

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SARGENT COUNTY WATER RESOURCE BOARD HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2025 AT 8:13 A.M. IN THE WATER BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM AT THE SARGENT COUNTY COURTHOUSE, FORMAN NORTH DAKOTA

In attendance: Chairman Luke Siemieniewski, Vice-Chairman Michael Wyum, Managers Todd Stein and Roger Zetocha. Also in attendance was Wendy Willprecht Secretary/Treasurer, Nathan Trosen, engineer for Moore Engineering, Commissioner Lyle Bopp and Richard Ruch. Present via video conference were Manager Bruce Speich, Katie Schmidt and Stephan Hilfer of Ohnstad Twichell, and landowner Leon Mallberg.

Manager Wyum moved to approve the December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 regular meeting minutes and the November 2024 financial statement. Manager Stein seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

Manager Stein moved to approve payment of the following bills;

**Ohnstad Twichell**- Correspondence/bond redemption/mtgs. \$573.95; J. Quandt tile app. \$726.11; R. Hanson tile app. \$712.72; R. Mauch tile app. \$608.92  
**Total: \$2,621.70**

**Moore Engineering**-Meetings/correspondence \$1,742.50; Shortfoot Creek-project coordination \$1,345.00; Silver Lake Dam-Meetings with DWR & RRJWRD to discuss cost share and permit requirements \$365.00; Permits-review of tile permit 2024-24 \$102.50; Drain No. 9- Correspondence with Section 26 landowners regarding wetland determinations for the Carlson Slough \$205.00  
**Total: \$3,760.00**

**Pro Landscapers**-Tree/weed removal along Silver Lake Dam **Total: \$9,645.00**

**Sargent County Treasurer**-Drain No. 4 taxes-\$651.80; Drain No. 7 taxes \$19.01  
**Total: \$670.81**

Manager Wyum seconded the motion. Upon roll call the motion carried unanimously.

	Lucas Siemieniewski	Travel	\$
	Todd Stein	Travel	\$
	Michael Wyum	Travel	\$
	Roger Zetocha	Travel	\$
	Bruce Speich	Travel	\$
DD	Lucas Siemieniewski	PD	\$
DD	Todd Stein	PD	\$
DD	Michael Wyum	PD	\$
DD	Roger Zetocha	PD	\$
DD	Bruce Speich	PD	\$
DD	Wendy Willprecht	Sec-Treas -Salary	\$

**Drain No. 11:**

**Project:** No update.

**Cost-share reimbursement request to the Sargent County Commission:** There has been no update on this matter.

**Jerry Meide & Miles Thompson South Lateral:** There has been no update on this matter.

Manager Stein said that JBX looked at the drain with him. Stein said we need tree grinding done approximately 2-3 miles upstream of where the drain reconstruction ended. JBX thought it would take about \$10,000-12,000 to get the work done. A motion was made by Manager Wyum to approve up to \$15,000 in expense for the tree grinding and clean-up to be completed by JBX. Manager Stein seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously. JBX told Stein that colder weather makes it easier to shred the vegetation.

**Drain No. 4:** No report.

**Drain No. 2:** No report.

**Drain No. 7:** No report

**Hall Township (Maintenance District Petition)-** Chairman Siemieniewski said that he will talk with Scott Mund before the next meeting.

**Drain No. 9 Extension:**

Trosen from Moore Engineering said NRCS release forms were sent to landowners Dorn Malpert and Mike Atkinson. Trosen has not heard back from either yet. Once the release forms are received, Trosen will send them to the NRCS to request the release of wetland information for the Carlson Slough.

**Wild Rice Maintenance District:**

Trosen said Moore has drawn up the existing conditions of channel and a proposed grade. Work is currently on hold as Moore is waiting for the preliminary design of the improvements to Drain 9 to be completed.

**Tewaukon Watershed**

No update.

**Drain No. 8:** No update.

**Cogswell Tile:** Trosen said FEMA sent a request for more information on this project in regards to the NDDDES cost share application that was submitted last year. Trosen said that after Moore responds we hope to get a response in the form of a cost-share agreement with the NDDDES. The potential cost-share funds through NDDDES would be used for developing plans and showing the benefit of a project.

**Drain No. 2:** No update.

**Drain No. 12:** Chairman Siemieniewski said that when the weather allows, we need to do some rip rapping along the drain. He mentioned that the Sargent County Road Department might be interested in the rip rapping project in conjunction with the SCWRD. Siemieniewski also said that there has been a lot of sloughing after the clean out of the east end of the drain.

**Short Foot Creek:** Trosen of Moore Engineering said that there is one more public scoping meeting that needs to take place, then the Board can submit the final plan for this project to the NRCS for review. Trosen said the NRCS would like to push the meeting back to the end of March. Willprecht will check availability of the courthouse conference room for March 27<sup>th</sup> and will work with Trosen to set the date for this meeting.

**City of Stirum:** No report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**House Bill 1202:**

Four members from the board plan to attend legislative discussion of House Bill 1202 in Bismarck on 1/17/25. Willprecht will draw up a special meeting agenda.

**Diversions Traffic:**

It was noted that the trucks hauling rock for the FM Diversion project have been traveling at excessive speeds over by the Geneseo area. There was discussion of encouraging the County to send a letter to the Diversion Authority pushing the safety issue being discussed at today's meeting. Commissioner Bopp added that the Commission has been trying to slow the Diversion trucks down over the years. Willprecht will send an email to Auditor Bopp and suggest the letter to the Diversion Authority comes from the Sargent County Commission.

**2025 Engineering Services and Legal Services:**

Discussion was had regarding an increase in rates in 2025. Manager Stein made a motion to accept the rate increases for both Moore Engineering and Ohnstad Twichell and to reappoint both Nathan Trosen of Moore Engineering, acting engineer and Sean Fredricks of Ohnstad Twichell, acting attorney. Manager Wyum seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

It was decided to table both the election of officers and the approval of the 2025 meeting dates.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**DICKEY-SARGENT JOINT BOARD**

**DSJTB bills for approval:**

**DVEC - electricity -**

**\$ 141.00**

Bill was approved during the Dickey-Sargent Joint Board meeting.

**November 2024 balances:**

Maintenance Account Balance:	<b>\$ 35,656.27</b>
Improvement Account Balance:	<b>\$269,957.22</b>
Special Assessment-Drain No. 11	

The next Dickey-Sargent Joint Board meeting will be held in March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**Richland-Sargent Drain #1  
Maintenance Fund Financial Statement**

**The November 2024 financials:** **\$369,425.93**

Chairman Siemieniewski said there have been several signatures collected on the petition being circulated.

The next RS1 meeting will be February 20th, 2025.

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 a.m.

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Luke Siemieniewski, Chairman

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Wendy Willprecht, Secretary/Treasurer