Regular Meeting August 13, 2019 7:00 am

Members present: Larry Skiftun, Philip Hoff, Tom Deede Bryon Brynjulson and new member Devin Long.

Kale Van Brruggen-Rinke-Noonan was in attendance via video- conference. Jennifer Malloy, Apex Engineering was also in attendance.

Visitors: Gary Heintz-landowner, Larry Fandrich-landowner and Terry Marrow-Central Plains Rural Water District.

 The Wells County Water Resource District Board meeting began at 7:18 am. Bryon was in attendance via conference call.

Minutes of the July 9, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Bryon made the motion, seconded by Philip to approve the minutes. All voting aye, motion carried.

The Middle Sheyenne 319 Watershed Project was reviewed.

**Harvey Dam**

* Jennifer spoke with the SWC and they would like to dewater and inspect the culvert. They will send the report to Jennifer. The SWC stated that they do not have an issue with a culvert liner if the board choses that option. They are requesting the flash boards be removed.
* Discussion was held regarding the removal of the trees along the dam. Ryan Hager-Hager Excavating from Harvey has been hired to remove the trees.

**Cathay Dam**

* Larry looked at the area and took photos. There appears to be no additional erosion so the board will continue to monitor the dam.

Tom, Bryon and Devin joined the meeting.

**Hurdsfield Project**

Jennifer updated the board regarding the Hurdsfield Project:

* We are still waiting on the Corps of Engineer Permit. Indications were that the board should receive the permit within the week. Larry will contact them to check on the status of the permit.
* Jennifer reviewed the Operation Plan.
* ND Department of Environmental Services (Department of Health) determined the location of the monitoring station that will monitor the sulfate levels and flow rates.
* USGS monitoring will determine flow rates based on sulfate levels. Jennifer can send an excel spreadsheet for the operator to determine flow rates. Flow rates are controlled by RPM’s on the pump.

Larry then opened to the floor if anyone had questions regarding the Operation Plan.

* Gary Heintz questioned the sulfate levels and how they were determined. Jennifer explained that 3 samples were taken in the spring.
* Terry Marrow stated that a rural water aquafer is very close to the monitoring point and is concerned about increasing the sulfate levels in the aquafer. He requested that the sulfate levels level reports be sent to him also. Tom made the motion, seconded by Philip to send the reports to the ND Department of Environmental Services and to Central Plains Rural Water. All voting aye, motion carried.
* Larry Fandrich questioned how much this will raise the levels in the James River. Jennifer explained that this water will travel approximately 9 miles before it enters the James River so with evaporation and traveling through a grass waterway, very little water will actually travel to the river to increase the level.

Jennifer reviewed the Notice of Award for BEK Consulting. Bid cost is $983,161.00 which includes construction and electrical work. Jennifer stated that they will honor their bid but are requesting an extension to December 1, 2019 for the project to be operational and the final completion such as seeding to be completed by June 2020. Philip made the motion, seconded by Tom to sign the Notice of Award contingent on the Corps permit. All voting aye, motion carried.

Jennifer reviewed the Plan Set with the Change Order to accommodate the Fish & Wildlife requests for relocation of manholes, placing a fence around the pump. This change will be an additional cost of $9000-$12,000 Tom made the motion, seconded by Philip to approve the Change Order. All voting aye, motion carried. Philip made the motion, seconded by Bryon to approve the Plan Set with the Change Order. All voting aye, motion carried.

Jennifer requested that the board have a Change Order Authorization Policy for this project. Bryon made the motion, seconded by Philip to approve Change Orders up to $20,000 by approval of Larry and one board member. All voting aye, motion carried.

Jennifer presented an Apex Contract for Construction Management. The contract will be for 30 hours a week for 2 weeks of construction and 12 hours a week for 6 weeks at a cost of $44,500. Philip made the motion, seconded by Bryon to approve the Construction Management contract. All voting aye, motion carried.

Dave Frison met with the board regarding the Upper Sheyenne 319 Watershed Project and it’s progress. Dave reported that the Department of Environmental Services completed a study and found areas of erosion in Wells County mainly in road crossings in the Upper Sheyenne. Dave asked if Wells County would like to have a member on the Upper Sheyenne River Joint Water Resource Board like we did in the past. Tammy will look into the cost of dues, etc. Tabled until next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding clean out in the SE4 of 30-148-69, NW4 of 30-148-69 and the N2 of 25-148-70 and the NE4 of 26-148-70 in the Emrick Drain. This will be about a 2.5 mile clean out. Tom made the motion, seconded by Philip to have this area cleaned out. All voting aye, motion carried. Larry will talk with D&R Kost to clean out this area.

Larry received a complaint of drains being plugged with corn stalks, etc due to farming practices. The board determined that they cannot tell landowners how to farm.

Philip reported on a culvert/area that is eroding west of Bowdon by the abandon railroad tracks. The railroad is responsible to fix the area under the Railroad Safety Act. Philip will give the reporting party Kale’s information and Kale will give the reporting party information on who to contact.

Tom asked if anyone followed up with Mark Schmitz regarding the culvert on Highway 52 and the section line and between Section 35/26-149-71. Larry talked to Mark. The board determined that this area should be surveyed for the correct level of the culverts. Apex will survey the culverts when they are in Wells County for the Hurdsfield Project.

Discussion was held regarding vacancy of the Vice-Chairman due to the passing of Louis Klocke. Tom made the motion, seconded by Bryon to appoint Philip as Vice Chairman. All voting aye, motion carried.

Reviewed the bill from Dakota Helicopters. This bill tabled until next month because Dakota Helicopters did not break down the bill.

Reviewed the bill from Apex Engineering. Philip made the motion, seconded by Tom to pay this bill. All voting aye, motion carried.

Reviewed the bill from Cabin Creations. Philip made the motion, seconded by Bryon to pay this bill. All voting aye, motion carried.

The following bills were allowed and ordered paid:

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#6222 Middle Sheyenne Watershed 319 Project 3rd yr commit. $10,342.00

#6223 Apex Engineering- Engineering Services 2674.50

#6224 Cabin Creations- Klocke Funeral 81.90

#6225 Tammy Roehrich-Salary 923.50

#6226 Philip Hoff -per diem, mlge & exp 144.44

#6227 Bryon Brynjulson- per diem, mlge & exp 156.04

#6228 Tom Deede- per diem, mlge & exp 125.88

#6229 Devin Long- per diem, mlge & exp 130.52

#6230 Larry Skiftun- per diem, mlge & exp 813.27

With no further business, meeting adjourned.

Approved: Attest: