

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
ORIGINATING AT THE OFFICE OF THE
WALSH COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
GRAFTON, NORTH DAKOTA
JUNE 12, 2019 ~ 9:00AM**

The Red River Joint Water Resource District held a special meeting on June 12, 2019 at 9:00am commencing at the office of the Walsh County Water Resource District, ND.

Those present were: Managers Gary Thompson, Ben Varnson, Larry Tanke, Josh Ihry, and Robert Rostad; Richard Axvig, Grand Forks WRD; Dan Jacobson, SE Cass WRD; Attorney Sean Fredricks; Randy Gjestvang, SWC; Zach Herrmann, Houston Engineering; and Nettie Johnson, Secretary.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Upon the resignation of Executive Committee member Lance Yohe, Chairman Thompson elected Josh Ihry to take Lance Yohe's position with Dan Jacobson, SE Cass WRD taking Josh's position as senior alternate.

COST-SHARE REQUESTS

The Grand Forks County WRD submitted a request for the funding of a watershed rehabilitation project on the Upper Turtle River Dam No. 9 (Larimore Dam).

Larimore Dam is one of eight dams planned, designed, and constructed within the Upper Turtle River Watershed. The watershed work plan was finalized in 1969 with Larimore Dam identified as a medium (significant) hazard, multi-purpose structure, with the primary purposes being flood control and recreation. The dam has served in those capacities very well since its completion in 1979, and is recognized as a regional resource for recreation and has prevented significant flood control benefits to the local economy.

It is now classified as a high hazard dam and thus the original design does not meet current dam safety criteria for a high hazard dam.

The Grand Forks County WRD also submitted a request to the State Water Commission to fund 75% of the Rehabilitation Plan for Dam #9, but the SWC responded that they will only be approving 50% cost share of federal portion, rather than 75%. The Grand Forks WRD requested cost share based on anticipated SWC cost share of 75%, for a dam safety project. SWC staff is now determining that it should be 50% cost share. The State Engineer's recommendation will be 50%, unless something changes. The SWC meeting is on June 19 where this will be discussed further.

Ben Varnson moved to recommend to the full Board to approve up to \$59,670.00 (50% SWC Share) contingent on whether the SWC approves 50% or 75% funding. Larry Tanke seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion continued from a special meeting on June 3, 2019 on the SWC cost-share funding for the recently approved cost-share requests by the RRJWRD Executive Committee (May 8, 2019) for the Renovation Studies of the Senator Young Dam located in Pembina County, and the Bylin Dam and Fordville Dam located in Walsh County.

A letter from the RRJWRD office was remitted to Garland Erbele at the NDSWC asking for a response to the interpretation of the SWC staff regarding cost-share percentages of Dam Rehabilitation Studies.

After further discussion, Josh Ihry moved recommend to the full Board to fund 65% on the three Renovation Studies contingent on whether the SWC approves 50% or 75%. Larry Tanke seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:25am without objection.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Gary Thompson, Chairman

Nettie Johnson, Secretary