

MINUTES

STUTSMAN COUNTY WATER RESOURCE BOARD

September 27, 2023

The regular meeting of the Stutsman County Water Resource Board was called to order by Chairman, Joel Lees, on September 27, 2023, at approximately 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Room of the Stutsman County Courthouse. Members present were Joel Lees, John Schock, Anthony Roorda, and Dennis Clark. Additionally present were Greg Spenningsby and Abbagail Geroux, Secretary of the Board. Members of the public were present, including Brian Knetter, Josh Loosmore, and Tim Brenner from Crystal Springs Campground.

MINUTES

The first order of business was to review and approve the minutes of the August 30, 2023, regular meeting. Upon review, a motion was made by Anthony Roorda and seconded by John Schock to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed.

CRYSTAL SPRINGS LAKE AND STINK LAKE

Next, the board addressed the first item on the agenda, which was the request from Josh Loosmore to discuss the Crystal Springs Lake and Stink Lake water issues. Mr. Loosmore indicated that he has done some initial research into the water issues surrounding Crystal Springs Lake and Stink Lake. He indicated that he had conducted some drone shots from Stink Lake all the way to Buchanan which show there appears to be connectedness with the various bodies of water through that area. He made certain requests of the board, which were (1) he wanted the county to do a sponsorship of the project and to make a request at the State level for funding, (2) desired the board to grant the temporary drainage permit, and (3) requested that the Stutsman County Water Resource Board declare an emergency to take actionable measures to be addressed with Stutsman and Kidder Counties.

Mr. Loosmore explained that as part of his research into the area, he requested all permits for construction and drainage in the area, but has not received all the documentation he was seeking with his request. It was noted that any proposed drainage would require moving the water through Kidder County and Mr. Loosmore indicated the railroad attempted to conduct drainage two years ago, but the proposal only requested to allow

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for an open flow which the downstream landowners opposed and therefore the project was never fully pursued.

Dennis Clark asked if currently Ruly Lake and Stink Lake are separate or if they are running together. It was noted Mr. Loosmore indicated that the water of both lakes were currently running together. Eventually this water moved through a water system and into the Missouri River. There was discussion with the board members regarding various options that Mr. Loosmore and various stakeholders might have, including the need to potentially create and get support from the many different stakeholders in the area. It was noted that the process of seeing a project through would take a significant amount of time and resources.

The board discussed with Mr. Loosmore various options they would have to explore trying to develop a project. The board indicated their willingness to provide their support, but that any project would require more than just a local board support.

The board discussed what would be the potential next step. The board indicated they desired to invite the Kidder County Water Resource Board to attend the next meeting on October 25, 2023, to gain what further interest those board members would have. The board requested Ms. Geroux contact a representative from Kidder County and invite them to the next board meeting. The board also explained it did have an application and temporary drainage which must be sent to the County and the State.

MISCELLANEOUS

Next, Ms. Geroux discussed the correspondence received from the Department of Water Resources regarding a request by Midco to bore under the James River. A document was shared with the board members. They indicated they had no comment at this time.

Next, the Board reviewed the bills and financials. Upon review of the bills, financials, and vouchers. Anthony Roorda moved and John Schock seconded a motion to approve the bills, financials, and vouchers as presented. Motion passed.

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CHECK NUMBERS

1. Dalsted & Ryan - \$1,147.50 #2908
2. ND Workers Safety & Ins. - \$250.00 #2909
3. Joel Lees - \$366.70 #2910
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4. John Schock - \$259.54 #2911
5. Anthony Roorda - \$186.83 #2912
6. Dennis Clark - \$230.53 #2913

UPPER SHEYENNE

Dennis Clark spoke briefly regarding the ongoing projects of the Upper Sheyenne. It appeared that they had two ongoing projects, but did not have plans currently at this time for future projects.

Seeing no further business before the Board, Anthony Roorda moved and Dennis Clark seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

ABBAGAIL GEROUX
Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The board approved the minutes this ____ day of _____, 2023.

JOEL LEES, Chairman, or
ANTHONY ROORDA, Vice-Chairman