

**BOTTINEAU COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 19, 2024  
BOTTINEAU COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

**1. ATTENDANCES**

PRESENT: Clifford Issendorf, Chair  
Wayne Drangsholt, Treasurer  
Wally Brandjord, Vice Chair – via video conference; arrived at 9:08 a.m.  
Mitch Opdahl, Manager  
Mark Glinz, Manager – via video conference

IN ATTENDANCE: Jennifer Malloy, Administrator/Engineer  
Kale Van Bruggen, Secretary/Counsel – via video conference  
Stacy Lorenz, Chad Strand Agency, P.C. – left at 9:04 a.m.  
Randy Fyllesvold - left at 9:24 a.m.

APOLOGIES:

- 2. COMMENCEMENT** The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.
- 3. SETTING OF THE AGENDA** Chair Issendorf called for corrections or additions to the agenda. Hearing no corrections or additions to the agenda, the Chair declared the agenda adopted as presented.

**4. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT/APPROPRIATIONS**

**4.1 Financial Report & Proposed Appropriations** Lorenz presented the financial report for February 2024 and proposed appropriations. The report and proposed appropriations were reviewed and discussed by the Board.

Moved Manager Drangsholt/Seconded Manager Opdahl

That the financial reports be taken and confirmed as presented and that the monthly bills due be paid as presented.

Carried.

Stacy Lorenz (Chad Strand Agency, P.C.) left the meeting.

**5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Moved Manager Drangsholt/Seconded Manager Opdahl

That the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on January 15, 2024, be approved as presented.

Carried.

- 6. ASSESSMENT DRAINS** Discussion was held on the status of all the District's existing assessment drains and proposed assessment drain projects. Special discussion was held on the following items:

**6.1 Baumann Drain** Engineer Jennifer Malloy (Apex Engineering) reported on the invoice for the 60/40 split with Bottineau County for culverts and gates.

Wally Brandjord arrived at the meeting via video conference.

**6.2 Stead Drain** Randy Fyllesvold appeared and requested the Board look into cleaning out, deepening, or widening the Stead Drain up into Section 18. Engineer Jennifer Malloy (Apex Engineering) reported that the alignment where work is being requested was part of the original drain alignment approved in the assessment district vote. Engineer Malloy will work on plans for the cleaning out and repairing proposal and a cost estimate.

Randy Fyllesvold left the meeting.

- 6.3 Brander Drain West Extension** Manager Opdahl reported that landowners in the vicinity of the proposed west extension will be getting together informally to have a discussion about interest in the proposed extension.
- 6.4 LaPorte Coulee Drain** Engineer Jennifer Malloy (Apex Engineering) presented maps of the proposed alignment, watershed, and proposed assessment drain for the petition of LaPorte Assessment Drain. The need for work is in Section 2 between the Kersten Dam (privately owned dam) and the refuge. Malloy reported on preliminary cost estimates. Malloy and Issendorf will review data with landowners in the vicinity of the proposed drain for interest in petitioning for the project.
- 6.5 North Landa Drain** Engineer Jennifer Malloy (Apex Engineering) reported that she has updated maps of the proposed alignment and assessment area to send to Manager Brandjord to share with landowners in the vicinity of the proposed drain.
- 6.6 South Landa Drain** Engineer Jennifer Malloy (Apex Engineering) reported that Farden Construction is looking at mid-March for jacking under the county road. Malloy reported that Burlington Northern Inc.'s attorney is still reviewing the permit application for the crossing. Attorney Kale Van Bruggen (Rinke Noonan, Ltd.) reported to the Board on the status of easement acquisition. Van Bruggen reported that Point Value Appraisal is working on an appraisal of the easement value for Easements 19 and 24. Van Bruggen and attorney Nick Delaney (Rinke Noonan, Ltd.) continue to work on addressing options for Easement 26. Delaney spoke with Tim Martinson and Martinson is requesting the easement terms be amended to provide the right to fence in and use the easement area for grazing. No updates on Easement 28.
- 6.7 Stone Creek Drain Lateral B** Engineer Jennifer Malloy (Apex Engineering) is doing a site visit today to investigate construction.
- 6.8 Brandt Drain** Engineer Jennifer Malloy (Apex Engineering) reported Bottineau County is replacing the culverts on the assessment drain with the 60/40 split. Malloy will bring cost estimates to the Board.
- 6.9 Serguis Drain** Engineer Jennifer Malloy (Apex Engineering) reported she shared information on proposed alignments with the local landowners. The Board directed Apex Engineering to stop further work until a petition and bond is filed with the District.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

- 7.1 Oak Creek Water Resource District Boundary Correction** No updates.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

- 8.1 2025 Legislative Proposals** Attorney Kale Van Bruggen reported on three draft bills drafted by the North Dakota Department of Water Resources regarding stream crossings, watercourse determinations, and flowage easements on surface drains. The Board directed Van Bruggen to report back on any developments regarding the proposed bills.
- 8.2 2025 Water Development Plan** Engineer Jennifer Malloy (Apex Engineering) reported on the request by the Department of Water Resources and State Water Commission to identify potential water development projects, the timing of their implementation, and estimated costs for the 2025-2027 Water Development Plan. Submissions are due by the end of April 2024. The Board discussed potential projects and Malloy will submit them to the DWR.

## **9. STAFF REPORTS**

- 9.1 Engineer/Administrator Report** Engineer Jennifer Malloy (Apex Engineering) asked the Board to bring operation & maintenance needs on assessment drains to the March meeting.

**DRAFT/UNOFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**10. MANAGER'S UPDATES**

- 10.1 Souris River Joint Board** Chair Issendorf reported on the construction projects of the Souris River Joint Board.
- 10.2 Assiniboine River Basin** Chair Issendorf reported on municipalities in the Assiniboine River Basin looking at various proposals for regulating tile drainage.

**11. CLOSE OF MEETING** Having completed all business on the noticed agenda, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Minutes approved by the Board on March 18, 2024.

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Clifford Issendorf, Chair

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Kale R. Van Bruggen, Secretary

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# Bottineau County WRD

Name

Phone #

Randy Fyillesvold

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