

MINUTES OF MEETING  
MAPLE RIVER WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT  
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

The Maple River Water Resource District met on September 1, 2016, at 8:00 a.m. at the Cass County Highway Department, West Fargo, North Dakota.

Present were Jurgen Suhr, Manager; Gerald Melvin, Manager; Carol Harbeke Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer; Kathy Grueneich, Administrative Assistant; Sean Fredricks, Attorney for the Board; Mike Opat and Kyle Volk, Engineers for the Board; Brady Woodard, Moore Engineering, Inc.; Jason Benson, Cass County Highway Department; Shane Ice, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); and those whose names appear on the attached roster. Manager Rodger Olson was absent.

**Minutes**

It was moved by Manager Melvin, seconded by Manager Suhr and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2016, meeting, as amended.

**Tower Township Improvement District No. 77**

Maple River Water Resource District needs to receive another \$4,000 to reach the \$50,000 total required, along with a *Petition and Bond*, in order to proceed with Tower Township Improvement District No. 77.

George Richman, property owner in Tower Township, indicated he does not want property owners within the proposed project area to be forced to hold water on their land unless they voluntarily agree. Sean Fredricks and Mike Opat clarified the procedure. Manager Melvin and Manager Suhr noted the Board is only interested in doing what is best for the watershed, with the least amount of negative impact.

Options of including detention features with the project were discussed. Mr. Opat said doing so at this point would delay the project and would increase the cost. He suggested looking at that as a separate project in the future if they wish to pursue it.

When the *Petition and Bond* has been received, along with the required funds, the options will be considered and evaluated. Property owners will be contacted when meetings have been scheduled.

**Upper Swan Creek Channel Improvements**

Mr. Opat reminded the Board bids would be opened September 8, 2016, on the Upper Swan Creek Channel Improvements Project.

### **Drain #14 – slide in Section 19 of Warren Township**

Robert Baumgarten attended the meeting to report slide areas on Drain #14 in Sections 18 and 19 of Warren Township. Mr. Woodard inspected and viewed multiple slides in this unimproved section of Drain #14 and does not believe the drain can be easily repaired. Mr. Opat suggested a geotech analysis and a reconstruction survey be done on the area. The Board directed the Water Resource District Engineer to develop a cost estimate to repair the slides.

### **Drains #15, #37 and #39 Channel Improvements**

Mr. Opat reported design work continues on the Drains #15, #37 and #39 Channel Improvements.

### **Lynchburg-Buffalo Project No. 2016-01**

Mr. Opat reported design work and right of way acquisition is ongoing for Lynchburg-Buffalo Project No. 2016-01.

### **2016 Swan-Buffalo Detention Dam Repairs - Dam Nos. 5, 8 and 12**

Mr. Opat reported that the 2016 Swan-Buffalo Detention Dam Repairs - Dam Nos. 5, 8 and 12 look like they will be complete by the end of the month. Due to many challenges, there is a significant quantity overrun. He is reviewing the matter by verifying quantities and reviewing project funding.

Mr. Woodard said the project is 98% complete and Mr. Opat requested H & S Contracting, Inc. be paid for their work as bid.

### **Lake Bertha Flood Control Project No. 75**

There was a brief report on the Project Hearing in Embden on August 30, 2016, for Lake Bertha Flood Control Project No. 75. The vote closes on the project September 29, 2016.

### **Upper Maple River Dam**

Upper Maple River Dam operation and maintenance was discussed. The Board directed the Secretary-Treasurer to schedule a Maple-Steele Joint Water Resource District meeting to discuss responsibility for ongoing maintenance.

### **Drain #58 – request from Mark Belter to use spoil material to construct access to a new building site**

Mr. Fredricks prepared a document concerning the request from Mark Belter to use the spoil material along Drain #58 to construct access to a new building site, but a legal description of the property is needed. Chairman Olson will speak with Mark Belter about the matter, as well as paying for the cost of the survey needed to develop the legal description of the property.

### **Correspondence from Houston Engineering, Inc.**

The Board received a letter from Houston Engineering, Inc. soliciting views and comments regarding a bridge replacement project on the Maple River between Section 5 of Addison Township and Section 32 of Durbin Township. The Board directed the

Secretary-Treasurer to request a hydraulic analysis relating to the project, which will be forwarded on to the Water Resource District Engineer for review and comment.

**Request for Drainage on Highway Right of Way for Glenn Nelson to clean the south side of the frontage road on the south side of I-94 in Section 9 of Warren Township**

It was moved by Manager Melvin and seconded by Manager Suhr to approve the *Request for Drainage on Highway Right of Way* for Glenn Nelson to clean the south side of the frontage road on the south side of I-94 in Section 9 of Warren Township. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**Correspondence from Cass County Planning**

The Board had no comment to submit regarding Cass County Planning correspondence concerning Beverly's First Subdivision in the SW 1/4 of Section 26 in Watson Township

**Bills**

It was moved by Manager Melvin and seconded by Manager Suhr to approve the payment of Checks #5573 through #5581, and the electronic funds transfer, as presented. Upon roll call vote, the following Managers voted in favor: Suhr and Melvin. Manager Olson was absent. Motion carried.

**Operation and maintenance of NRCS watershed flood control structures**

Shane Ice, NRCS, briefly reviewed responsibilities concerning operation and maintenance of NRCS watershed flood control structures. He demonstrated the NRCS DamWatch tool, which has been developed as an effective means for managing watershed projects.

**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