

Notice of Meeting and Agenda

Walsh County Water Resource District

Tuesday, July 11th, 2023

Walsh County Courthouse Lower Level Office #3

*No Mtg
July 4th*

- 8:00 a.m.** Call to Order
Roll Call
Agenda Approval
- Consent/Approval
- Minutes June 20th Meeting
 - Bills
- 8:15 a.m.** Correspondence
- 8:25 a.m.** Jason Johnston
-Drain 97 Bridge Project
- 8:40 a.m.** Drainage Permit Applications:
-Robert Kertz
-Steve LeClerc
- 8:55 a.m.** Ditch clean out/culvert
-Nick Rudnik, Walsh Centre sections 16/21
- 9:00 a.m.** John Keeley
-Culvert Upgrade on 76th St NE, S9 of Martin Township
- 9:15 a.m.** Budget Session for FY 2024 Budget
- 10:45 a.m.** Jacob Wognum
-Monthly Report
- 11:00 a.m.** Damages around county:
-Drain 4A Culvert- 76th St NE
-Dougherty Dam
-Bike Path to Homme Dam
- 11:15 a.m.** Randy Emanuelson
-Drain 50 maintenance

Other items -Miscellaneous Correspondence

Reminders:

In accordance with North Dakota law, Water Resource Districts may, if necessary, depart from or add to the agenda at meetings.

People with disabilities who plan to participate in the meeting and need special arrangements should contact the Water Resource District office at 701-352-0081.

**Proceedings of the Walsh County Water Resource District Board Meeting
Tuesday, July 11th 2023
Walsh County Courthouse, Grafton, ND**

July 11th, 2023 – 8:00 a.m.

Chairman Daryl Campbell called the meeting of the Walsh County Water Resource District Board to order. Roll call taken: Chairman Daryl Campbell, Vice Chairman Larry Tanke and Manager Jallo. Commissioner Ernie Barta was also in attendance.

The agenda was reviewed and no modifications were suggested. ***A motion to approve the agenda was made by Vice Chairman Tanke; 2nd by Manager Jallo. Motion carried.***

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 27th board meeting, and the bills as presented, was made by Manager Jallo; 2nd by Vice Chairman Tanke. Motion carried.

Correspondence was reviewed. The DWR is taking public comments on dam safety standards being proposed. The comment period ends on August 15th. The board received a letter from Burian & Associates regarding surface drainage permit #6207 belonging to Mark Novak. The board will meet with Novak's attorney at the July 18th board meeting.

Jason Johnston, Walsh Co. Highway Dept:

Johnston met with the board to discuss bridge projects. He recently reviewed proposals from engineers on the Hagen bridge on Drain 97 along 60th St and just west of County Road 12B, north of Fordville. He brought up concerns on the 3 ton limits now imposed on the bridge on County Road 9 and County Road 4. A recent bridge inspection dropped the load limit. The bridge is located on Drain 48. They discussed how that road is a main artery of the county. Further discussion centered around how the bridge could be best replaced utilizing 9ft diameter culverts. Chairman Campbell commented that the hydrology work on that crossing may dictate whether there would be two or three culverts to replace that bridge. Johnston also mentioned that there are water issues north of Cashel on County Road 4, especially along the west ½ of S12 in Martin township.

He also briefly mentioned removal of the bridge east on 156th Ave and 76th St NE on Drain 50. In other work, the bridge west of Grafton will be graveled soon. Ernie Barta presented issues on the bike path leading to Homme Dam west of Park River. The path has been closed due to the complete collapse of the path on Drain 25. Vice Chairman Tanke mentioned that the new disaster declaration for FEMA has been issued, and Johnston commented that this project should qualify.

Drainage Permit Applications:

- **Robert Kertz:** His application was reviewed by the board. The system would be installed in Lampton Township, Section 20, the SE and SW ¼'s as well as Section 29 in the NE and NW ¼'s, and immediately outlets into a natural watercourse of the Middle Branch of the Park River south of County Road 9. ***Vice Chairman Tanke moved to approve Kertz's tile application; 2nd by Manager Jallo. Motion carried.***
- **Scott LeClerc:** The application from "Steven" LeClerc was reviewed. Upon further review and discussion, it was thought to be belonging to Scott LeClerc. During the meeting the board called Ben Knott of Ellingson drainage, who submitted the application, to verify the name of the

landowner. It was indeed Scott's application. Ellingson Drainage will amend the application to the correct name and resubmit it for next week's meeting.

