

MINUTES OF THE EDDY COUNTY WATER RESOURCE BOARD
May 2, 2017

A regular meeting of the Eddy County Water Resource Board was held on May 2, 2017 at 9:00 AM in the Eddy County Courthouse. Present were Mike Tweed, Peter Larson, Kenny Reis and Travis S. Peterson, Secretary/Treasurer. Also in attendance was Eddy County Landowner Monty Schaefer.

The minutes of the April 4, 2017 regular meeting were presented. Tweed made a motion to approve the minutes. Second by Larson. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was presented and reviewed. Reis made a motion to approve the report. Second by Larson. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Various correspondence was reviewed. Except as otherwise set forth in these minutes, no action is required.

Old Business:

Ron Schaefer/BNSF Main Line Culvert: No new information.

Roger Duda Obstruction Complaint regarding Paul Skadberg: Neither Peterson nor any of the Board Members have heard anything from Paul Skadberg or Roger Duda. It appears the 30 day appeal period has expired.

Paul Skadberg Drainage Complaint against Roger Duda: Neither Peterson nor any of the Board Members have heard anything from Paul Skadberg or Roger Duda. It appears the 30 day appeal period has expired.

Doug Skadberg/Monty Schaefer Matter: Peterson reported that he had a conference call on April 20, 2017 with Aaron Carranza and John Paczkowski, both of the SWC/OSE, and Jennifer Verleger of the NDAG's office. Paczkowski questioned why this matter remains pending. Peterson explained that Schaefer and his attorney, Peter Welte, continue to gather information that appears relevant and the Board thinks that information should be considered prior to final resolution of this matter. Carranza/Paczkowski/Verleger questioned why that information was not presented when this matter was initially considered by the Board; noted that the appeal period tolled and no appeal was filed; and indicated that the Board's duty is to enforce SWC/OSE requirement that the Rosefield Slough Dam either be removed or the elevation be lowered so as to remove the dam from SWC/OSE jurisdiction (impoundment of less than 50 acre feet of water). After further discussion it was agreed that Schaefer may contact SWC/OSE to discuss the possibility of presenting his additional information directly to SWC/OSE.

Monty Schaefer was present to update the Board regarding a recent trip he made to Bismarck (week of April 24, 2017) to meet with Aaron Carranza of SWC/OSE. Schaefer presented to Carranza the information he previously presented to the Water Board at the April 4, 2017 meeting. Schaefer is under the impression that the matter may be reviewed by a committee after which the SWC/OSE will mail a letter to Schaefer and/or the Water Board. Schaefer will thereafter take action as he deems appropriate.

Upper Sheyenne River Joint Water Resource Board: Larson summarized the business conducted at the April 19, 2017 meeting held in Carrington. Larson noted that the Devils Lake Advisory Committee Meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2017 at the Chieftan in Carrington. Larson also indicated that the USRJWRB is discussing a dues increase for member counties. Under the proposal discussed, a member's annual dues would equal one mill multiplied by that portion of the County within the Sheyenne River Watershed divided by 4 (i.e. \$13,317 (current Eddy County Mill) x .62 (approximate portion of Eddy County within the Sheyenne River Watershed)

= \$8,256/4 = \$2,064/annual dues). The Board discussed this proposal and noted that under this arrangement annual dues would more than double (current annual dues = \$883). The Board discussed benefits derived from Eddy County's membership. Generally, the Board was concerned about the significant dues increase but remain open to further discussion. Larson also indicated that ND House Bill 1390 proposed capping the drain tile application fee at \$150 and requiring Water Board members to attend water management training. At the time of the meeting it was unknown whether House Bill 1390 passed as proposed, was amended, or was defeated. Stay tuned. Finally, Larson noted that the next meeting is scheduled for the evening of June 20, 2017 in Devils Lake at the Pizza Ranch. This is the evening before the Devils Lake Basin Summer Tour.

Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board: Tweed summarized the business conducted at the April 12, 2017 meeting held in the Ramsey County Courthouse. Tweed noted that the summer Devils Lake Basin Tour is scheduled for June 21, 2017. The exact focus of that tour is currently undetermined but Jeff Frith is traveling the basin to come up with tour ideas. Tweed noted that with the favorable spring - - gradual thaw and limited rains - - Devils Lake is not anticipated to rise as much as originally forecast. The next meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2017 at 8 AM in the Ramsey County Courthouse.

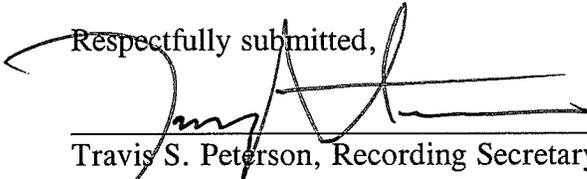
New Business:

Peter Larson explained that his daughter, Joanna, is an engineering student at NDSU. She is considering potential class projects. One idea Joanna has is to develop a swimming beach at Warsing Dam. Peter asked the Board to think about such a project. If Joanna pursues the project then, because it is a County Park, the Eddy County Commission would need to be approached and funding sources considered. No further action required of the board at this time.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting of the Eddy County Water Resource Board will be held on June 6, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Eddy County Courthouse.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Travis S. Peterson, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:



Kenneth Reis, Chairman