

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

Meeting Minutes

March 9th, 2026 – 9:00 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman – Jerry Hieb; Managers – Perry Schlagel, Scott Legge, Bruce Anderson.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Managers – Bret Fehr.

OTHERS PRESENT: Sean Fredricks, Katie Schmidt, Stephen Hilfer – Ohnstad Twichell; Mike Opat – Houston Engineering; Shawn Olason – Barnes County Commissioner

Chairman Hieb called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

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

Manager Legge moved to approve the minutes from the February 9th, 2026, meeting. Manager Anderson seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

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

OLD BUSSINESS

Thordenskjold Drain

The Board has not heard from any landowners following the informational meeting held in January. The Board will consider proceeding with road crossing improvements if other improvements are not requested by landowners in the next month or two.

Clausen Springs Dam

The Board and HEI has not had any further communication from RC Welding & Machine Shop or Shawn Cole Construction with no paperwork completed on their end. Chairman Hieb to reach out regarding their evidence of contractor license and evidence they have secured the insurance coverage required under contract. Mike informed the Board the updates to the Emergency Action Plan are almost completed. Mike to meet with the new dam observers William Foster and Jamie Smith to do some training. The Dam Safety Evaluation reports have come back with the geotechnical team identifying some deficiencies within the dam.

Sheyenne River Bank Stabilization Study

Mike informed the Board the Corp of Engineers has received reports and is in the reviewing process. Discussion regarding the Upper and Lower Sheyenne Joint Boards was had.

Hobart Lake

No change at this time.

Sanborn Lake Outlet

No change at this time.

Dam Inventory

Secretary Cara to submit cost-share reimbursement requests to the Red River Joint Water Resource District and the State Water Commission. Discussion was held regarding conveyance of ownership of dams to landowners.

Brown Dam

Chairman Hieb talked with Dennis Brown regarding next steps. The Board identified removal of the dam as their preferred option . Mike reported the application with the US Game and Fish for the Fish Passage program has been submitted to receive funds for this project.

Sheyenne River Snagging & Clearing

Mike informed that IBI was able to move to the North end of the Sheyenne River and was unable to do much with what budget was left.

2027 NDDWR Water Development Plan

Mike presented a list of projects for the Board to consider submitting to the NDDWR for their 2027 Water Development Plan. The Board approved the list and directed Secretary Cara and Mike to submit the entire list to the DWR.

Pat Hurley Surface Drain Application No. 6842

The Board conducted a public hearing regarding Mr. Hurley's permit application at the Board's February meeting. Based on the Board's discussion and directives from the February meeting, Mike Opat completed the 8-point analysis required under Section 89-02-01-09.2 of the Administrative Code, and Ohnstad Twichell prepared a proposed Order for the Board's consideration. Fredricks and Opat presented their drafts with the Board. The Board discussed the proposal for an as-built survey following completion of the project by Mr. Hurley and ultimately agreed that type of survey would ensure the project does not exceed the dimensions in Mr. Hurley's application, and would also limit any potential for future disputes.

Manager Anderson moved to approve and adopt the 8-point analysis required under Section 89-02-01-09.2 of the Administrative Code prepared by Mike Opat, to approve the draft Order prepared by Ohnstad Twichell, and to approve APPLICATION FOR SURFACE DRAIN No. 6842, for Applicant Pat Hurley, subject to the conditions attached by the Department of Water Resources, and subject to the following conditions:

1. Applicant will not construct or improve the watercourse in any manner that exceeds the following dimensions: the upstream invert of the drain will be at elevation 1445.13 (+/-0.2 feet) regardless of the downstream invert(s) of the culverts at 102nd Avenue SE ever changing, along with the drain being constructed and maintained at a 0.20% grade from that elevation downstream approximately 865 feet, with a corresponding

downstream invert elevation of 1443.40 (+/-0.2 feet) regardless of the elevation and condition of the downstream watercourse.

2. Applicant will conduct an as-built survey within a reasonable amount of time following completion of the project and will submit the survey to the District, to ensure compliance with the terms of SURFACE DRAIN PERMIT NO. 6842.
3. Applicant will notify the Barnes County Water Resource District in advance of any proposed improvements to the drain, including any increase in the capacity or drainage area impacted, and, if necessary, will submit an additional permit application.

Manager Legge seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Ohnstad Twichell will serve the Order to parties of record, along with a Notice of Decision.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Publication

Discussion was held regarding posting agendas in the Valley City Times-Record.

Bear Creek – Mike Brademeyer

Mike Brademeyer was present and discussed concerns he has with Bear Creek. Mr. Brademeyer was informed that there will be a Barnes-LaMoure joint board meeting held later this month on March 25, 2026.

Engineer Report

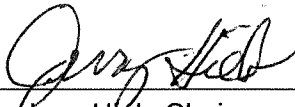
Mike discussed compliance with ADA regarding posting of minutes on websites.

Legal Report

Nothing more to be added.

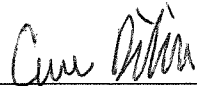
With nothing more to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

APPROVED:

By: 

Jerry Heeb, Chair

ATTEST:



Cara Didier
Secretary-Treasurer

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

March 9th, 2026

PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW

Shawn Olason

BCC

In Am

Mike Brademeyer

Verona ND