bryan Brunette, regarding drainage for their new house driveway. Years ago, Brunette removed a culvert and filled in the township road ditch, which caused the water from the Palya property to flow across the Parke Township road (86th AVE S) into a different neighbor's yard. Tim Magnusson, Clay County Planning and Zoning, is also involved because the Palyas need a building permit for their new home. Albright recently met with Magnusson regarding this issue. He suggested the Palyas could bring their driveway in from the east off C.R. No. 37, but Palya noted that option would not stop runoff from going downhill to the neighboring landowner's yard. Parke Township will probably need to install a culvert in 86th AVE S next spring.

Al Korinek Tile Complaint. Albright visited with the new Bois de Sioux Watershed District (BdSWD) administrator, Michelle Swenson, regarding landowner Al Korinek's (Section 15, Breckenridge Township, Wilkin County) complaint about a tiling project that Hasbargen constructed in 2013 (BRRWD Permit No. 13-002) in Section 21, Sunnyside Township. Albright will forward a copy of our Rules and disclaimers to Matt Hasbargen and the Bois de Sioux Watershed District regarding this issue. The BRRWD permit disclaimer requires that landowners must not operate their tile systems during downstream flooding.

Robert Yaggie Tiling Complaint. Albright conducted a field review following the 11/28/16 Board meeting to investigate Lowell Picotte and Joe Wulfekuhle's complaint regarding a tiling project recently installed by Bob Yaggie in Section 28, Mitchell Township, Wilkin County. Albright explained that Yaggie filed Permit No. 12-165 to tile the 240 acres in Section 28 in December of 2012, which he did not install until this year. Ellingson Drainage designed the initial tiling plan with one lift station in the northwest corner of the property, outletting to the northwest, eventually to Wolverton Creek. The noted landowners would not have been affected by this proposed routing. However, Yaggie and his neighbors, Lorin and David Abel, agreed to move the lift station outlet to the southwest corner of their property so Abel also could tie into the main tile line along the south line of his property and share the lift station for his own future tiling project in the NW¹/₄, Section 28. The original outlet location did not have electrical service, but the new site does, which also influenced the outlet changes. Miles Tiling did the installation. Bruce Yaggie is working with the neighboring landowners to find a solution to their drainage concerns. Albright noted that he plans to contact David Abel about the outlet relocation, and he also needs to contact Wulfekuhle and Picotte to find out if they continue to be concerned about the project after visiting with Yaggie. There are a couple of culverts that could be lowered and road ditch cleaning that could be done to improve area drainage for all the properties along 180th AVE. **Tabled.**

Harlan Wentz Drainage Concern. Albright sent letters to Eugene Kaiser and John Steffl requesting that they file after-the-fact permit applications for their tile projects that outlet via existing ditches to a wetland

on Wentz's property in Section 3, Callaway Township, Becker County. The work was done without Wentz's permission or BRRWD permits. To date, there has been no response from either landowner.

Permit No. 16-125, Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT). Applicant proposes to mill and resurface 15.5 miles of T.H. No. 32 in Clay County from T.H. No. 34 in Tansem Township north through Parke Township, ending at T.H. No. 10 in Eglon Township. Albright suggested that Jones should review the proposed culvert changes before the Board approves the permit. **Tabled**, pending Jones review and recommendations.

Project No. 71, 50th AVE S Flood Control. The Board discussed the draft Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Agreement between the BRRWD and City of Moorhead for this project. Albright sent the O&M to the Board for their review after the last meeting, and they agreed that the document was acceptable. Albright will notify the City that the Board was satisfied with the draft, and the City will prepare a final formal agreement for the Board's signature.

Project No. 56, Manston Slough Restoration. Jones reported that Wade Opsahl, Technician, HEI, removed one of the stop logs in the project spillway earlier this week and plans to remove one more tomorrow. Albright noted that current conditions may be too wet for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to clear trees and restore wetlands on their easement within the project area.

