

**Minutes of Meeting
Souris River Joint Water Resource Board
Thursday, September 1, 2022**

A meeting of the board of directors of the Souris River Joint Water Resource District was called to order by Vice Chairman Tom Klein at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 1, 2022, in Room 203 of the Minot Auditorium in Minot, North Dakota. Joint Board members in attendance were Clif Issendorf, David Ashley, Tom Klein, Dan Jonasson and Dan Steinberger. A roster of those attending is attached as **Attachment A**.

The Joint Board discussed the proposed Agenda for the meeting.

Dan Jonasson made a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting. Dan Steinberger seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.

The draft minutes of the August 4, 2022 regular meeting of the SRJB were discussed.

Dan Steinberger made a motion to approve the draft minutes from the August 4, 2022 regular meeting of the SRJB. Dan Jonasson seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.

The Joint Board discussed the Budget Report included in the September Board Packet. Brent Burgard explained the Balance Sheet and Budget Report.

Dan Jonasson moved to approve the Budget Report. Dan Steinberger seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.

The Joint Board next discussed the bills set forth in the September Board Packet totaling \$4,274,168.61. Vice Chairman Klein opened it up for questions from the Board on each bill being approved.

Dan Steinberger moved to approve the payment of bills totaling \$4,274,168.61. Dan Jonasson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.

Jerry Bents from Houston Engineering provided the Joint Board with an update on Phase MI-1. A Project Status Report from Houston Engineering is contained in the September Board Packet. The one-year anniversary from substantial completion is upcoming, so a preliminary warranty walk through was held on August 17, 2022 and some additional items the contractor needs to take care of before closeout were identified. The mediation with Park Construction is ongoing and no resolution has been reached yet.

Jerry Bents updated on Phases MI-4A and MI-4B. A Project Status Report from Houston Engineering is contained in the September Board Packet. A warranty walk through on MI-4A was also held on August 17, 2022. The contractor is working through some final closeout items. Final pay application on Phase MI-4A is expected at next month's meeting. On Phase MI-4B, all work is complete. The contractor has completed all of the punch list items and a final inspection is complete. A final pay application to Kemper Construction to Construction is contained in the September Board Packet.

Jerry Bents updated on Phase MI-5. A Project Status Report from Houston Engineering is contained in the September Board Packet. On Phase MI-5A, work is focused on the east end of the project. The contractor has excavated for the pump station and poured the concrete slab underneath it and some concrete pours

are expected as early as next week. Similarly, along the area of the area of the levee, the contractor has been working on digging the inspection trench, but they are running into a bit of debris that was not expected on the site and may result in a change in cost for debris removal. The slurry cut off wall on the east end of the project should get started in the next couple of weeks. On Phases MI-5B.1 and MI-5B.2 (associated with moving the flood control equipment storage building to public works), the building has been moved and final walk through and inspection with Huwe the House Mover, Inc. before the next meeting. The second phase involving improvements is proceeding as planned.

Jerry Bents updated on Phase MI-6 (downtown and the western end of Roosevelt Park project). A Project Status Report from Houston Engineering is contained in the September Board Packet. The contractor is working toward 60% design completion, which is expected next Wednesday. Nothing particular has changed in alignment from the 30% design completion.

Jason Westbrook of Barr Engineering updated the Joint Board on Phase MI-2C. A Project Status Report from is contained in the September Board Packet. Wagner Construction is ready to bore under the county road next week. Progress has been slow because it has been wet but progress and daily production rate are expected to improve after boring is complete. Dan Steinberger asked about the source of the wet conditions. Jason Westbrook indicated that the ground water is being encountered because the area at issue is the lowest area.

Jason Westbrook provided an update to the Joint Board regarding Phase MI-7. A Project Status Report is contained in the September Board Packet. 60% was submitted in July and comments are coming in and being addressed. A design review team meeting with the City of Minot has been requested. Once those comments are addressed, the contractor is gearing up for 90% completion. The phasing plan will involve a fair amount of coordination (need to consider when and how to move the various zoo animals and noise tolerance the animals have with the construction).

