

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

## **DICKEY-SARGENT JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.**

The Dickey-Sargent Joint Water Resource District met on Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 8:00 a.m., in the water resource district board room at the Sargent County Courthouse in Forman, North Dakota. The following Joint Board voting members were present: Steve Hansen, John Quandt; Luke Siemieniewski and Todd Stein. The following were also present: Michael Wyum and Bruce Speich, Sargent County Water Resource District Managers; Nathan Trosen, Moore Engineering; Sean Fredricks, Katie Schmidt, and Stephen Hilfer, Ohnstad Twichell, appeared virtually; Richard Ruch; and Leon Mallberg appeared virtually.

### **Minutes**

Manager Quandt moved to approve the March 20th, 2025, meeting minutes. Manager Stein seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

### **Jackson Township Improvement District No. 1 Project**

Manager Quandt reported that the pump hasn't been started for the season, yet. There are about 2-3 inches of water in the channel that can be pumped. Quandt plans on starting the pump to lower the water level. All preliminary tests of the pump show that it is working.

### **Spraying**

Manager Quandt said that if the water level stays low, the cattails will really grow. There is about 7-8 miles that would need to be sprayed along the drain. A motion was made by Manager Siemieniewski and seconded by Manager Stein to approve an agreement with Hansen Ag Air, LLC, to conduct spraying in Jackson Drain, not to exceed \$3,000, and to authorize Chairman Steve Hansen and Administrator Wendy Willprecht to sign the spraying agreement drawn up by Attorney Sean Fredricks. Upon roll call, the motion passed unanimously.

### **Bills**

Manager Wyum moved to approve payment of the following bills:

<b>DVEC – electricity –</b>	<b>\$ 150.00</b>
<b>Ohnstad Twichell-Readi Tech permit/correspond.</b>	<b>\$ 238.00</b>
<b>Moore Engineering-Mtgs.</b>	<b>\$ 225.00</b>

Manager Quandt seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

### **Budget**

The joint board reviewed all information provided regarding the budget for 2026. The following motions were made:

Manager Quandt made a motion to keep the special assessment at \$2.50 per acre. Manager Siemieniewski seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Manger Wyum and seconded by Manager Quandt to approve the budget as presented. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

### **Intermountain Utility Permit**

Trosen of Moore Engineering said that Intermountain will be installing fiber optic lines on the south side of the road, within the NDDOT ROW. The lines will run parallel to the drain, but will cross the drain in two places. Fredricks and Trosen prepared a Utility Permit, including special conditions, and including burial of 5 ft. below the channel.

Manager Siemieniewski said that the attorney and engineer fees for this project should not fall on the tax payers. He believes the fees should be paid by Intermountain. The rest of the joint board agreed. Manager Siemieniewski made a motion to have Administrator Willprecht forward all fees relating to the utility permit for the fiber optic line burial, to Intermountain. Manager Stein seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Manager Stein and seconded by Manager Quandt to approve the Utility Permit. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

### **Joint Board Agreement**

Last fall the Dickey-Sargent WRD asked the DWR and the Attorney General's Office if they would permit the district to consider and approve surface drain permits that discharge into or otherwise impact the Jackson or Lovell Drains. Under state law, the WRD with the majority of the land impacted by a surface drainage project must consider and approve a surface permit but the state considered Dickey-Sargent's request and indicated they would permit the change to allow Dickey-Sargent to consider and approve those permit applications as long as Dickey and Sargent modify the Dickey-Sargent joint board agreement to give Dickey-Sargent that specific authority. The board waited for the Legislative Session to conclude to see where we stand with joint WRDs; the Legislative Session is now a wrap and we can now proceed with an amendment of the Dickey-Sargent Joint Board Agreement.

Attorney Fredricks prepared the language and submitted it to DWR for their review and they have since signed-off on the language. The Board can consider the joint board agreement next month. In the meantime, Attorney Fredricks prepared a consent/waiver letter for consideration by all three WRDs (Dickey, Sargent, and Dickey-Sargent). Manager Quandt moved to approve the consent/waiver letter on behalf of the Dickey-Sargent Joint WRD and to authorize Chairman Hansen and Administrator Willprecht to sign it. Manager Wyum seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

### **Next Meeting Date**

The Joint Board will meet next on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:24 a.m.

APPROVAL:

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Steve Hansen, Chair

ATTEST:

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Wendy Willprecht  
Secretary-Treasurer