Project No. 49, Oakport Flood Mitigation-Phase 4. Ulteig Engineering, Inc. (UEI) submitted Pay Request No. 9 in the amount of \$100,543.07 for R. J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc. **Motion** by Fjestad to approve the referenced pay request. **Seconded** by Affield. **Approved.**

The Pierce spoil pile lease will expire on 12/31/16, and Albright recommended that the Board renew it for another one-year period. Albright explained two options for dealing with the 21,000 cubic yards of material on the property: condense it so that Pierce would recover some of his land, or find someone interested in taking the material, thereby moving it only once.

Albright will try to contact Leonard Nelson, who is a representative of the Fischer Family, regarding their easement payment and the condition of the site now that the stockpile has been removed. He noted that the renter has prepped the land for spring planting and doesn't appear to have concerns about farming the site in 2017.

Project No. 30, Clay/Wilkin Judicial Ditch No. 1 (J.D. No. 1). Bryan Kritzberger was in the office today to discuss the status of the petition for landowners to divert high flows in J.D. No. 1 west to Wolverton Creek. Albright will assemble all of the notes prepared by BRRWD Attorney, Tami Norgard, Vogel Law Firm, and he will redraft the petition so the landowners can circulate it again for new signatures.

Project No. 14, Clay C.D. No. 10. Jones submitted the final pay request for R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc. to release the contract retainage in the amount of \$4,019.40. All the final cleanup work has been completed. **Motion** by Anderson to approve the referenced pay request. **Seconded** by Fjestad. **Approved.** The Board discussed repairs for other ditch systems in the BRRWD with similar slumping problems. The C.D. No. 10 repair design will be monitored to determine if the use of the cellular cement will prove reliable.

Flood Damage Reduction:

Mediation Project Team (PT). The next PT meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 15, 2016, in the Barnesville office at 1:30 PM. Meeting notices have been sent.

Upper South Branch of the Buffalo River. Albright noted that our Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Clean Water Fund (CWF) grant application for the channel restoration across the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) site in Section 11 and east of T.H. No. 9 was not approved. We still need to discuss the proposed Phase 1A drainage route alignment with the

Rogelstad family in Section 12, Manston Township, Wilkin County. The project design was revised to bypass The Nature Conservancy (TNC) property in Section 12. Albright discussed possible financing sources, including Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) funding through BWSR.

Barnesville Township Drainage Investigation. Albright, Jones, and Eskro had a conference call with Craig Jarnot, Army Corps of Engineers (COE), to discuss their Concurrence Points (CP) process. Jarnot will attend the PT meeting on 12/15/16. HEI recently completed and submitted Concurrence Point 1-Project Purpose and Need to Jarnot for his review. Jones sent the revised draft with his suggestions back to Jarnot for review before final submission.

WRP Sites. Jones contacted NRCS in Thief River Falls regarding the Nichol WRP site. Currently, NRCS doesn't have funding for this repair. Albright noted that he has not heard back from Congressmen Collin Peterson (MN) and Kevin Kramer (ND), who were interested in holding another meeting regarding the Farm Bill, WRP, tiling, and demonstration projects.

Stony Creek. Albright noted that he will prepare information for the Board regarding possible easement values for the project we are currently developing, so that we can start working with the landowners to obtain their easements. Jones submitted the latest modeling information to the DNR Dam Safety Office today to lower the dam classification.

Watershed District Enlargement (WDE)/Revised Watershed Management Plan (RWMP). Albright is working with the Wilkin County Auditor's office to clear up taxation issues with split parcels on the new BdSWD and BRRWD southern boundary. He suggested that the Watershed taxes should be levied based on where the majority of the parcel lies.

