

DRAFT

These are DRAFT minutes, subject to amendment before final approval by the Sargent County Water Resource District.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SARGENT COUNTY WATER RESOURCE BOARD HELD ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH, 2025 AT 8:00 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 and Nathan Trosen, engineer for Moore Engineering. Present via video conference were Manager Bruce Speich, Attorneys Sean Fredricks and Katie Schmidt of Ohnstad Twichell, Commissioner Scott Johnson and landowner Leon Mallberg.

Manager Wyum moved to approve the January 16th, 2025 regular meeting minutes, the January 17th, 23rd and 30th, 2025 special meeting minutes, and the December 2024 financial statement. Manager Zetocha seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

Manager Stein moved to approve payment of the following bills:

Ohnstad Twichell- Meetings/correspondence	Total: \$777.00
Moore Engineering-	
Bliss Law Firm, LLC- phone calls, research, mtg.	Total: \$980.00
JBX LLC- Excavator/Mulch work Drain No. 11	Total: 13,920.00

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: Jerry Meide came to the courthouse earlier this month looking for landowner information. Trosen provided Meide a modified copy of the Drain 11 assessment list which was reduced to include just the parcels that drain to the South Lateral per Meide’s request.

The District received general permit reissuance and initial reapplication forms from the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality Division of Water Quality (NDDEQ) in regards to the previous construction projects on Drain 11, Drain 12, Silver Lake, and RS-1. The forms are meant to update the NDDEQ on the status of the project and if permit coverage is still needed. Given that construction for each project is completed the permit coverage for each can be terminated. Manager Stein made a motion to authorize the signature of the NDPDES requests for all four, marking each to be terminated. The motion was seconded by Manager Zetocha. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

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 spoke to Scott Mund and that Mund is working on getting the petition signed.

Drain No. 9 Extension:

Trosen from Moore Engineering said he worked with landowners in Section 26 of Brampton Township to submit information release forms to the NRCS regarding any wetland data they may have for the Carlson Slough. The NRCS indicated that the most recent wetland determination for the Carlson Slough was completed in the early 1990's and is no longer valid. A new wetland determination will need to be completed to determine a potential operating water surface elevation for the slough that is acceptable by the NRCS.

Trosen said we have a couple of options to proceed; we can continue the project without a new determination until after the project is voted. If the vote were to pass and a wetland determination was then completed there's a chance that it could change the design of the project enough that it may have to be re-voted. Another option could be to have the landowners request the NRCS to complete a new wetland determination, but this could take up to 6 months, and the result from the NRCS would be final and could potentially impact other wetlands in Section 26. Lastly, Trosen said that Moore Engineering's certified wetland specialist can do a preliminary wetland determination, which would ultimately need to be approved by the NRCS. Once the analysis is completed by Moore, the landowners can decide whether to proceed with proposed project as is before submitting the information to the NRCS. The SCWRD approved Moore Engineering to proceed with the desk top analysis.

Wild Rice Maintenance District:

Trosen said Moore Engineering has drawn up the existing conditions of the 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: The NDDDES has this project on its final list. Trosen said that he hasn't heard anything lately regarding approval, but hopes to have some information for the board next month. The potential cost-share funds through NDDDES would be used for developing plans and showing the benefit of a project.

Cogswell Tile: The NDDDES has this project on its final list. Trosen said that he hasn't heard anything lately regarding approval, but hopes to have some information for the board next month. 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: No update.

Short Foot Creek: A public scoping meeting will be held at the Sargent County Courthouse on March 27th with all agencies being invited. After the meeting, Moore Engineering will be able to update the final plan per the comments received and ultimately submit the final plan to the NRCS.

City of Stirum: No report.

Silver Lake Dam: DWR completed the review of the Board's cost-share request and approved cost-share for \$24,000 for pre-construction engineering. Manager Wyum moved to approve the SWC Cost-Share Agreement and to authorize Chairman Siemieniewski to sign the agreement. Manager Zetocha seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

Manager Stein moved to approve a Cost-Share Agreement with the Red River Joint Water Resource District in the amount of \$10,400.00 for pre-construction engineering and permitting, and to authorize Chairman Siemieniewski to sign the agreement. Manger Zetocha seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

It is anticipated that the local cost to complete the design & permitting is \$5,000 - \$6,000.

NEW BUSINESS:

CD Renewal: CD #18162 is renewed for another 12 months at 4.75%. The board will also renew CD #14417 that will roll over next month.

OLD BUSINESS:

SCWRD Secretary Election: A motion was made by Manager Zetocha and seconded by Manager Wyum to reelect secretary Wendy Willprecht. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

SCWRD Manager Appointments: Managers Michael Wyum and Todd Stein were reappointed to the SCWRD for another term by the Sargent County Commission. A motion was made by Manager Stein and seconded by Manager Zetocha to have Luke Siemieniewski remain as the Waterboard Chairman and for Michael Wyum to remain as the Vice-Chairman and all other appointments to remain as-is. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

SCWRD Meeting Dates: Meeting dates were set for 2025 and have been forwarded to the Auditor’s Department.

Chairman Siemieniewski said that we should take bids for spraying needs for the upcoming year. The board agreed.

DICKEY-SARGENT JOINT BOARD

DSJTB bills for approval:

DVEC - electricity -	\$ 150.00
Ohnstad Twichell-meeting	\$ 51.00

A motion was made by Manager Zetocha and seconded by Manager Wyum to approve the bills. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

December 2024 balances:

Maintenance Account Balance:	\$ 42,819.16
Improvement Account Balance:	\$325,107.96
Special Assessment-Drain No. 11	

The next Dickey-Sargent Joint Board meeting will be held in March 20th, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.

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

The December 2024 financials: **\$396,995.14**

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

The next RS1 meeting will be March 20th, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 a.m.

Luke Siemieniewski, Chairman

Wendy Willprecht, Secretary/Treasurer