Jason Westbrook provided an update to the Joint Board regarding Phase WC-1. A Project Status Report is contained in the September Board Packet. All but three passing permeability tests have passed and all of the strength tests have passed. The contractor chose slag instead of cement as stiffener, which has a longer cure time. Jason Westbrook indicated they have great confidence that the last three permeability tests will pass with additional cure time. Wagner has started to place levee fill on top. The closure across the CP tracks remains an issue and permission from CP may not be in place by the end of this year.

Jason Westbrook provided an update on Phase BU-1. A Project Status Report is contained in the September Board Packet. On Phase BU-1B (south of the bridge), substantial completion was issued on October 22, 2021, so October 22, 2022 marks the end of the correction period. Another inspection took place last month that identified about a dozen issues to address. Phase BU-1C is slated for substantial completion at the end of this month and final completion at the end of October. There is no concern that Bluestone will meet those dates. On Phase BU-1D, the slurry cut off wall is in. Test results are coming in and the strength tests look promising.

Brent Burgard provided an update to the Joint Board with respect to the StARR Program. The Joint Board is looking to transfer land purchased through the StARR Program to Ward County and the Ward County Parks for future public use. Nathan Amick showed the Joint Board specific locations of the land being transferred.

Dan Jonasson moved to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the Quit Claim Deeds on behalf of the SRJB. Dan Steinberger seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.

Troy Borchard from HDR Engineering provided an update regarding Rural Bridges. Authorization was sought to bid the Mouse River Park Bridge. The plans, specifications, and engineer's estimate for the Mouse River Park Bridge replacement are ready for review and approval. The preliminary engineer's estimate is included in the September Board Packet. The cost estimate is for the new structure, existing structure removal, bypass, approach grading and channel work.

Dan Steinberger moved to approve plans and specifications and authorize advertising of the Mouse River Park Bridge. Dan Jonasson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.

Brent Burgard advised the Joint Board regarding the City of Velva lift station replacement. The City of Velva has been planning for the rehabilitation of its master lift station. They have successfully secured a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of approximately \$332,809 to offset a portion of the costs of the project. The estimated cost of the lift station rehabilitation is \$450,000. The existing lift station is around the planned future levee in Velva, and the lift station would have to be reconstructed during the levee construction project in the future. Velva now plans to forego the rehabilitation of the existing lift station and to construct a new lift station that is outside the footprint of the future flood protection project. The total estimated cost of this project is approximately \$748,600. The intent is to utilize the CDBG grant amount in combination with flood control funding to complete the project. If approved by the Joint Board, the proposed cost split by funding source would be as follows: (1) City of Velva CDBG Grant (Federal Funds) - \$332,809 (44.45%); (2) Department of Water Resources via SRJB (State Funds) - \$270,264 (36.1%); and (3) City of Minot Funds via SRJB (Local Funds) - \$145,527 (19.4%), for a total of \$748,600. The proposed funding split results in cost savings to the City of Velva (approximately \$117,000) as compared to its original plan to rehabilitate the existing lift station. The proposed funding split also results in future cost savings to the SRJB (approximately \$333,000 in 2022 dollars) due to the City's CDBG grant being applied to the construction. A draft Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is included in the September Board Packet. Dwyer Law Office has performed a legal review of the document. Approval of the MOA with the City of Velva was sought and Dan Jonasson requested one modification to the indemnification section – specifically, that the State of North Dakota Department of Natural Resources funding will be required to be indemnified by consultants, contracts, etc.

Dan Jonasson moved to approve the MOA (with the above modification) with the City of Velva and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement. David Ashley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.

The Joint Board took note of future meetings and events as set forth in the September Board Packet. On September 19, 2022 at 1:00 p.m., the Water Topics Overview Committee Meeting, Tour and Dinner is being held at the Sleep Inn. On September 20, 2022, the Water Topics Overview Committee is meeting at 8:00 a.m., also at the Sleep Inn. The next regular meeting of the Joint Board is scheduled for Thursday, October 6, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 203 of the Minot Auditorium.

There being no further business to discuss, the Vice Chairman Klein sought a motion for adjournment.

Dan Jonasson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Steinberger seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.



Jack Dwyer
Legal Counsel