On 11/29/16, Albright met with Wilkin County regarding their comprehensive local water plan, which expires on 12/31/18. The discussion centered on how to tie in the Wilkin County plan with the BRRWD's RWMP in regards to BWSR's One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) effort. Options include continuing to prepare the BRRWD's plan on a stand-alone basis, according to Watershed Law while incorporating as much of the 1W1P criteria as possible with the Counties signing onto the Plan with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or going forward to create the full blown 1W1P in conjunction with the Counties. Albright noted that BWSR approved the BRRWD's funding application (\$168,000) for the Prioritize, Target, and Measure Application (PTMApp), which is also part of their 1W1P effort. BWSR also encouraged the BRRWD to apply for a new 1W1P funding opportunity starting in early January. Albright noted that BWSR has acknowledged that the BRRWD's 1W1P effort could combine all three watersheds (Upper Red, Otter Tail, and the Buffalo Rivers). Albright thought that the 1W1P could be completed by 12/31/18 to coincide with the Wilkin County expiration date. He suggested that we could schedule a meeting with the SWCDs, Local Water Planning Action Committees, and the County Commissioners because we will need resolutions from the local entities to commit to a 1W1P process. BWSR personnel would also be invited to the meeting. The Board agreed that Albright should schedule the meeting as referenced.

F-M Diversion Project. Albright noted that the DA/landowner meeting scheduled for 12/06/16 was cancelled due to the winter storm, and it has not been rescheduled. He mentioned a letter that was published in the Barnesville *Record-Review* from DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr regarding the DNR's decision to deny a permit for the Diversion project.

Otter Tail/Buffalo/Upper Red Rivers Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)/Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS). Tim James, MPCA, has requested information from the BRRWD regarding the Upper Red River TMDL payments. The office will forward hard copies of all the pay requests to the MPCA. Jones noted that James told him that the WRAPS studies were completed, but could not confirm if the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has approved the TMDLs for the Upper Red River and Buffalo River.

Albright noted that he will review draft documents HEI has prepared regarding the BRRWD's water quality data that will be posted to the BRRWD's website.

Otter Tail River Study. The Board briefly discussed the DNR's Otter Tail River channel survey. Jones noted that the DNR survey was more detailed than HEI's survey and thought there might be a way to tie in some of their depth data to HEI's results.

Data Management System. The Board discussed the process the staff has been going through to acquire a software solution for managing all of the documents we have in our files and in our computer system. The staff has met with Marco (M- Files), OPG-3, Inc. (Laserfiche), and LaserSystems (Intellinetics). Albright will provide a staff recommendation to the Board by the 01/09/17 meeting.

Wilkin C.D. No. 7 Repairs. The contractor, States Border Construction, has not yet started work because of the weather conditions.

Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP). The Board has decided to undertake a Level II Review, which would cover more performance standards than the Level I review we have completed in the past. Pete Waller and Dale Krystosek, BWSR, plan to attend our 01/09/17 meeting to discuss the Level II requirements.

Wilkin C.D. No. 6A Repairs. Jones reported that HEI has staked the staging sites for the rock material. Actual rock drop installations will probably take place next spring. Albright plans to schedule a Viewers' meeting in the near future to start work on the redetermination of benefits for Wilkin C.D. No. 6A and to finish work on the Becker C.D. No. 9 and Clay C.D. No. 16 redeterminations. Landowner John Beckman contacted the office on 12/07/16 regarding the native prairie acreage he owns. He feels the land should be removed from the C.D. No. 6A benefiting areas but was satisfied to wait for the redetermination proceeding.

Wilkin C.D. No. 40 Partial Abandonment. Dave Yaggie was in the office to discuss the partial abandonment of C.D. No. 40 with Albright recently. Using the overhead monitors, Jones provided a brief summary of the ditch system history and showed the Managers which part of the ditch system Yaggie wants to abandon. This ditch is associated with the DNR's Lawndale Trout Stream Restoration project (2008). High flows from the 2-stage channel restoration project are directed into C.D. No. 40 via an overflow structure in the township road (270th AVE), which according to Albright hasn't been used since the restoration project was installed. Yaggie suggested that he could fill in the main channel, leaving a shallow ditch for his local drainage. When C.D. No. 40 was improved many years ago, for some reason, it was placed about 75' off the section line, leaving a narrow strip on the north side of the ditch on Yaggie's property, which is inconvenient to farm. Albright noted that in the event of high water, it is not certain that the trout stream could handle the high flows, and the upstream landowners might have concerns about abandoning the ditch. Albright will contact Luther Aadland, DNR, who designed the Trout Stream Restoration project, to get his input about the capacity of the restored stream channel. An abandonment hearing with all the ditch system landowners would be required.

