

Notice of Meeting and Agenda
Walsh County Water Resource District
Tuesday, February 6th, 2024
Walsh County Courthouse Lower Level Office #3
8:00 am

- 8:00 a.m.** Call to Order
Roll Call
Agenda Approval
Consent/Approval
- Minutes –January 31st Meeting
 - Bills
 - Correspondence
- 8:30 a.m.** Drainage Issues, S30 Harriston Township
- Layne Kittelson, Jay Gudajtes- Harriston Twp. Bd.
 - John Narloch - City of Minto
- 9:10 a.m.** --Meet with WC Commissioners on 1st Floor --
--County Funds due for Drain Projects Completed with Hwy Dept.
--Re-appointment of Board Seat for Albin Jallo
- 9:30 a.m.** Jacob Wognum, Houston Engineering, Inc.
- Monthly report
- 10:00 a.m.** Field Berm/culvert, SW1/4 S3 Grafton Twp./147th Ave NE
- Luke Holt, owner
- 10:45 a.m.** Complaints and Complaint Updates
- Chad Woods - Forest River Township- 10:45 am
 - Jack Bartuska – Ops Township- 11:00 am
 - Other complaints in process
- 11:15 a.m.** Jacob Wognum, Houston Engineering, Inc.
(continued from 9:30 am)

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, February 6th, 2024
Walsh County Courthouse, Grafton, ND

Vice Chairman Larry Tanke called the meeting of the Walsh County Water Resource District Board to order. Roll call was taken. Present: Vice Chairman Tanke, Manager Albin Jallo, Admin. Assistant Sarah Johnston. Chairman Daryl Campbell attended via Zoom. Vice Chairman Tanke led the meeting.

Agenda: The agenda was reviewed. **Chairman Daryl Campbell moved to approve the agenda with no changes; 2nd by Manager Jallo. Motion carried.**

Minutes & Bills: **Manager Jallo moved to approve the minutes from the January 31st meeting, and the bills as presented; 2nd by Chairman Campbell. Motion carried.**

Drainage Issues, Section 30 Harriston Township:

John Narloch, City of Minto along with Jay Gudajtes and Layne Kittelson of the Harriston Township board met with the board to discuss drainage issues in S30 of Harriston Township. Brian Wysocki, who owns land in that section also attended. The group discussed the poor drainage on the NE side of the lagoon, and drainage challenges on neighboring areas. Discussion took place at length as to what approaches might be needed to solve the longstanding drainage problems. The most discussion involved either sending the water south along 151st Ave NE in the east ditch, or sending it north along the west side of 151st Ave NE, where it would eventually cross and go into a ditch that could be developed on the south side 62nd St. There were two other options discussed, including utilizing the ditch straight south of the lagoon, of which Bryan Wysocki said the ditch actually needs to be filled in instead of being developed further. The last idea discussed was to approach Don Rudnik Jr. to see if he'd be willing to work on a project that would take the water underground via closed tile into a ditch that begins in the middle of Section 20. The board will request Don to attend the next meeting to discuss the idea.

Meeting closed to visit Walsh County Commissioners at their meeting to discuss Drain Project Cost shares from 9:10 – 9:30 am. Vice Chairman Tanke presented the project details and amounts due on each drain project shared between the County Highway Department and Drains 28, 31, 70, 71, 87, 97, 98. Manager Jallo and Assistant Johnston were also in attendance. The balance remaining for the county to pay is \$205,245.57. The end result of the meeting was that the Commissioners voted to pay the \$205,245.57 balance. *The Board resumed their meeting in the office immediately after this presentation, at approximately 9:35 am.*

Field Berm/culvert, SW1/4 S3 Grafton Twp./147th Ave NE:

Luke Holt and his attorney Rob Fleming attended the meeting to discuss the recently reopened complaint originally filed by Grafton Township and counter filed by Holt. Fleming presented why Holt takes issue with how the culvert was dug, its elevation and angle, why Holt built a berm in response to the culvert replacement. He emphasized that a hydraulic study is needed to ascertain whether Holt's dike diverts 50 acre feet or more. Richard Rutherford, who was in attendance with his son Boe, did not see a problem with the size of the culvert that was installed as he believes it will handle the flow. He said that all the township seemed to do in the ditch that is along Holt's property was to clean it. Later Carl Unruh, arrived to hear the conversation and Jay Gudajtes was also in attendance. **Larry Tanke moved to have Jacob Wognum of Houston Engineering Inc. survey and**

study the dike and the drainage area; 2nd by Manager Jallo. Motion carried. The board reached out by phone to Kevin Mudder who installed the culvert to get more info for Wognum.

Complaints and Complaint Updates:

Forest River Township: Chad Woods and Ray Ferguson of the Forest River Township board attended, at the request of the board, to discuss the complaint from Mark A. Novak against the Township, regarding the crossing in 59th St near corner of 144th Ave, along SE ¼ S6 of Forest River Township. The road south of S6 has a Texas Crossing that Novak has been having issues with because he said the crossing is inadequate and floods his land. Jason Johnston of the Walsh Co. Highway Department was asked to attend to help answer questions on crossings. The sites that Novak has filed complaints on were previously bridges, and the highway department did the work back in the day. Jason said that the crossings would have been studied by the county engineer at the time, and might be grandfathered in. Jay Gudajtes, who was still in attendance, also provided feedback about the natural elevations for water to travel across that road. ***Chairman Campbell moved to close the complaint based on how the work, which the county engineer completed long ago, was acceptable at that point in time for sizing; 2nd by Manager Jallo. Motion carried.***

Ops Township: Jack Bartuska and Ryan Sobolik of Ops Township attended at the request of the board, to discuss the complaint against the township by Mark A. Novak, regarding the crossing in 144th St NE between SE ¼ of S1 in Ops Township and S6 of Forest River Township. Jason Johnston from the Highway Department inspected the crossing, that according to Novak’s complaint, was experiencing an obstruction of flow. Both Jacob Wognum of HEI, and later Jason Johnston saw the obstruction in the first culvert to the south. The culvert was crushed. Once this was discovered, the highway department acted quickly to work on the crushed culvert to open it up so that water can flow again. ***Chairman Campbell moved to close the complaint now that the obstruction to the culvert has been resolved; 2nd by Manager Jallo. Motion carried.***


Jacob Wognum, HEI- Project Updates:

Jacob provided statuses of ongoing planning for Drain 4A’s railroad crossing culvert work and discussed a recent bid by RZS Enterprises who are specialized and experienced to do the work. An additional contract will be sought to do the ditch cleanout proportion of the project, and the board has Triple D Construction in mind. Drain 48 funds were discussed. The hydraulic study on County Rd 9 and Drain 48 is in process and will be ready next week. Jason Johnston will come back for the next meeting to discuss those results. Sarah will submit the Drain 50 cost share application to the Dept. of Water Resources.

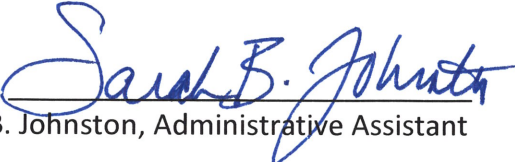
Miscellaneous:

- Chairman Campbell was contacted by Bruce Eikenberry, who wanted to clean out problematic trees in the river next to his residence and was seeking funds. According to Sarah, there are no funds for the North Branch of the Park River.

The board will meet again on Tuesday, February 13th at 8:00 a.m.



Larry Tanke, Vice Chairman

Attest: 
Sarah B. Johnston, Administrative Assistant