Proceedings of the Walsh County Water Resource District Board Meeting Tuesday, November 19th, 2024 8:00 am Walsh County Courthouse, Grafton, ND

Vice Chairman Larry Tanke called the meeting of the Walsh County Water Resource District Board to order. Present: Chairman Daryl Campbell, Vice Chairman Larry Tanke, Manager Albin Jallo and Secretary/Treasurer Sarah Johnston. Chairman Campbell attended via Zoom and Vice Chairman Tanke conducted the meeting. Commissioner Ernie Barta also attended a portion of the meeting.

<u>Agenda</u>: The agenda was reviewed. Vice Chairman Tanke motioned to approve the agenda, 2nd by Manager Jallo. Motion carried.

<u>Minutes & Bills</u>: The minutes of the November 12th 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.

Walsh Co. Highway Department Drainage Permits:

Jason Johnston attended the meeting and presented permit applications for Tom Torkelson and Spencer Bina. Tom Torkelson requested permission to clean out blow dirt from the County Road 6 ditch at Section 32 of Farmington Township. After a short discussion, the Board signed off on the permit. Spencer Bina requested permission to install a culvert in a field approach along County Road 14 and Section 2 of Norton Township at the quarter-line. Jason visited the site and found there to be an excess of blow dirt in the ditch along this mile, including within existing culverts. He said the ditch should be cleaned before a new culvert is installed because without cleaning it, water will not drain properly. Commissioner Barta reiterated that the Highway Department does not clean ditches, and that it's always been the landowner that cleaned it. The Board tabled Spencer's permit application until landowners/operators in that stretch get it cleaned out.

Jason also provided an update on the County Road 9 bridge replacement work that has been underway, along Drain 48 near Cashel. He said the box culverts have been installed and are waiting for inspection by the State. On an unrelated note, Jason mentioned that Jared Marquardt reported beaver dams near and along his property and that Jared was concerned that water may back up in the spring. Because the dams are outside of the county's right of way, they would not ordinarily be removed by the County. The consensus of the group was that it should be left to the landowner to work on it, and that he may contact the USDA wildlife specialist for animal control assistance.

Miscellaneous:

- Jeff Duray from Triple D stopped in to discuss work completed on Drains 97 and 87. Jacob Wognum of Houston Engineering was contacted via speaker phone during the meeting to help answer questions on drain elevations. They also discussed easements the railroad has on the north side of Minto along Drain 7 as it relates to upcoming maintenance.
- Manager Jallo requested that next week's meeting be moved to a different day. The Board will try to schedule on Monday morning. Sarah will see if she can reschedule agenda appointment holders.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The Board will most likely meet on Monday, November 25th instead of Tuesday. Immediate notice will be given to the required parties once arrangements have been made.

Larry Tanke, Vice Chairman

Sarah B. Johnston, Administrative Asst. Attest: