

DRAFT

**SARGENT COUNTY WATER
RESOURCE DISTRICT**

**Special Meeting
Public Informational Meeting
Cogswell Community Center
Cogswell, North Dakota
March 28, 2024 -- 1:00 p.m.**

The Sargent County Water Resource District conducted a public informational meeting at the Cogswell Community Center in Cogswell, North Dakota. The Board also allowed members of the public to attend the meeting via Teams. In attendance at the meeting were Sargent County Water Resource District Board Members Todd Stein, Roger Zetocha, and Michael Wyum; Nathan Trosen and Josh Hassell, the Board's engineers from Moore Engineering; Sean Fredricks, the Board's attorney (Teams). With regard to members of the public in attendance, see the attached list of attendees.

Nathan Trosen opened the meeting on the Board's behalf and explained that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss a possible project to extend Sargent County Drain No. 9, to construct channel improvements to the existing Drain No. 9 channel, and a project to construct a joint Drain 9/Drain 11 outlet improvement project. In response to public requests, the District previously prepared a Petition/Bond document regarding these proposed projects.

Trosen and Hassell presented a power point presentation regarding these various project components; their power point slides are on file with the Board's Secretary-Treasurer. They explained that the Board conducted a similar public meeting four years ago. That meeting, and the interest voiced by landowners at that meeting, prompted the Board to prepare the Petition/Bond. Landowners have not submitted a signed petition or bond dollars but, more recently, landowners once again approached the Board and requested consideration of a project. Those requests prompted the Board to schedule this public informational meeting

By show of hands, landowners voiced strong landowner support for one project to improve the existing Drain 9 channel and to extend the Drain 9 channel approximately 4.5 miles. In addition, there was strong landowner support for a separate project to create a "maintenance district" to allow the Board to conduct cleanout operations (including sediment and cattail removal) along approximately fifteen miles of the Wild Rice River west of Silver Lake. Landowners were more interested in the creation of a maintenance district than in a project to construct a Drain 9/Drain 11 outlet improvement project.

The Board, Trosen, and Hassell discussed financing options for the two project proposals. Both would require landowner votes. The Board will discuss at their next meeting and will generate new Petition/Bond documents for landowners to sign for these two separate project proposals.

APPROVED:

Luke Siemieniewski, Chair

ATTEST:

Wendy Willprecht
Secretary-Treasurer