

**Minutes of Meeting  
Souris River Joint Water Resource Board  
Thursday, August 5, 2021**

A meeting of the board of directors of the Souris River Joint Water Resource Board was called to order by Chairman David Ashley at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 5, 2021, at the Minot Auditorium in Minot, North Dakota. Joint Board members in attendance were Dan Jonasson, Tom Klein, and Clif Issendorf. Chairman David Ashley and board member Dan Steinberger joined via Microsoft Teams. Chairman David Ashley called the meeting to order and announced that a quorum was present. A roster of those who attended the meeting is attached as Attachment A.

The Joint Board discussed the proposed Agenda for the meeting.

**Tom Klein made a motion to approve the agenda. Dan Jonasson seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.**

The draft minutes from the July 13, 2021 regular meeting were discussed.

**Dan Jonasson made a motion to approve the Minutes from the July 13, 2021 regular Joint Board meeting. Clif Issendorf seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.**

The Joint Board discussed the Budget Report included in the August Board Packet. Ryan Ackerman explained the Balance Sheet and Budget Report included in the Board Packet.

**Dan Jonasson moved to approve the Budget Report. Clif Issendorf seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.**

The Joint Board discussed the bills set forth in the August Board Packet totaling \$560,775.82. One bill was removed due to error (Barr Engineering bill associated with Phase WC-1). Dan Steinberger questioned the Barr Engineering invoice (on Page 48 of the Board Packet) which charged for vehicle rental and also mileage. Jason Westbrook explained the rental is for a field use vehicle, typically 4-wheel drive off-road vehicles taken to drilling sites – the charge is per the contract with Barr Engineering.

**Dan Jonasson moved to approve the payment of bills totaling \$560,775.82. Tom Klein 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, including a drone flight. This phase is expected to reach substantial completion on August 18, 2021. A Project Status Report from Houston Engineering is contained in the August Board Packet (at Page 162).

Jerry Bents provided an update on Phase MI-4A design work. This phase is expected to reach substantial completion by the end of September. The Project Status Report from Houston includes information regarding Phase MI-4A is contained in the August Board Packet. Jerry Bents showed a drone video flight to show progress on Phase MI-4A.

Jerry Bents provided an update on Phase MI-5 design work. The drawings are 100% complete and work is being done on permitting. The Project Status Report from Houston that includes information regarding Phase MI-5 is contained in the August Board Packet.

Jerry Bents provided an update on Phase MI-6 design work. The Project Status Report from Houston that includes information regarding Phase MI-6 is contained in the August Board Packet.

Jason Westbrook with Barr Engineering provided an update to the Joint Board regarding Phases MI-2/3, which is close to the end of the warranty period. A Project Status Report is contained in the August Board Packet.

Jason Westbrook also provided an update to the Joint Board regarding Phase MI-7. A Project Status Report is contained in the August Board Packet.

Jason Westbrook provided an update to the Joint Board regarding construction of Phase WC-1. Permit restrictions for tree clearing expired on August 1, 2021, so work to prep the site is underway. A Project Status Report is contained in the August Board Packet.

The Board discussed authorization for Montana Dakota Utilities relocation. The SRJB received an estimate from MDU to relocate their facilities that conflict with Phase WC-1A Tierrecita Vallejo. The total cost is \$11,415.00 but would be split 50/50, making SRJB's share \$5,707.50.

**Tom Klein moved to authorize MDU to perform utility relocation services associated with WC-1A Tierrecita Vallejo. Dan Jonasson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.**

Jason Westbrook provided an update to the Joint Board regarding construction of Phase BU-1. A Project Status Report is contained in the August Board Packet. Levy fill should be up to grade before Wagner leaves the site tomorrow afternoon. A drone flight showing was played to show progress of this phase.

Ryan Ackerman provided an update on the Rodney Weeks Settlement Agreement. The SRJB's initial offer letter was sent on August 2, 2019, which was for the levee footprint and the landward of the levee for approximately \$295,972. Upon receipt of the initial offer, negotiations took place from August 2019 through December of 2020. The acquisition team had been working with the property owner to find amicable solutions. However, the acquisition team felt it was necessary to engage Dwyer Law Office to begin the legal process of condemnation. Authorization to engage Dwyer Law Office was given by the Board on March 4, 2021. The acquisition team kept an open line of communication with the property owner and as of July 23, 2021, the team has come to a verbal agreement to purchase the levee footprint and landward side of the levee, which is approximately 7.91 acres.

**Dan Jonasson moved to approve the Settlement Agreement with Rodney Weeks totaling \$335,000.00. Tom Klein seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.**

Ryan Ackerman advised the Joint Board that an update regarding the StARR Program is contained in the August Board Packet.

Troy Borchard from HDR Engineering provided an update regarding Rural Bridges. A Project Status Report from HDR Engineering is contained in the August Board Packet.

The Joint Board took note of future meetings and events as set forth in the August Board Packet. Dan Jonasson advised Lieutenant General Scott Spellmon, the Chief Engineer for the USACE will be in Minot on the afternoon of August 11, 2021 for a tour of the flood works and board members are welcome to attend. Ryan Ackerman advised August 10, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. is the Managing the Mighty Mouse Water Tour. Ryan Ackerman also advised that on August 12, 2021, the State Water Commission will be meet and will be considering SRJB's cost share request for the appropriation made in the last legislative session, totaling \$84.5 million (which Ackerman will attend to address the Board's interests).

**There being no further business to discuss, Dan Jonasson made a motion to adjourn. Tom Klein seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.**

The next regular meeting of the SRJB is scheduled for September 2, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 203 of the Minot Auditorium.



Jack Dwyer  
Legal Counsel

