The Richland County Water Resource Board (RCWRB) met March 20, 2018 at 9:00 AM at the Richland County Courthouse, Wahpeton, North Dakota.

THOSE PRESENT: Managers Arv Burvee, Gary Friskop, James Haugen, Don Moffet, Robert Rostad, Engineering Technician Justin Johnson and Secretary-Treasurer Monica Zentgraf.

THOSE ABSENT: None

Minutes
The March 13, 2018 minutes were presented. A motion was made by Mgr. Haugen and seconded by Mgr. Rostad to approve the March 13, 2018 minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Financial Matters
Banking Services- Discussion was held relative to the District’s banking services. The Managers directed the Treasurer to inquire at Bremer Bank about services, interest rates, and fees.

Cmr. Berseth met briefly with the Board. He asked the Board to meet with the Commission on April 3, 2018 regarding changes in the District’s application process and to attend the meeting in which Mayor Mahoney will brief the Commission on the revised Fargo-Moorhead Flood Diversion plan. A short discussion was held relative to the revised diversion plan.

Mail
1.) Danton Township Board of Supervisors- Certified letter sent to the District outlining concerns of what they believe to be damage to their roads as a result of Proj #67-8(67). The Township Board suggested “that assessments be levied on the parcels of land from which runoff is drained into Legal Drain No. 67 and placed in a reserve fund to pay for the cost of potential future repairs”. The Danton Township Board previously filed an application (#17-030) requesting the RCWRB check on water coming out of the legal drain to be sure the outflow does not exceed what the culverts can handle. The Board is waiting for the report from Interstate Engineering.

Helendale Private Drain, LLC
The Secretary reported that she spoke with Cam Leedahl, of Helendale Private Drain, LLC, regarding repayment of the District’s expenses for processing the objections filed by Jacob & Group (#11-415) and Roy Plankers (#13-208) and the state surface drain application filed by Helendale Private Drain, LLC (#13-088). Mrs. Leedahl indicated a check, in the amount of $5,000, was mailed to the District on March 19, 2018. Mrs. Leedahl agreed to get back to the District about a repayment schedule within the next month.

The Secretary also informed the Board of the status of the Helendale Private Drain project. The group is currently working on wetland delineations and mitigation, as required for the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit. They are also in conversation with Gary Hoffman, regarding an easement across his property.

Wahpeton City Drain #1- The Secretary reported that she attended a meeting with the District’s legal counsel, engineer, and City personnel. The District’s legal counsel provided funding options to the City for handling stormwater runoff and drainage of a potential development on the west edge of Wahpeton. The City will need to decide how they wish to proceed.
Applications
Appl #18-001, Mark & Beth Eback: NE1/4 Section 28, Antelope Twp. A motion was made by Mgr. Rostad and seconded by Mgr. Burvee authorizing a hydraulic study by Interstate Engineering. Engineering at Proj #95 expense. The motion carried unanimously.

The Managers were also informed that Mrs. Eback asked the District to spray the leafy spurge in Sections 27 and 34, Antelope Township (on Proj #95). The Managers directed Mr. Johnson to contact the Richland County Weed Board for options to control leafy spurge.

Mike Bassingthwaite joined the meeting. The following matters were brought forward:

● Proj #1 Reconstruction
Mr. Bassingthwaite is meeting with Kelly Miller March 21, 2018 to discuss possible work on the drain. (RCWRD #17-017)

● Proj #4(28) Reconstruction
The North Dakota State Water Commission (ND SWC) has determined the reconstruction of Proj #4(28) is not of statewide or interdistrict significance and it is, therefore, the District’s responsibility to act on the application. A motion was made by Mgr. Burvee and seconded by Mgr. Rostad to approve the application for reconstruction of a portion of Proj #4(28). The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bassingthwaite is working with the District’s legal counsel on preparation of right-of-way documents. Mgr. Rostad agreed to assist the engineer with securing rights-of-way from landowners.

Mr. Bassingthwaite reported that plans/specs are done and bid opening should be scheduled. At this time a motion was made by Mgr. Burvee and seconded by Mgr. Haugen to schedule the Proj #4(28) reconstruction bid opening for April 17, 2018 at 9.00 AM. The motion carried unanimously. (RCWRD #17-095)

● Proj #7 Reconstruction
The USACE permit has not been issued; Mr. Bassingthwaite is meeting with USACE Staff on March 21, 2018 to discuss the permit.

Mr. Bassingthwaite reported that plans/specs are done and bid opening should be scheduled. At this time a motion was made by Mgr. Haugen and seconded by Mgr. Burvee to schedule the Proj #7 reconstruction bid opening for April 24, 2018 at 9.00 AM. The motion carried unanimously.

Mgr. Haugen will assist the engineer with securing rights-of-way from landowners. (RCWRD #17-016)

● Proj #14 Reconstruction
Mr. Bassingthwaite reported that Paul Langseth would like the reconstruction of the last 800 feet in the SW1/4 Section 29, Viking Township, tabled until after he harvests his wheat. Considerable discussion followed regarding ramifications of delaying work until after harvest. Concerns included wet weather conditions which could further delay or stop completion of the project this year and delaying redemption of bonds used to fund the reconstruction. Board consensus was to move forward with the remaining work as soon as spring conditions allow. Mr. Bassingthwaite will inform Mr. Langseth of the Board’s decision. (RCWRD #11-001)

● Proj #55 SE1/4 Section 19, Summit East
Mr. Bassingthwaite talked to Minn-Dak personnel about the Board’s concern that the premature deterioration of the culvert in the SE1/4 Section 19, Summit East, is due to runoff from the Tyler sugar beet pile ground. Minn-Dak has not responded to Mr. Bassingthwaite. The Board directed Mr. Bassingthwaite to prepare a letter (to Minn-Dak) for the Board’s review at their March 27, 2018 meeting.

● Proj #67-8 Danton Township Board of Supervisors Appl #17-030
Chr. Friskop reminded Mr. Bassingthwaite that the Board contacted him in May 2017 about Danton Township’s concerns and that no response has been received. Chr. Friskop strongly urged Mr. Bassingthwaite to complete the report as soon as possible. Mr. Bassingthwaite indicated he is in the process of investigating the matter.
Mr. Bassingthwaite will be meeting with Christy Fischer, of NRCS, on March 21, 2018 to obtain input about funding under the PL566 program. Mr. Bassingthwaite presented examples of cost estimates for two potential detention sites. Consensus of the Managers was to meet with the landowners for the two sites. Chr. Friskop and Mgr. Moffet will represent the Board at the meetings. The Planning Team meeting scheduled for March 28, 2018 was cancelled.

Mr. Bassingthwaite left the meeting.

North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIRF) Insurance Policies
The Managers were informed that the NDIRF policies for the RCWRD expire on April 1, 2018. The Managers directed the Secretary to research agents.

Technician’s Report
● Metro Flood Diversion Authority Meeting - Mr. Johnson provided an update on the March 16, 2018 meeting in which the Diversion Authority unveiled their new plan.
● Drone - Mr. Johnson provided a quote from Best Buy for a drone. The drone is a Yuneec Typhoon H Hexacopter Pro. Total cost, including accessories, is $1,558.95. After discussing the capabilities of the drone and the District’s need for this equipment, a motion was made by Mgr. Burvee and seconded by Mgr. Haugen to approve purchase of the Yuneec Typhoon H Hexacopter Pro Drone and accessories as presented, for a total cost of $1,558.95. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment
There being no further business to come before the Board, Chr. Friskop adjourned the meeting at 12:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Zentgraf
Secretary

Gary Friskop
Chairman of the Board