

Proceedings of the Walsh County Water Resource District Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 21st, 2024
Walsh County Courthouse, Grafton, ND

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

Agenda: The following additions to the agenda were proposed: a) consult with Cassie Tostenson of Nilson Brand Law regarding the complaint against Luke Holt, b) Whitman Dam shelter expenses, and c) Jay Gudajtes Surface Drainage Permit review scheduling. **Vice Chairman Tanke motioned to approve the agenda with additions, 2nd by Manger Jallo. Motion carried.**

Minutes & Bills: The minutes from the May 7th Board Meeting were reviewed. The bills were presented. **Manager Jallo motioned to approve the minutes and the bills as presented, 2nd by Vice Chairman Tanke. Motion carried.**

Correspondence: Manager Jallo made mention of the Red River Joint Water Resource District mill levy requests that were sent out to counties yesterday afternoon. The RRJWRD is requesting 1.5 mills for 2025.

Brad Suda, Ditch Work along 150th Dr NE, S30 Oakwood Twp.:

Brad provided photos to the office showing the dead portion of the ditch that does not have any flow, just next to his yard. The board was in touch with Mike Thompson of Oakwood Township. **Manager Jallo motioned to approve of Brad filling in the ditch, 2nd by Vice Chairman Tanke.**

Subsurface Water Management System- WC2024-010- Paul Grzadzielewski:

Paul applied to install drain tile the NW ¼ S30 in Ardoch Township, in a gravity flow system that outlets in the NW ¼ of S30 in a natural waterway. **Vice Chairman Tanke moved to approve permit application WC2024-010 with normal conditions, 2nd by Manager Jallo. Motion carried.**

Dike Application for Board Comment- Mark A. Novak- N ½ S35 and N ½ S36 in Prairie Centre Township:

An application for agricultural dikes for Mark A. Novak was received from the Department of Water Resources for comment. He has applied to DWR to permit the existing field dikes near County Road 15 on N ½ S35 and N ½ S36 in Prairie Centre Township. These dikes have been the subject of complaints this past winter. Formal correspondence will be prepared in response to ND Department of Water Resources' request for comment from the Board; to be reviewed at the next meeting.

Obstruction Complaint against Luke Holt - Grafton Township, SW ¼ S3:

Cassie Tostenson of Nilson Brand Law met with the Board for a few minutes via Zoom to discuss the next steps in the Luke Holt obstruction complaint. The Board determined on May 7th, the earthwork on Luke's property obstructs the natural watercourse in the SW ¼ of S3 in Grafton Township. A notice to Luke is needed to remove the obstruction. The Grafton Township Board and area landowners filed the obstruction complaint against him. **Manager Jallo motioned for the complete and total removal of the obstruction in the watercourse in SW ¼ S3 in Grafton Township, allowing up to 45 days for its removal,**

2nd by Vice Chairman Tanke. Roll call vote: Manager Jallo: yes. Vice Chairman Tanke: yes. Chairman Campbell: yes. Motion carried.

County Road 15- McCann Culvert, SW ¼ S27 / NW ¼ S34- Walsh Centre Township:

The board invited Jacob Wognum and Bret Zimmerman of Houston Engineering and Jason Johnston of the WC Highway Department to answer recent questions brought by landowners in the area regarding the culvert installation requested Doug McCann. Much of the discussion on the project also included a surface drainage project permitted by the Board a few years ago, involving John Narloch, Chris Bjerneby, Jay Gudajtes and others. That project was eventually permitted by water board and the progression of that surface drainage project #5566 approved in 2021 was revisited. The nature of the drainage through the Voss area was also discussed.

In regard to the culvert McCann Farms requested to be installed present day, the culvert was approved by the County Commission and Highway Department after a hydrology study was purchased by Doug McCann. The decided upon size was 36" based on the hydraulics, and included a flap on the inlet end. It would run N/S on the western corner of SW ¼ S27 /NW ¼ S34, on the east edge of the intersection of County Rd 15 and 147th Ave NE. Jacob Wognum presented the hydraulic memo prepared by his office, and Brett Zimmerman confirmed that the natural watercourse at 148th Ave NE is accounted for by their model. The results of the study showed flows higher than a 2 year or 5 year event would not cross County Road 15 and enter the south ditch. In higher flow events, the culvert would close and keep the flow in the north ditch, resulting in no flow going to the South. The water normally runs from South to North based on available survey data presented by Houston Eng.

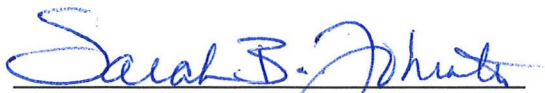
Given that the culvert showed no negative effect when modeled, the project was approved last year by the WRD, County Highway Dept, and the County Commission. Jason Johnston informed the group that with stream crossing standards, mitigation of the 0.03 inch difference in flow that the landowners were questioning, is not required to be mitigated. Lastly, when questioned again about higher flows impacting the south ditch, Johnston reiterated that the flow through the road is zero, because it cannot contribute to it in higher flows due to the flap being closed on the south end. Culvert invert elevations were discussed and the grade will be zero. Others participating in discussion: Doug McCann, Chris Bjerneby, Kevin Mudder, Commissioner Ernie Barta, Jason Flanders, Mike Osowski, and Brad Narloch.


Miscellaneous:

- Surface Drainage Permit 6271 for Jay Gudajtes, Harriston Township, Section 29- The permit will be reviewed at an upcoming meeting. Sarah will work on scheduling it for some time in the next two weeks.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The board will meet next Tuesday, May 28th at 8:00 am.

Attest:


Sarah B. Johnston, Administrative Asst.


Daryl Campbell, Chairman