

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SARGENT COUNTY WATER RESOURCE BOARD HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017 AT 2:00 P.M., IN THE COMMISSIONERS ROOM, SARGENT COUNTY COURTHOUSE, FORMAN, NORTH DAKOTA VIA CONFERENCE CALL ORIGINATING FROM SARGENT COUNTY COURTHOUSE, FORMAN ND.

The WRD managers and agents present via phone were: Luke Siemieniewski, Roger Zetocha, board managers; and Chris Gross, board engineer and Sean Fredricks, board attorney. Present at the courthouse were: Todd Stein and Korey Martinson, board managers and Sherry Hosford, Secretary-Treasurer. Absent: Bruce Speich.

Chairman Siemieniewski called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Drain No. 11 Reassessment.

Chris Gross reviewed the original determination from the March meeting including the proposed formulas that the board agreed upon. Chris provided a map with 20 spot check locations as requested by landowners and the board at the March meeting. Further, Manager Zetocha has flown the drain and other managers have met with landowners and board members felt that the benefit formula (40% weight for Proximity to drain and 60% weight for Productivity Index of each parcel) developed at the March meeting was not properly depicting the benefit provided by the drain. Chris, as per the request of the board managers, provided two alternate benefit formulas: 1) 90% Proximity and 10% Productivity Index and 2) 80% Proximity and 20% Productivity. Chris provided updates maps to the board to review with the same 20 spot check locations throughout Drain No. 11.

Discussion continued with all board members agreeing that they were comfortable with the new 80/20 formula. It was also noted that Dickey County, who is included in this reassessment, would like to have a map and other documentation to review. Chris has a meeting with Dickey County WRB next week and will share these items with them and answer any questions they might have on the reassessment.

All were in agreement that the board needs to do right for everyone. The 80/20 percentage assessment numbers are as follows: Under the Proximity method – 0-.5 miles from the drain = 100%; .5-1.0 = 80%; 1.0-1.5 = 60%; 1.5-2.0 = 50%; 2.0-2.5 = 40%; 2.5-3.0 = 30%; 3.0-3.5 = 20%; 3.5-4.0 = 10% and more than 4 miles from the drain = 5%. Productivity Index method – More than 80% = 80%; 60-80% = 60%; 40-60% = 40%; 20-40% = 20% and less than 20% productivity = 0%.

Chris will prepare a colored map with the modified percentage benefits and have the board review and make any changes at the upcoming April meeting to prepare for the May 18th hearing. The new reassessment will determine what kind of financial impact the assessment dollars will have on funding for the drain project.

Manager Zetocha asked the question if another reassessment were requested when would be the earliest this could be done and Attorney Fredricks replied the board could be petitioned every ten years to do a reassessment.

After agreeing on the new 80/20% assessment, Manager Zetocha asked Chris if he could calculate the dollar difference of maintenance funds based on the 80/20% and the 90/10% for comparison.

Meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

LUCAS SIEMIENIEWSKI, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD – SECRETARY-TREASURER