Nick Rudnik, Ditch Clean out:

Rudnik contacted the office with his request to clean out the ditches in Walsh Centre township on the east side of the NE ¼ of Section 16 and the NE ¼ of Section 21, in the west ditch. He currently rents and farms that land. The board needs additional information in order to move ahead and tabled the request. The culvert in the private dike that needs repair is not a WRD decision.

John Keeley- Culvert Upgrade:

Keeley presented his request to install a new culvert in Martin Township, along 76th St NE, on the south side of Section 9 in the SW ½ of the SE ¼. It is the culvert furthest to west in this parcel. The old culvert is concrete and 60 ft in length. It will be replaced with a 36" corrugated metal pipe, 70 feet in length. The board offered to assist Keeley in finding a culvert this size.

Budget for 2024: The board spent approximately an hour reviewing the 2024 budget request. They will present the request to the commissioners on July 18th.

Jacob Wognum- HEI:

Wognum presented a brief overview of his presentation for next Tuesday's Drain 98 & Drain 7 public information meeting.

Damaged sites:

Drain 4A and Dougherty Dam issues will be discussed at another meeting. Time did not allow for discussion at this meeting. The bike path damage was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Randy Emanuelson- Drain 50: Emanuelson and others attended the meeting to discuss issues with Drain 50. Emanuelson and others stated that the drain needs maintenance and Emanuelson was requesting the WRD work to improve the drain by working towards a project. Photos and video pertaining to drainage issues were presented. They showed drainage problems that created flooding along the drain after the 9 inches of rain fell by St. Thomas in one event. Jay Gudajtes attended and showed images of his corn field next to the drain having flooded, and handed out photos of other issues he was having in the drain. Emanuelson commented that the drain will run right to the top with water and needs to be cleaned out and maintained. Travis Uggerud, Brad Suda, and Garrett Thompson also attended and brought comments on issues with the drain. The bridge along County Road 7 and Drain 50 had water nearly up to it, and the culvert along side it has erosion. Suda said the banks of the drain have slippage and the steepness of the erosion has created hazards for farm equipment for several years. Uggerud commented that during the history of his family farming, this drain has not been maintained to his family's knowledge. He asked about getting

Besides being a landowner within the drainage area of Drain 50, Emanuelson is also on the Pembina County Water Board. He stated that he would like to see this be a joint drainage project between Walsh County and Pembina County. The board explained to the group that the project they were wanting to work on now was proposed several years back. Chairman Campbell commented that it did not go through in the project meeting with landowners, and without that the project couldn't move ahead. Emanuelson said he thought the project didn't go through due to the engineer not getting through right of way issues. Different proposed options were mentioned and Vice Chairman mentioned that nothing was able to move ahead because nobody petitioned for the drain. Chairman Campbell stated that the WRD cannot start the process for this, the petition has to be presented to them per North Dakota statutes. He advised Emanuelson and others there that a petition is needed. Uggerud asked if they petition, if the petitioners

would be responsible for the costs laid out in 2016 with the engineer's proposal and survey work. The board answered that the petitioners wouldn't be paying that now because the survey is still valid. He also asked what percentage is needed for a petition to carry was informed that the majority is 50% or more of the vote. Vice Chairman Tanke then proposed to the board to approach Houston Engineering for an estimate on what it would cost to update options A and B, and bring it back to the group. The board agreed and will work to get the estimate from HEI. Emanuelson will discuss the project with Pembina County WRD.

Gudajtes and Emanuelson inquired on fixing culverts with funds already assessed for maintenance on Drain 50. Chairman Campbell said the drain will fix the culverts, including one Travis Uggerud mentioned needing a trap. Uggerud asked about costs for repairs, and Chairman Campbell informed him that the drain would pay for these repairs.

Miscellaneous:

- Garrett Thompson asked about the process of creating a legal drain in his area. The board informed him that he would need to bring in a petition.

The next board meeting will take place on July 11th at 8:00 a.m.

Daryl Campbell, Chairman

Attest: _____
Sarah B. Johnston, Administrative Assistant