MPCA MS4. Jones submitted the MPCA Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) permit application by the 10/25/16 deadline. The Board discussed including a section on the MS4 program in both the RWMP and the revised Rules. Ted Rud, Engineer, HEI, and Jones are creating a new section for the BRRWD Rules update that would only apply to the MS4 area. Rud has contacted the City of Moorhead regarding their role in the MS4 process.

Wilkin C.D. Nos. 40/43 Drainage Petitions. Albright noted that the Board will hold hearings to add and remove land from Wilkin C.D. Nos. 40 and 43 for Troy Goltz (Permit No. 16-052) later this winter.

2015 Buffer Law. Van Amburg forwarded information from BWSR regarding a draft Model Buffer Rule for the Board's review. Albright provided a summary of the 2015 Buffer Law for Manager Leitch. By March

31, 2017, a jurisdictional and Administrative Penalty Order (APO) authority must be designated to be compliant with the Law. The Board had an extended discussion regarding compliance with the Buffer Law by 2018 regarding protected waters and a second layer of unnamed waterways and private ditches, which currently are not included in the Buffer Law. Albright suggested that the Board could discuss this issue with the Counties and SWCDs at the 1W1P meeting he plans to schedule in early January.

Elkton Township Wetland Restoration. Attorney Corey Elmer, Vogel Law Firm, advised Albright that BWSR required TRN Abstract to provide title insurance for the easements, and TRN is working on that requirement.

Wolverton Creek/Comstock Coulee. The Board discussed changes in the NRCS Wetlands Reserve Enhancement (WRE) program that could prevent the BRRWD from making use of their funding. The NRCS's easement values are significantly lower than the RIM values. Landowners aren't going to want to participate in the program with the lowest easement payment. If the landowners don't sign up, the BRRWD won't be eligible for WRE construction funding. Albright noted that the BRRWD might consider supplementing the WRE easement payment so that landowners could still sign up and we could leverage the NRCS construction funding. Albright suggested that the Board meet with NRCS personnel to discuss their involvement with our project.

Using the overhead monitors, Jones provided some information on possible options for determining the water management district (wmd) fees. Jones suggested that the fees could be assessed according to an average composite land use method: agricultural at \$1.50/acre, farmsteads at \$2.00/acre, road r-o-w at \$1.40/acre, and other areas at \$0.91/acre. This option would combine runoff values, soil contribution, etc., and would generate approximately \$99,000 per year. He suggested that the easements/buffer strips along Wolverton Creek related to the project would be removed from the wmd assessment area and only the non-project areas would be assessed. The cost share for the BWSR CWF Target Watershed Protection (TWP) grant requires that the BRRWD provide a \$700,000 (25%) local match. The Board agreed that Jones should go forward with tabulating the potential parcel assessment fees according to the method he presented. The Board will review his work again, and ultimately, we will schedule the required hearing.

Otter Tail River Restoration. The BRRWD met with DNR and COE staff on 12/09/16 to discuss the project. The COE has estimated that their Section 1135 project could cost approximately \$400,000. They would pay the first \$100,000 and split the remainder 50/50 with the BRRWD. Albright will review their proposal and report back to the Board. A meeting with the COE to go over their proposed work plan/budget will be held in January 2017.

Rules Update. Albright noted that we will need to incorporate the buffer law requirements and the MS4 program into our revised Rules. Manager Leitch provided Albright with his notes on the draft Rules document. Albright and Leitch will meet to review his comments next week.

Whiskey Creek Restoration. The channel survey is basically finished, and HEI is working on the drawings. Albright suggested that once that work is finished, the Board could hold a landowner meeting to discuss the proposed project. The survey was difficult to complete because the waterway channel is full of debris, vegetation, and beaver dams.

