

Draft: These are DRAFT minutes and subject to amendment before final approval by the Dickey County Water Resource District.

Dickey County Water Resource District

MEETING MINUTES

July 17, 2024

The Dickey County Water Resource District met at the Dickey County Courthouse in Ellendale ND at 8:00 am on Wednesday, July 17, 2024. Managers Steve Hansen, Don Zimbleman, Justin Gemar and Keith Hauck were all present at the court house. Sean Fredricks, the board's attorney and Nathan Trosen, Moore Engineering Representative, Joined via video Conference. Manager John Quandt also joined on the conference call.

Chairman Hansen called the meeting to order.

Robert Thorpe Notice of App

Manager Hansen informed the board that they have received a Notice of Application for water appropriation from Robert Thorpe. Mr. Thorpe has applied for a permit from the ND Department of Water Resources to divert water from the James River in Dickey County. The board has no action to seek on this matter.

Dickey County Drain #1 pumping site

Manager Zimbleman gave a brief update on the pumping site. He is meeting with Pat Kelly today to discuss where Dakota Improvement will put the spoil piles that will be on Mr. Zimbleman's land. Dakota Improvement can begin the project of creating a pumping site pad then when they are ready.

Manager Hansen made mention that the Helicopter Company that they have used in the past to spray the weeds and debris on the drains in Dickey County will most likely not be hired this time as they have employment and equipment issues. Manager Hansen will develop a plan and contact another resource to handle the spraying

Ed Melroe Complaint

Sean Fredricks spoke with Mr. Melroe by phone and Mr. Melroe explained that he owns property in the West Half of Section 22 in Northwest Township; his property has a slough and he says that slough has been rising in recent years, and he believes that is due to drainage constructed by the Berntson family in Section 15 to the north (he believed tile but he was not certain). Fredricks noted that in 2021 the Board approved a tile permit for Lowell Berntson in the Northeast Quarter of Section 15. The 2021 minutes for that permit provide, in part:

The Board next reviewed an *Application to Install a Subsurface Water Management System NO. 2021-10* filed June 18, 2021, filed with the Board by Applicant Lowell Berntson. Under the Application, Applicant seeks to install a 125-acre drain tile system in the Northeast Quarter of Section 15 in Northwest Township, Dickey County, North Dakota. The project will include a gravity outlet in the South Half of the Northeast Quarter of Section 15; the outlet will discharge directly into a lake or slough on the Northeast Quarter of Section 15.

According to property tax records supplied by Applicant, Lowell Berntson and Neal Berntson, as co-trustees of the Cleo Berntson Trust, own the Northeast Quarter of Section 15 of Northwest Township.

Fredricks will follow up with Mr. Melroe to seek more information; if the Lowell Berntson tile drainage is the only issue, the Board will have to dismiss the complaint (or to request the Mr. Melroe withdraw the complaint). Fredricks will let the Board know Mr. Melroe has to say.

Mr. Fredricks informed the board that there is a short time period left for Mike Brademeyer to file an appeal on the complaint that the board dismissed in the June meeting and will let the board know if an appeal is filed.

Manager Quandt informed the board that the 14A Highway project is completed, except for some billing paperwork that needs to be finished, and that the drain is working well.

Meeting Minutes

Manager Zimbleman moved to accept the June 19, 2024 meeting minutes. Manager Gemar seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion passed unanimously.

Financial Statement and Bills

The board considered bills from Ohnstad Twichell of \$3334.70, Moore Engineering of \$51.25 and Dakota Improvement \$750. Secretary Hansen gave the financial report. Manager Gemar moved to accept the financial report and bills. Manager Hauck seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

Steve Hansen, Chairman

Attest:

Judy Hansen, Secretary