

**Barnes County Water Resource District
PO Box 306
Valley City, ND 58072
#845-8508**

Meeting Minutes

November 10th, 2025 – 9:00 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman – Jerry Hieb; Managers – Bruce Anderson, Perry Schlagel, Bret Fehr.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Managers – Scott Legge.

OTHERS PRESENT: Sean Fredricks – Ohnstad Twichell; Mike Opat – Houston Engineering; Shawn Olauson – Barnes County Commissioner; see attached list.

Chairman Hieb called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comment Period: No one submitted speaker cards to request permission to speak.

Manager Anderson moved to approve the minutes from the October 13th, 2025, meeting. Manager Fehr seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Manager Fehr moved to approve the bills as presented. Manager Schlagel seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSSINESS

VC Little Dam

Letters to be sent to the City and the County to inform the parties the project has been completed and request that the City install the sign provided by the North Dakota Department of Water Resources.

Ten Mile Lake

No Update.

Thordenskjold Drain

Manager Fehr moved to authorize Manager Anderson to solicit bids from contractors to perform cleanout of culverts along with removal of broken wing wall within the drain, not to exceed the amount of \$12,000. Manager Anderson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Clausen Springs Dam

Mike reported that Houston Engineering is compiling a report of the dam safety evaluation, with final report expected in early 2026. The DWR completed its biannual dam inspection. The final report has

not been received, but DWR staff informed Houston Engineering the poor condition of the trash rack was noted. Regarding the trash rack, HEI reconfirmed the measurements of the trash rack and Mike is working to circulate the updated drawing and notes to fabricators for accurate bids for fabrication and installation. HEI is seeking bids for the Board to consider at the December meeting.

Sheyenne River Bank Stabilization Study

Mike indicated that the Sheyenne River Joint Board submitted a formal request to the Corps of Engineers to request funding for feasibility studies regarding a number of sites that could qualify for cost-share under Corps programs.

Hobart Lake

Manager Anderson reported the water level at 1414.9. The water at this time is not running. Bruce reached out to Jamie Smith regarding the drain cleanout on the West side of the road. Smith told Manager Anderson that after freeze the Highway Department will work on the cleanout. Barry Requested the lowering of an existing culvert through a township road adjacent to the project. The Board determined that this was a local road authority matter and directed Manager Anderson to contact the township and the County Highway Department about possibly lowering the culvert.

Sanborn Lake Outlet

Manager Anderson reported water level at 1426.38.

Dam Inventory

Mike reported that Houston has completed the inspection of 5 dams. Mike to give the full report at the December regular meeting. Mike provided Task Order No. 7. Manager Fehr made the motion to approve Task Order No. 7. Manager Schlagel seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Brown Dam

Chairman Hieb spoke with the landowner, Dennis Brown. Mr. Brown is supportive of the Board taking action to address the concerns with the dam, including the option of removing the dam, as long as he is assured that any damage to the access road caused during construction is repaired. Mr. Brown is not in favor of granting public access to the dam, which would likely be a requirement attached to certain funding sources involved with installing a rock arch rapids in place of the dam. Mike will approach DWR to discuss SWC cost-share options. If the Board were to proceed with removal, the Board should have an agreement with the landowner to agree to removal and to grant access for that purpose. Chairman Hieb will approach the landowner one more time to confirm he is amenable to removal and to alert the landowner that removal will involve an agreement with the Barnes County Water Resource District regarding construction access and post-construction conditions.

LaMoure County WRD – Proposed Joint Project

Fredricks previously provided the LaMoure County WRD's attorney with a proposed joint board agreement for review and consideration. No update.

Spring Creek – Rodney Latt

Rodney Latt reported that landowners in the area had 5-6 miles of cattails sprayed by Larson Helicopters. Discussion was held as the possibility of developing additional retention capacity in the federal Stoney Slough complex. The Board directed Mike Opat to contact Brian Fuder with the Red

River Retention Authority to see if the Authority could be of any assistance in working with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and other stakeholders.

Sheyenne River Snagging & Clearing

Manager Anderson moved to approve the Cost-Share Agreement with the State Water Commission for the Snagging and Clearing of the Sheyenne River. Manager Fehr seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Fredricks prepared a draft agreement with Industrial Builders. Mike will present the agreement to IBI and will ask them to provide evidence of the insurance required under the agreement, and as required by the State Water Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

Drainage Complaint – Haugtvedt/Theurer

Mr. Haugtvedt filed a drainage complaint regarding the Theurers' tile project. Mr. Haugtvedt was present and presented pictures regarding a permitted tile project installed by Mr. Theurer. The Board indicated to Mr. Haugtvedt the Board lacks jurisdiction to order the tile project closed since this is a permitted tile project. The Board directed Fredricks to prepare documents for the Board's consideration at the December meeting to dismiss the Complaint.

Engineer Report

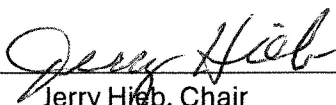
Nothing more to be added.

Legal Report

Nothing more to be added.

With nothing more to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

APPROVED:

By: 
Jerry Hieb, Chair

ATTEST:



Cara Didier
Secretary-Treasurer

Barnes County Water Resource District
PO Box 306
Valley City, ND 58072

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PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW

Shawn Olause

BCC

Robby Let

Rod Houghton

Barry Borg

