

MINUTES

STUTSMAN COUNTY WATER RESOURCE BOARD

May 27, 2020

The regular meeting of the Stutsman County Water Resource Board was called to order by Chairman Joel Lees on May 27, 2020, at 9:10 a.m. via telephone conference. Members present were Joel Lees, Arlyn Schmidt, Anthony Roorda, John Schock, and Dennis Clark all by telephone. Additionally present was Abbagail Geroux, Secretary for the Board.

MINUTES

The first order of business was to review the minutes of the April 29, 2020, regular meeting. Upon review, Arlyn Schmidt moved and John Schock seconded a motion to approve the minutes. A roll call vote was taken. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

2021 BUDGET

The first item on the agenda was to discuss the 2021 Budget. Ms. Geroux indicated that she prepared the budget based on last year's budget. She noted that the anticipated budget amount to be received from the mill levy from Stutsman County indicated a potential increase of approximately \$400.00. She indicated that she placed most of this additional amount onto the Board member meetings fees as the Board has been attending more meetings recently due to additional Joint Boards. Otherwise the proposed budget remains largely the same as last year. Upon review of the budget, Anthony Roorda moved and Arlyn Schmidt seconded a motion to approve the budget. A roll call vote was taken. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

WATER RESOURCE BOARD PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Next, Ms. Geroux addressed a request from John Schock. He requested that Ms. Geroux conduct research onto what publication requirements that the Board has. Ms. Geroux indicated that the Board has very limited publication requirements. In particular, it must publish whenever there is a hearing on a drainage application of statewide significance. She noted that the Board rarely hears applications of statewide significance and so there would be limited number of times that the Board would actually be required to publish in the paper.

She did also indicate that she was able to visit with Josh

Smaage who handles the Stutsman County website. Mr. Smaage indicated that he was willing to create a landing page for the Stutsman County Water Resource Board and include its meetings on the Stutsman County Water Resource Board calendar and is also willing to include its minutes.

Based on this Anthony Roorda moved and Dennis Clark seconded a motion to authorize Ms. Geroux to work with the County to create a landing page for the Stutsman County Water Resource Board on the County website and discontinue advertising with the Jamestown Sun once the landing page has been created.

Ms. Geroux acknowledged that she would wait until the landing page for the Stutsman County Water Resource Board was up and running before discontinuing any advertising in the Jamestown Sun. The Board indicated that appeared to be appropriate. A roll call vote was taken. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

MISC.

Next, Ms. Geroux provided an update on some ongoing items. She noted that there were two (2) approvals for Emergency Drains for Gray Township and Peterson Township.

She indicated that there was an additional request for an Emergency Application to Drain that has not been formally presented to the Board for a hearing but that would likely be coming shortly. It is in the area of the City of Medina.

Ms. Geroux also discussed that the Spiritwood Lake and Alkali Lake Feasibility Project appeared to be still on course. She had visited with Mr. Korkowski regarding access to the various areas needed for the survey.

John Schock also indicated that he was visiting with some folks regarding the Feasibility Study and that the State wanted to place a gauge on Kevin Szarkowski's property.

Ms. Geroux also alerted the Board to some documents that she received from the State Water Commission regarding changes to the permitting application process for applications to drain. The purpose of these changes was to decrease the number of applications which meets the requirements of Statewide significance to make the process for these applications to drains to be smoother and faster.

Joel Lees then inquired whether there were any changes made to the temporary application process for Emergency Drains. Ms. Geroux indicated that she was not aware of any changes to that process and that it still must go in front of the State Water Commission.

BILLS AND FINANCIALS

Next, The Board reviewed the bills and financials. Anthony Roorda moved and Arlyn Schmidt seconded a motion to approve the bills and financials. A roll call vote was taken. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

John Schock also indicated that the process for the Griggs-Barnes-Stutsman Joint Board is moving along well. Currently, they have received the \$50,000.00 seed money required to get the Engineering process started. This would include any expenses related to the legal fees and therefore, most of the bills will be paid out of that pool of money. Except for the administrative work that is done by Griggs County and that is why the amount for the Joint Board was brought before the Board. It was noted that there does appear to be a lot of support from the landowners in Stutsman County for this project.

CHECK NUMBERS

- 1. Forum Communication Company - \$163.00 #2746
- 2. Dalsted & Ryan, P.C. - \$3,705.10 #2747
- 3. Griggs County Water Resource District - \$135.00 #2748

There being no further business before the Board, Dennis Clark moved and Anthony Roorda seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion passed.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

ABBAGAIL GEROUX
Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The board approved the minutes this ____ day of _____, 2020.

JOEL LEES, Chairman, or
ARLYN SCHMIDT, Vice-Chairman