

MINUTES OF MEETING  
MAPLE RIVER WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT  
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA  
JUNE 4, 2015

The Maple River Water Resource District met on June 4, 2015, at 8:00 a.m. at the Cass County Highway Department, West Fargo, North Dakota.

Present were Rodger Olson, Chairman; Jurgen Suhr, Manager; Gerald Melvin, Manager; Carol Harbeke Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer; Brenda Lovgren, Administrative Assistant; Lukas Andrud, Attorney for the Board; Mike Opat, Engineer for the Board; Brady Woodard, Moore Engineering, Inc.; and Hali Durand, Cass County Planner.

**Minutes**

It was moved by Manager Suhr, seconded by Manager Melvin and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2015, meeting, as amended.

**Upper Maple River Dam**

Mike Opat updated the Board regarding the construction on the Upper Maple River Dam Project. The excessive amount of rain has hindered progress. H & S Contracting, Inc. has installed a rock drain to de-water the site downstream of the structure. Bore holes have been grouted. Construction could be complete as early as December.

Moore Engineering, Inc. has two people on the construction site at all times and are willing to conduct tours with the Board.

**Drain #39 repairs in Leonard Township**

Brady Woodard met with Mark Nesemeier, Zoning Administrator, from Leonard Township. Repairs are in progress on Drain #39 and should be complete by the end of the week.

**Pontiac Township Improvement District No. 73**

Mr. Opat reported to the Board that the construction contract regarding the Pontiac Township Improvement District No. 73 is still open with Reiner Contracting, Inc. He has requested the contractor to come back to complete repairs once the water levels drop in the lower reaches.

Some of the township roads that were under water prior to the project have now been re-opened.

**Maple River Dam**

Water backed up behind the Maple River Dam as a result of recent rainfall and it was necessary to close one of the township roads. Mr. Woodard is working with Highland Township on where gravel is needed.

### **Drain #15 – culvert replacement in Section 35 of Maple River Township**

Mr. Woodard reported that the culvert replacement in the NW 1/4 of Section 35 in Maple River Township is complete. The culvert 1/2 mile south in Section 2 of Leonard Township also needs to be replaced. Mr. Woodard will proceed with repairs.

### **Drain #46 low water crossings**

Mr. Opat reported to the Board that Drain #46 low water crossings have not been inspected due to heavy rain conditions. Mr. Woodard and Manager Jurgen will conduct the inspection when weather conditions are appropriate and report back to the Board on the matter.

### **Swan Creek – Cass County Highway 10 crossing**

The Cass County Highway Department is proceeding with the replacement of the Cass County Highway 10 crossing over Swan Creek near Casselton. Construction is underway and they have run into an issue with a fiber optic cable that is impacting the project. Tom Soucy contacted Mr. Opat in regard to moving the new box culverts west 20-25' in order to avoid the buried cable. The change in plans would require modifications to the channel on both sides. Moving the location of the crossing would benefit the Cass County Highway Department and may also help address the issue of a large building found to be encroaching the right of way area north of the crossing. Mr. Soucy will revise the design of the crossing and work with the landowner regarding additional right of way needs.

Work on Swan Creek north of Cass County Highway 10 was discussed. Chairman Olson suggested talking with the local landowners regarding the benefits of the project. Mr. Opat will do a cost estimate and complete scenarios for financing and report to the Board at the next meeting.

### **Casselton Industrial Park drainage**

Mr. Opat reported the City of Casselton would like to have a drain constructed to divert water from west of the Casselton Industrial Park into Drain #62 or the Swan Creek Diversion. The matter will be discussed further at a future meeting.

### **Detention Project Planning Teams**

Mr. Opat reported that a *Memorandum of Understanding* has been signed between the Red River Retention Authority (RRRA) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) regarding the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). The deadline to submit studies for funding through RCPP to the RRRA is June 17, 2015. The Upper Maple River, Swan Creek, Rush River, and Lower Rush River Watersheds are proposed to be included in the NRCS process.

### **Utility Permits**

It was moved by Manager Melvin and seconded by Manager Suhr to approve the following *Utility Permits*, subject to conditions provided by the Water Resource District Engineer:

- For Cass County Rural Water Users to install water line under Swan Creek in Section 28 of Casselton Township; and
- For CenturyLink to install telephone cable under Swan Creek at Cass County Highway 10.

Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**Application for Jahnke First Subdivision in the NW 1/4 of Section 3 in Maple River Township**

The Board has no comment to submit regarding the Cass County Planning correspondence on the application for *Jahnke First Subdivision* in the NW 1/4 of Section 3 in Maple River Township.

**2014 Audit**

It was moved by Manager Suhr and seconded by Manager Melvin to approve the 2014 Audit of the Maple River Water Resource District. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**Bills**

It was moved by Manager Suhr and seconded by Manager Melvin to approve the payment of Checks #5396 through #5406 and the electronic funds transfer, as amended. Upon roll call vote, the following Managers voted in favor: Olson, Suhr, and Melvin. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

**Drain #37**

Mr. Woodard received a call from Bob Baumgarten regarding Drain #37 between Sections 21 and 28 of Addison Township. He indicated the berms were settling and there is a concern of flooding in the area. Mr. Woodard will inspect the area and report back to the Board regarding the matter.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business for the Board to consider, it was moved by Manager Melvin, seconded by Manager Suhr and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

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Rodger Olson  
Chairman

ATTEST:

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Carol Harbeke Lewis  
Secretary-Treasurer