

MINUTES OF VIRTUAL / CONFERENCE CALL MEETING
NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
ORIGINATING AT THE CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
OCTOBER 24, 2023

A virtual / conference call meeting of the North Cass Water Resource District was held on October 24, 2023, at 8:00 a.m.

Present were Wes Ecker, Chairman; Robert Thompson, Manager; Ken Lougheed, 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.; Duane Breitling, Cass County Commissioner; and Tom Soucy, Cass County Highway Department.

Agenda and Minutes

It was moved by Manager Thompson, seconded by Manager Lougheed and unanimously carried to approve the order of the agenda and the minutes of the September 26, 2023, meeting, as presented.

Drain #18 channel cleanout in Sections 16, 17 and 18 of Noble Township

Brady Woodard reported the contractor has completed approximately two miles of the Drain #18 channel cleanout in Sections 16, 17 and 18 of Noble Township. Now that all adjacent crops have been harvested, the contractor will return this week to complete the remaining portion of the project.

Drain #23 – slide on the road side of the channel in Section 12 of Gardner Township

Mr. Woodard said the contractor for the Drain #23 slide repair on the road side of the channel in Section 12 of Gardner Township plans to begin the project in the next couple of weeks.

Drain #23 – culverts failing between Sections 1 and 12 in Gunkel Township and between Sections 6 and 7 in Gardner Township

Alexa Ducioame discussed the proposed design and related preliminary cost estimate of culvert replacements and associated intersection improvements regarding the Drain #23 failing culverts between Sections 1 and 12 of Gunkel Township and Sections 10 and 11 of Wisner Township. Discussion was held on right of way regarding Drain #23. Ms. Ducioame discussed the proposed project plans in more detail and indicated the existing Cass Rural Water Users District pipeline should not be impacted by the proposed project;

however, a power pole will need to be relocated in order to widen the intersection for increased safety. Moore Engineering, Inc. will refine the cost estimate for the proposed project, including right of way, and bring the updated information to a future meeting for further discussion. The Board directed Moore Engineering, Inc. to check on contractor availability to complete the project this fall. The project could be completed this fall if a contractor is available and the pipe is available, depending on weather conditions. Moore Engineering, Inc. will also contact Gunkel Township and Gardner Township regarding work needed in their right of way for the proposed project.

Drain No. 26 Improvements 2023

Ms. Ducioame discussed the design and preliminary cost estimate for the Drain No. 26 Improvements 2023 project. Ms. Ducioame noted there is significant sedimentation in the channel. Brief discussion was held on funding for the project. Moore Engineering, Inc. will also evaluate right of way needs for the project and update the cost estimate accordingly.

Drain #32 – berm washout in Section 32 of Noble Township

Mr. Woodard stated the Drain #32 berm washout in Section 32 of Noble Township will be repaired after the adjacent crops have been harvested. Manager Lougheed reported the adjacent crops have recently been harvested.

Bills

It was moved by Manager Thompson and seconded by Manager Lougheed to approve payment of the wire transfers and the electronic funds transfers, as presented. Upon roll call vote, the following Managers voted in favor: Ecker, Thompson and Lougheed. The motion carried unanimously.

Elm River Dam Nos. 1, 2 and 3

Manager Thompson said he remains in contact with the North Dakota Department of Water Resources regarding the construction permits for Elm River Dams No. 1 and No. 2 Improvement Project No. 2022-01 and Elm River Dam No. 3 Improvements 2022 Project. The projects will be bid soon with construction anticipated to occur in 2024.

Drain #32 – request to borrow material from the berm in the SE 1/4 of Section 27 in Noble Township

Sean Fredricks reported John Christensen has signed the *License and Hold Harmless Agreement* and reimbursed the Water Resource District \$500 for fees incurred regarding Mr. Christensen's request to borrow of material from the Drain #32 berm in the SE 1/4 of Section 27 in Noble Township. Mr. Christensen can now proceed with borrowing material from the Drain #32 berm in the SE 1/4 of Section 27 in Noble Township in accordance with the *License and Hold Harmless Agreement*.

Adjournment

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

APPROVED:

Wes Ecker
Chairman

ATTEST:

Carol Harbeke Lewis
Secretary-Treasurer