Breckenridge Outdoor Classroom. The Breckenridge Elementary School 4th Graders sent the Board a group photograph and thank you note for contributing funds to their Outdoor Classroom program.

BWSR Wetland Meeting. On 12/19/16, Albright will meet with Steve Hofstad, Wetland Specialist, BWSR, Detroit Lakes, and other BWSR personnel from the St. Paul office, to discuss wetland restorations/issues in accordance with the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). They will tour the Manston Slough project, Deerhorn Creek, and then return to the office to discuss some of our current projects.

Working Lands Watershed Restoration Program. The State of Minnesota has appropriated \$479,000 in 2017 for a program to incentivize the establishment and maintenance of perennial crops, administered by BWSR. BWSR may select up to two watersheds in which to conduct an initial pilot program of up to 100,000 total acres.

The following bills were presented for approval:

Accounts Payable	Description	Account	Amount
Ackerman Land Surveying, Inc.	#16014-2, R/W surveying	Wilkin C.D. No. 2	\$ 4,397.00
Ackerman Land Surveying, Inc.	#16223-WR, R/W surveying	Wilkin C.D. No. 7	\$ 420.00
Agassiz Mechanical, Inc.	#219093, service furnace	Admin.	\$ 410.00
AmeriPride	November office rugs (2)	Admin.	\$ 64.14
Bruce E. Albright	MAWD lodging (4)	Admin.	\$ 785.76
Clay County Auditor/Treasurer	2016 bond payment	Pj. 56, Manston Slough	\$ 172,823.20
Clay County Auditor/Treasurer	2016 bond payment	Pj. 63, Grove Lake Outlet	\$ 8,223.72
Ever Bank Commercial Finance	#4114838, 10/22/16-12/22/16 lease	Admin.	\$ 1,028.38
HEI	November billing summary	Varies-see attached	\$ 161,554.08
Jason Rick Snow Removal LLC	November services (2)	Admin.	\$ 140.00
JAV Construction, Inc.	#16336, sloping, spoil, riprap	Wilkin C.D. No. 3/37	\$ 64,824.00
Jim Hanson Cleaning Service	11/16/16 Wash windows	New Office	\$ 192.38
Pitney Bowes	12/01/16 postage statement	Admin.	\$ 150.00
Premium Waters, Inc.	#366590-11-16, November service	Admin.	\$ 34.37
`	Pay Request No. 9-Phase 4	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 100,543.07
R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc.	Pay Request # 2-Final, slope repairs	Pj. 14, Clay C.D. No. 10	\$ 4,019.40
RRVCPA	11/01/16-12/01/16 service (2)	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 166.37
Troy Larson	Voucher #16-37, 06/01/16-12/31/16	Varies	\$ 804.80
3	Repairs (10/03/16-10/31/16)	Wilkin C.D. No. 3	\$ 10,685.88
Wilkin Co. HWY Dept.	Repairs (10/17/16-10/31/16)	Wilkin C.D. No. 4	\$ 5,936.62
Wilkin Co. HWY Dept.	Repairs (10/03/16-10/31/16)	Wilkin C.D. No. 6	\$ 9,670.11
WREC	10/18/16-11/18/16 Service (2)	Pj. 46, Turtle Lake	\$ 66.81
Xcel Energy	10/24/16-11/23/16 service (1)	Pj. 49, Oakport	\$ 41.00
			\$ 546,981.09

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

Next Meeting. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, January 9, 2017, at 7:00 PM in our Barnesville office. At 9:00 PM, the Board will convene the BRRWD's annual meeting with election of officers, appointment of 2017 consultants, and designation of financial institutions. A meeting will not be held on the traditional fourth Monday of December due to the Christmas Holiday. If needed, a meeting could always be held electronically with the proper notices.

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) Conference. The Board briefly discussed the MAWD conference, which was held December 1-3 in Alexandria. Manager Fjestad was elected to the 2017 MAWD Board of Directors.

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

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Hanson, Secretary