

Proceedings of the Walsh County Water Resource District Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 8th, 2024

8:00 am

Walsh County Courthouse, Grafton, ND

Chairman Daryl Campbell called the meeting of the Walsh County Water Resource District Board to order. Present: Chairman Daryl Campbell, Vice Chairman Tanke, Manager Albin Jallo and Secretary/Treasurer Sarah Johnston.

Agenda: The agenda was reviewed. A subsurface water management system notification for Jared Peterka was received. John Miller's ag dike application with DWR needed to be revisited. ***Manager Jallo motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of the subsurface water management system notification for Peterka and John Miller's dike application, 2nd by Chairman Campbell. Motion carried.***

Minutes & Bills: Minutes from the October 1st meeting were reviewed. The bills were also reviewed. ***Manager Jallo motioned to approve the minutes and the bills as presented. 2nd by Chairman Campbell. Motioned carried.*** Vice Chairman Tanke joined the meeting at this time.

Attorney Dan Gaustad- Pearson Christensen, LLP:

The Board consulted with Dan regarding a potential drainage reassessment as it pertains to Drains 7 and 98. Jacob Wognum of HEI joined via Zoom for the discussion. Dan provided details on drainage benefits and assessments. These drains have no construction loans and qualify for consolidation. Dan is available to work with the Board on each step of the process as it occurs. The process is expected to take a year and a half or so. Jacob would provide a detail analysis of the drainage area & narrative of benefits. ***Vice Chairman Tanke motioned to have Dan and Sarah work together on drain consolidation for Drain 7 and Drain 98, 2nd by Manager Jallo. Roll call vote: Manager Jallo – yes, Vice Chairman Tanke- yes, and Chairman Campbell-yes. Motion carried.*** Further discussion on Drains 98 and 7 took place in regard to acreage and assessment funds. There are six bridges on Drain 98 that need to be replaced. After some discussion on potential costs of repairs, the Board discussed how it is unknown whether consolidation is a better option, and further analysis of the drainage area will help to answer that question. ***Vice Chairman Tanke motioned to have Dan and Jacob review the reassessment information for Drains 7 and 98 before any consolidation steps are started by Dan and Sarah, 2nd by Manager Jallo. Roll call vote- Manager Jallo-yes, Vice Chairman Tanke-yes, Chairman Campbell-yes. Motion carried.***

Discussion on the existing petition for Drain 4A took place. Drain 28 has work to do but there is no petition yet. ***Vice Chairman Tanke motioned to have Jacob Wognum of HEI look at the assessment area for Drain 28, 2nd by Manager Jallo. Motion carried.***

Response to DWR- John Miller/Phyllis Miller Dike Application S31 Walsh Centre Township:

Jacob Wognum of HEI presented the recent survey of dikes on the N1/2 S31 and N1/2 S32 in Walsh Center Township. While reviewing the Millers ag dike application, the Board questioned the existing dike heights on the property and a survey was requested to find out the difference in dike vs. roadway heights. The dikes are much lower than the roadway throughout the entire stretch. The Board's comments to DWR will be issued this week. They approve of the Phyllis Miller – John

Miller Farms application proceeding in the permitting process with no further study or analysis requested by the Board.

BTAG Contract Draft Review with Attorney Dan Gaustad:

Commissioners Ernie Barta, Kristi Brintnell, and Karen Anderson--District 19 Representative/ County Commission Chairwoman-- attended the meeting during this 2nd review of the BTAG draft contract with the Board. Discussion included recommendations on member terms and qualifications, voting majority, dues, withdrawal terms, the status of other groups who have not joined, etc. The draft was reviewed in its entirety. Dan will make the revisions and submit the draft to BTAG's attorney, indicating that the WRD Board and County have not decided whether to sign the agreement.

Subsurface Drainage Application less than 80 acres- Jared Peterka, Fertile Twp, Section 36:

The notification was tabled due to a question on the number of acres listed on the notification. Sarah will contact Tom Prout of Ellingson Drainage for clarification.

Miscellaneous:

- Cameron Bina stopped by the meeting with a NDDOT highway drainage permit application to clean a stretch of ditch along State Highway 32 and Section 15 in Golden Township. ***Manager Jallo motioned to approve the application, 2nd by Vice Chairman Tanke. Motion carried.***

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The board will meet next Tuesday, October 15th at 8:00 am.

Attest:


Sarah B. Johnston, Administrative Asst.


Daryl Campbell, Chairman