

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SARGENT COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT HELD AT 10:00 A.M. ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2000 AT THE SARGENT COUNTY COURTHOUSE, FORMAN, ND

The meeting was called to order with the following members present: Dan Jacobson, John Totenhagen, Randy Ptacek, Richard Engst and Mark Breker. Also present Jeff Volk.

Bridge 109-12 located on old highway No. 11 on Drain No. 11 was discussed and Jeff indicated it might cost more to remove the structure than to put in the pipe. The main concern is the safety of the bridge. The Board hasn't had any complaints about how narrow it is. Randy agreed to look at the structure to see if it is deteriorating or if a squash pipe can be placed in the opening. The opening at the railroad needs to be increased and agreed that a 78-inch squash would meet with the other openings. Instruct Jeff Volk to send a letter to the railroad requesting replacement of the culvert as soon as possible. (Totenhagen/Ptacek, unanimous) The railroad can coordinate the replacement with other work that is scheduled for this area.

Discussed the application to the Corps of Engineers to clean a portion of the Wild Rice River located in Section 9-129-56. Jeff will review the application, provide some photomaps and return to the Board.

Ken Forster's permit has been returned to the Board because the State Water Commission determined it is more than 80 acres of drainage basin. Jeff looked at the documents and suggested that Ken talks to FSA and get aerial maps with the drainage area outlined. The Board can review the map and return to the SWC with their comments.

Assessment area for dams - Dan received a map of the Tewaukon Watershed, which includes Brummond-Lubke, Nelson and Frenier dams. Jeff said the Board could create an assessment district and present to the county commissioners for final approval. The Board would prepare a map with the assessment area and when approved by the commissioners, deliver to the county auditor for collection. He suggested sending notice to all landowners informing them of this assessment and the reason. The maximum levy is \$.50 per acre or set on a benefit analysis (upstream=lower percent and downstream=higher percent). Flood control was the main purpose of the dam, which were built in the 1960's and would benefit all downstream landowners. Jeff said there is talk about re-evaluating the safety of the dams and this could bring other means of financing available. Mark asked about allocating the annual cash rent from the land around Frenier Dam to maintenance. This is a possibility and the Board would use discretion on what the immediate needs are for maintenance. A legal drain could be created and \$1.50 maximum levied. The Board could establish a project, borrow funds, and levy the tax. The Board will consider these options for future repairs.

Jeff prepared bridge repair estimates for 133-4 and 134-5 in 1993 and conditions have been too wet since that time to proceed with the project. Jeff reviewed the original plans and suggested contacting contractors now to get an hourly contract to replace the bridges. The Board instructed Jeff to proceed with a proposal for these projects because it appears that the area may be suitable for work this spring/summer. The Board agreed that they would not put a completion date on the project in case of wet conditions.

Drain No. 8 - Jeff prepared two analysis from the original assessment area. The first option is to assess all the lots in the City of Rutland and the farmland in the original area. This would generate about \$7,000 per year. The second option would be to use the taxable valuation for Rutland City and the farmland and this would generate about \$1,000. Either of these options could be completed without a vote of the people and without a hearing. The Board could create a new district, which would require hearings, publications, etc.

Discussed land draining into Sargent County from Ransom County. Jeff felt that a joint board must be established to make it easier to collect monies for Sargent County. A group could request additional cleaning on the natural drain and the Board could request right-of-way, charge more for assessment but assist in areas where work is required. The Board will talk to Ransom County Water Resource Board about forming a joint board. Jeff will send maps of both Drain No. 11 and SC Water Channel Imp. District # 1 drainage area including Ransom County.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

DAN JACOBSON - CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD