

MINUTES OF VIRTUAL / CONFERENCE CALL MEETING  
RUSH RIVER WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT  
ORIGINATING AT THE CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA  
JULY 18, 2023

A virtual / conference call meeting of the Rush River Water Resource District was held on July 18, 2023, at 8:00 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 and Brady Woodard, Moore Engineering, Inc.; Mike Opat, Houston Engineering, Inc.; Duane Breitling, Cass County Commissioner; Tom Soucy, Cass County Highway Department; and Dane Larsen, Raymond Township property owner.

**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 June 20, 2023, meeting.

**Drain #29 – intercept culverts in the S 1/2 of Section 32 in Wisner Township**

Brady Woodard reported the contractor is installing the two 18-inch intercept culverts on Drain #29 in the S 1/2 of Section 32 in Wisner Township and should complete the project by the end of the week.

**Drain #67 – west berm in the NW 1/4 of Section 12 in Raymond Township**

Dane Larsen asked the Board if he could remove excess material from the west berm of Drain #67 in the NW 1/4 of Section 12 in Raymond Township for personal use. Sean Fredricks noted the Water Resource District acquired a temporary easement on the property during construction of Drain #67. Kurt Lysne discussed the minimum berm height for Drain #67 and indicated any additional material over the minimum berm height is not necessary for the project and could be removed. The Board suggested Mr. Larsen work with Moore Engineering, Inc. to ensure the west berm of Drain #67 in the NW 1/4 of Section 12 in Raymond Township meets the minimum berm height following Mr. Larsen's removal of material from the berm.

Brief discussion was held on Drain #67 intercept culverts in the NW 1/4 of Section 12 in Raymond Township. Mr. Lysne indicated adequate cover should remain over the intercept culverts to reduce the risk of the culverts washing out. Should the intercept culverts need to be modified in any way, Mr. Larsen should request the modification(s) at a future Water Resource District meeting.

### **Rush River Snagging and Clearing**

The Secretary-Treasurer stated the North Dakota Department of Water Resources confirmed the approved cost-share for Rush River Snagging and Clearing 2021 remains in place and can be used for Rush River Snagging and Clearing in the 2023-2024 season.

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

Mr. Lysne reported on the RCP – Rush River Watershed Plan. SRF Consulting Group, Inc. has reached out to property owners impacted by the levee alignment and will be providing a report of their findings and recommendations to the Cass County Joint Water Resource District. The Board briefly discussed the anticipated timeline to finish the Plan.

### **Utility Permit for Halstad Telephone Company to install fiber optic cable and HDPE Duct under the Sheyenne River in the SE 1/4 NW 1/4 of Section 28 in Harwood Township**

It was moved by Manager Sundberg and seconded by Manager Gust to approve the *Utility Permit* for Halstad Telephone Company to install fiber optic cable and HDPE Duct under the Sheyenne River in the SE 1/4 NW 1/4 of Section 28 in Harwood Township, with input from the Water Resource District Engineer. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

### **Notification to Install Subsurface Water Management System provided by Aim Ag Drainage in the SE 1/4 of Section 9 in Amenia Township**

The Board received and filed a *Notification to Install Subsurface Water Management System* provided by Aim Ag Drainage in the SE 1/4 of Section 9 in Amenia Township.

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

Manager Gust updated the Board on the acquisition of property rights and the construction status of various components of the Metro Flood Diversion Project.

### **Red River Joint Water Resource District report**

Manager Sundberg reviewed the Red River Joint Water Resource District (RRJWRD) Full Board meeting held June 14, 2023. Sean Fredricks updated the Board on SB 2372 regarding watershed districts at the meeting. The next RRJWRD Full Board meeting will be held September 13, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.

### **2022 Audit**

A motion was made by Manager Sundberg and seconded by Manager Gust to approve the 2022 Audit of the Rush River Water Resource District. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**Approve Pledge of Assets**

It was moved by Manager Sundberg and seconded by Manager Gust to approve the following Pledge of Assets:

Alerus Financial (as per agreement of March 7,1996)

Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**Bills**

It was moved by Manager Gust and seconded by Manager Sundberg 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 motion carried unanimously.

**Drain #74 – tree removal from the overflow structure in the NE 1/4 of Section 20 in Amenia Township**

Mr. Lysne reported the trees have been removed from the Drain #74 overflow structure in the NE 1/4 of Section 20 in Amenia Township.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to be considered by the Board, it was moved by Manager Sundberg, seconded by Manager Gust and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

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William A. Hejl  
Chairman

ATTEST:

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Carol Harbeke Lewis  
Secretary-Treasurer