

MINUTES OF VIRTUAL / CONFERENCE CALL SPECIAL MEETING
RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
ORIGINATING AT WEST FARGO PUBLIC WORKS
810 12TH AVENUE NW, WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
JANUARY 10, 2024
9:00 A.M.

A virtual / conference call special meeting of the Red River Joint Water Resource District (RRJWRD) was held on January 10, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

Present were Josh Ihry, Steele County Water Resource District; Keith Weston, Southeast Cass Water Resource District; Ben Varnson, Nelson County Water Resource District; Don Kemp, Pembina County Water Resource District; Gary Thompson, Traill County Water Resource District; Arv Burvee, Richland County Water Resource District (alternate); Melissa Hinkemeyer, Secretary-Treasurer; Carolyn Fiechtner, Administrative Assistant; Sean M. Fredricks, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.; Randy Gjestvang, North Dakota Department of Water Resources (NDDWR); Robert Thompson, North Cass Water Resource District; Jessica Spaeth, Traill County Water Resource District Secretary-Treasurer; Duane Breitling, Cass County Commissioner; Lyndon Pease, Moore Engineering, Inc.; Zach Herrmann and Mike Opat, Houston Engineering, Inc. Tom Perdue, Grand Forks County Water Resource District (alternate) was absent.

Cost-share request – Traill County Water Resource District – Elm River Dam No. 1 and No. 2 Improvements (amendment)

Lyndon Pease stated the cost-share request for the Elm River Dam No. 1 and No. 2 Improvements project was approved at the April 13, 2022, RRJWRD Full Board meeting. Due to delays in the project and current market conditions, construction costs have increased substantially for the project. The project has been bid and will address deficiencies and update the dams to bring them into compliance with the state's current design standards. Randy Gjestvang stated he recommends the Executive Committee approve a recommendation to the RRJWRD Full Board to amend the *Cost-Share Agreement* for the Elm River Dam No. 1 and No. 2 Improvements project to increase the not to exceed cost-share amount from \$1,286,100 to \$2,076,533.24, an increase of \$790,433.24. The amended cost-share amount is based on 90% cost-share of the non-federal, non-state costs of the updated cost estimate of the project of \$5,600,000.

A motion was made by Manager Weston and seconded by Manager Thompson to recommend the RRJWRD Full Board approve the *First Amendment to Cost-Share Agreement* with Traill County Water Resource District regarding the Elm River Dam No. 1 and No. 2 Improvements project, increasing the not to exceed cost-share amount from \$1,286,100 to \$2,076,533.24, an increase of \$790,433.24. The amended cost-share amount is based on 90% cost-share of the non-federal, non-state costs of the updated cost estimate of the project of \$5,600,000. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Cost-share request – Traill County Water Resource District – Elm River Dam No. 3 Improvements (amendment)

Mr. Pease stated the cost-share request for the Elm River Dam No. 3 Improvements project was approved at the July 15, 2022, RRJWRD Full Board meeting. Due to delays in the project and current market conditions, construction costs have increased substantially for the project. The project has been bid and will address deficiencies and update the dam to bring it into compliance with the state's current design standards. Mr. Gjestvang stated he recommends the Executive Committee approve a recommendation to the RRJWRD Full Board to amend the *Cost-Share Agreement* for the Elm River Dam No. 3 Improvements project to increase the not to exceed cost-share amount from \$168,300 to \$491,044.77, an increase of \$322,744.77. The amended cost-share amount is based on 90% cost-share of the non-federal, non-state costs of the updated cost estimate of the project of \$1,300,000.

A motion was made by Manager Varnson and seconded by Manager Thompson to recommend the RRJWRD Full Board approve the *First Amendment to Cost-Share Agreement* with Traill County Water Resource District regarding the Elm River Dam No. 3 Improvements project, increasing the not to exceed cost-share amount from \$168,300 to \$491,044.77, an increase of \$322,744.77. The amended cost-share amount is based on 90% cost-share of the non-federal, non-state costs of the updated cost estimate of the project of \$1,300,000. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Cost-share request – Pembina County Water Resource District – Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) updates

Don Kemp discussed a cost-share request from Pembina County Water Resource District for updates to Emergency Action Plans (EAPs). The proposed project will update the EAPs for eight of Pembina County's dams located on the Tongue River. The updates will ensure that the existing retention provided by the eight dams will continue to function in a safe and efficient manner and provide flood damage reduction benefits. Mr. Gjestvang said he recommends approval of 65% cost-share on the non-federal, non-state share regarding updates of Pembina County Water Resource District EAPs, not to exceed \$16,198.

A motion was made by Manager Thompson and seconded by Manager Weston to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the *Cost-Share Agreement* with Pembina County Water Resource District for up to 65% cost-share on the non-federal, non-state share regarding updates to eight Pembina County Water Resource District Emergency Action Plans, not to exceed \$16,198. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be considered by the Board, the special meeting adjourned without objection.

APPROVED:

Josh Ihry
Chairman

ATTEST:

Melissa Hinkemeyer
Secretary-Treasurer