

Renville County Water Resource Board

Minutes of RCWRB Regular Meeting, October 14, 2024, held in the Community Room of the Renville County Courthouse, 205 Main Street East, Mohall, North Dakota.

Present:

Chair Peter Gates

Vice Chair Dan Steinberger

Manager Guy Solemsaas

Attorney Kale Van Bruggen (via video conference)

Engineer Jennifer Malloy (via video conference)

Robin Stark, Treasurer

Meeting called to order by Chair Peter Gates at 9:00 a.m.

Chair Peter Gates called for any corrections or additions to the agenda. Hearing no additions or corrections, the Chair declared the agenda approved as presented.

The minutes of the July 8, 2024, regular meeting were reviewed. Vice Chair Dan Steinberger moved to approve the July 8, 2024, regular meeting minutes. Manager Guy Solemsaas seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion carried.

Treasurer Robin Stark presented the bills for approval by the Board and reported the income since the last meeting. Manager Guy Solemsaas moved to approve payment of bills as presented. Vice Chair Dan Steinberger seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Chair Peter Gates – aye, Vice Chair Dan Steinberger – aye, Manager Guy Solemsaas – aye. Motion carried.

Treasurer Stark reported the checking account and savings account balances and the balance of the Assessment Drain No. 1 account, totaling \$52,495.47.

Old Business:

Mouse River Park Inspection Records: Engineer Jennifer Malloy (Apex Engineering) reported on emails and inspection reports received from the Army Corps. The frequency of formal inspections has changed from annual inspection to every five years, but there continues to be an informal inspection every year. The next formal inspection is not until 2027. Chair Peter Gates and Vice Chair Dan Steinberger reported that the Souris River Joint Board is looking at raising the levels another 3 feet as part of the Minot flood protection.

Culvert – Section 22/23, T158N, R86W: Vice Chair Dan Steinberger was contacted by the White Ash Township Board of Supervisors Clerk. This fall, the Township Board will review the culvert elevation of the crossing between Section 22 & 23-158-86, Renville County. Steinberger asked for a recommendation from Apex Engineering on what the pitch of the culvert should be. Apex

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Engineering will have a surveyor shoot elevations and Jennifer Malloy will review when in the area next Monday.

New Business:

Culvert Inspection Bill: Chair Peter Gates reported on an invoice received from CC Steel, LLC (Invoice #2397) for the Levee and Storm Sewer Culvert CCTV Inspection & Cleaning on the 2023 SWIF Project 23-001 (Mouse River Park). The work was completed in 2023. The Renville County Water Resource Board's share of the invoice is \$18,972.38. Chair Gates reported to the Renville County Board of Commissioners that the cost of inspection and cleaning was not in the Water Resource Board's budget. The Water Resource District and Renville County will share Renville County's portion of the cost. Chair Gates will address the cost-share break down with the County Board of Commissioners.

Vice Chair Dan Steinberger moved to authorize Chair Peter Gates to pay the Water Resource Board's portion of the invoice with District general funds. Manager Guy Solemsaas seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion carried.

Rinke Noonan Law Firm – Notice of 2025 Rates: Attorney Kale Van Bruggen (Rinke Noonan, Ltd.) reviewed the billing rates for Rinke Noonan Law Firm for 2025. The billing rates are an update to the 2023 Agreement for Legal Services approved by the Board.

2025 Meeting Schedule Resolution: Attorney Kale Van Bruggen (Rinke Noonan, Ltd.) reviewed a draft Resolution Setting Regular Meeting Schedule for the Year 2025. After Board review and discussion, Vice Chair Dan Steinberger moved to approve the Resolution Setting Regular Meeting Schedule for the Year 2025. Manager Guy Solemsaas seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Chair Peter Gates – aye, Vice Chair Dan Steinberger – aye, Manager Guy Solemsaas – aye. Motion carried.

Robin Stark – Treasurer Replacement: The Board thanked Robin Stark for her years of service as Treasurer to the Renville County Water Resource District. Chair Peter Gates reported that Victoria Trout, the Renville County Auditor, has agreed to accept the position of Treasurer for the Renville County Water Resource District.

Vice Chair Dan Steinberger moved to appoint Victoria Trout as Treasurer for the Renville County Water Resource District and authorize her to execute signatory cards on all Renville County Water Resource District accounts. Manager Guy Solemsaas seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion carried.

Joint North Dakota Water Convention: The Board discussed the upcoming Joint North Dakota Water Convention in Bismarck, Vice Chair Dan Steinberger will attend and Chair Peter Gates may also attend.

Souris River Joint Board:

Farm Trapped Water Program: Vice Chair Dan Steinberger reported that on September 30, letters were sent out to Renville County residents on the Farm Trapped Water Program. The Program provides funding to address areas of 10-acres or more where water was trapped in the 2011 flooding and couldn't flow back into the river. The program requires coordination with NRCS to ensure wetland conservation compliance is followed for enrolled participants.

Mouse River Bridge: A subcommittee will meet to investigate ways to find a contractor to build the Mouse River bridge. The subcommittee will look at breaking up the contract into subdivided components.

Engineer's Report: None.

Letters of Complaint:

Vice Chair Dan Steinberger reported that he was contacted to address an issue on the Renville County and Ward County line. The impact is to Section 18, Township 160, Range 86 (Roosevelt Township), but appears to be caused by reconstruction of the road between Section 12 and 13 in Township 160, Range 87 (Sauk Prairie Township). When the roadway was reconstructed, a culvert was buried so the water in Sections 7 and 18 of Roosevelt Township must cross two roads instead of one. Steinberger forwarded the complaint to Tom Klein on the Ward County Water Resource District and requested the Ward County Water Resource Board investigate.

A motion to adjourn was made by Vice Chair Dan Steinberger. The motion was seconded by Manager Guy Solemsaas. On voice vote, the motion carried. Having completed all business on the noticed and amended agenda, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Minutes approved by the Board on January 13, 2025.

Peter Gates, Chair

Kale R. Van Bruggen, Secretary