

MINUTES OF VIRTUAL / CONFERENCE CALL MEETING  
RUSH RIVER WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT  
ORIGINATING AT THE CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA  
NOVEMBER 15, 2022

A virtual / conference call meeting of the Rush River Water Resource District was held on November 15, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Present were William A. Hejl, Chairman; Richard Sundberg, Manager; Jacob Gust, Manager; Carol Harbeke Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer; Nina Stone, Accountant; Melissa Hinkemeyer, Administrative Assistant; Sean M. Fredricks, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.; Kurt Lysne, Alexa Ducioame, Josh Hassell and Brady Woodard, Moore Engineering, Inc.; Mike Opat, Houston Engineering, Inc.; Mary Scherling and Duane Breitling, Cass County Commissioners; and Tom Soucy, Cass County Highway Department.

**Approval of Agenda**

It was moved by Manager Gust, seconded by Manager Sundberg and unanimously carried to approve the order of the agenda, as presented.

**Minutes**

It was moved by Manager Sundberg, seconded by Manager Gust and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2022, meeting.

**Drain #2 lateral - tree clearing in Sections 26, 34 and 35 of Harmony Township**

Kurt Lysne reported a property owner has requested the Water Resource District remove trees from the Drain #2 lateral in Sections 26, 34 and 35 of Harmony Township. The Board directed Moore Engineering, Inc. to obtain quotes for the project and bring the information to a future Water Resource District meeting for discussion.

**Drain No. 2 Improvement Project No. 2020-01**

Manager Sundberg stated a property owner noticed a sign has dropped down near one of the newly installed box culverts that was part of Drain No. 2 Improvement Project No. 2020-01 and believes there may be an issue with the box culvert. The Board directed Moore Engineering, Inc. to inspect the box culvert between Section 36 of Harwood Township and Section 2 of Raymond Township regarding Drain No. 2 Improvement Project No. 2020-01. Mr. Lysne noted if an issue related to the Water Resource District's project is found, the project contractor will be contacted to remedy the matter. If it is unrelated to the project, it may be a township signage issue.

### **Drain #12 – riprap under the State Highway 18 bridge**

Mr. Lysne reported the North Dakota Department of Transportation inspected the State Highway 18 bridge over Drain #12 and determined the project was constructed as designed and there are no concerns at this time.

### **Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) – Rush River Watershed**

Josh Hassell updated the Board on the RCPP – Rush River Watershed Plan. The Cass County Joint Water Resource District provided feedback on the levee alignment which has been reviewed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Mr. Hassell noted he discussed the levee alignment changes with the City of Amenia and they expressed concerns about tree removal within the City of Amenia for the levee. Moore Engineering, Inc. is taking the feedback into consideration as the project design progresses. The Environmental Assessment for the Plan will need to be updated to account for the project updates. Additional public meetings regarding the project are anticipated to be held next year.

### **Letter from the Cass County Commission regarding potential flood risk reduction projects for Cass County Flood Sales Tax funding consideration**

Mr. Lysne indicated he is not aware of any Rush River Water Resource District projects to submit for Cass County Flood Sales Tax funding consideration at this time. Mr. Lysne noted there are additional costs to revise the RCPP – Rush River Watershed Plan and a cost-share request regarding the matter will be submitted to the Cass County Flood Sales Tax Committee for consideration at their December meeting.

### **Cass County Joint Water Resource District report**

Manager Gust reported the Cass County Joint Water Resource District is acquiring Flowage Easements for the Metro Flood Diversion Project. The Diversion Authority recently held meetings with property owners to discuss the supplemental crop insurance programs and Flowage Easements in the Upstream Mitigation Area regarding the Metro Flood Diversion Project. ASN Constructors, the Public Private Partnership developer, continues to work on the Metro Flood Diversion Channel and Associated Infrastructure of the Metro Flood Diversion Project.

### **Red River Joint Water Resource District (RRJWRD) report**

The next RRJWRD Full Board meeting is December 8, 2022, during the 59th Annual Joint North Dakota Water Convention and Irrigation Workshop in Bismarck, North Dakota.

Sean Fredricks updated the Board on legislative items and the Red River Basinwide Plan that were discussed at the September 21, 2022, RRJWRD Full Board meeting.

### **Bills**

It was moved by Manager Sundberg and seconded by Manager Gust to approve the wire transfers and the electronic funds transfers, as presented. Upon roll call vote, the following Managers voted in favor: Hejl, Sundberg and Gust. The Chairman declared the motion passed.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to be considered by the Board, the meeting adjourned without objection.

APPROVED:

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William A. Hejl  
Chairman

ATTEST:

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Carol Harbeke Lewis  
Secretary-Treasurer