

**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

August 20, 2025

The Dickey County Water Resource District met at the Dickey County Courthouse in Ellendale ND at 8:00 am on Wednesday, August 20, 2025. Managers Steve Hansen, Justin Gemar and John Quandt were all present at the meeting. Sean Fredricks, the board's attorney, and Nathan Trosen, Moore Engineering representative, joined via video conference. Managers Don Zimbleman and Keith Hauck were absent. Ron Haase was a guest at the courthouse.

Chairman Hansen called the meeting to order.

***Harold Schrum -drain discussion***

Mr. Schrum did not attend the meeting so no discussion was made.

***Dickey County Drain #3-O&M agreement***

Managers Hansen and Quandt attended the County Commissioner meeting yesterday, Tuesday, August 19, 2025 to discuss the request from the County Commissioners to take over ownership of a drain in Sections 19 and 20 of Yorktown Township and Section 24 of Maple Township. The county obtained an emergency permit for this drain years ago; later John Hokana obtained a surface permit for the drain. The County would like the Dickey County Water Resource District to own, operate, and maintain the drain. Managers Hansen and Quandt met at the site to consider options. Ron Haase approached the board and has interest in tiling into the drain in the future and gave some insight on his opinion of the functionality of the drain as it sits now; Mr. Haase owns land that is in the vicinity of the drain. Chairman Hansen indicated the Board could handle most O&M obligations with the Board's general funds but if there were significant costs, the Board would have to seek reimbursement from the County Commission. Sean Fredricks, the board's attorney, suggested the Board enter into a Joint Powers Agreement with the County Commission. In the JPA, the Board would agree to apply for a surface permit for the drain; the Board would accept ownership of the drain; the Board would agree to operate and maintain the drain; the Board would agree to utilize general fund dollars for operation, maintenance, repairs, and improvements; the County would agree the Board could operate and maintain the drain in County right of way; and the County would agree to reimburse the Board for costs beyond the Board's general fund capabilities. Mr. Fredricks will draft an agreement and provide it to the state's attorney. Manager Quandt moved to direct Nathan Trosen, Moore Engineering, to apply for a new permit for the drain, and to direct Fredricks to draft a Joint Powers Agreement for the County's consideration. Manager Gemar seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion passed unanimously.

### ***Dickey County Drain #1***

Manager Gemar gave a brief update on the excessive moisture that affects the drain. He has acquired a pump from General Irrigation at \$350 a day to alleviate some of the flooding. Manager Gemar also addressed the board with the ongoing beaver situation. Baker Trapping Service has removed 15-16 beaver as well as several raccoon and otter. Mr. Gemar feels like the trapping service is making progress.

### ***County 12 Road Project-John Quandt***

Manager Quandt gave a brief update on the progress of lowering the slough on County RD 12 that will help the road sustain the high water. Mr. Quandt is still in contact with the FSA and the County Commissioners have agreed to buy out a small CRP plot that will be drained with a pipe to move the water downstream. Mr. Quandt mentioned that the County Commissioners submitted an Under-80 Notification to the Board, as required under N.D. Cent. Code § 61-32-03.3 for a tile project that is under 80 acres. Mr. Quandt informed the board that spraying of cattails has been done as well for a better assessment of the acreage to drain.

### ***Pheasant Lake update-Nathan Trosen***

Nathan Trosen, Moore Engineering representative, gave a brief update as to the progress of finding information of who actually owns Pheasant Lake. As of now, it shows the Dickey County Water Resource District is the legal owner but there is no evidence that they actually are the owners. The DWR has the specific request from the Dickey County Water Resource District to be removed as owners of the lake and the board will wait for the DWR's decision when it comes. It could take months for the decision to be presented. Mr. Trosen will continue to follow up with the progress.

### ***Meeting Minutes***

Manager Quandt moved to approve the July 16, 2025 meeting minutes. Manager Gemar seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion passed unanimously.

### ***Financial Statement/Bills***

The board considered bills from Ohnstad Twichell of \$1907.60, Baker Trapping Services of \$434.60, ND Water Resource District Association of \$1000(membership), and ND Water Users Association of \$1000(membership). Secretary Hansen gave the financial report. Manager Gemar moved to approve the financial report and bills. Manager Quandt seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion passed unanimously.

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

**APPROVED:**

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Steve Hansen, Chairman

Attest:

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Judy Hansen, Secretary