

**Minutes of Meeting
Souris River Joint Water Resource Board
Thursday, May 5, 2022**

A meeting of the board of directors of the Souris River Joint Water Resource District was called to order by Chairman David Ashley at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 5, 2022, in Room 203 of the Minot Auditorium in Minot, North Dakota. Joint Board members in attendance were Clif Issendorf, Dan Jonasson, Tom Klein, and Dan Steinberger. A roster of those attending is attached as **Attachment A**. Chairman David Ashley called the meeting to order and announced that a quorum was present.

The Joint Board discussed the proposed Agenda for the meeting.

Clif Issendorf made a motion to approve the Agenda. Dan Jonasson seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.

The draft minutes of the April 7, 2022 regular meeting and April 29, 2022 special meeting of the SRJB were discussed.

Dan Jonasson made a motion to approve the Minutes from the SRJB regular meeting of April 7, 2022 and special meeting of April 29, 2022. Tom Klein seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.

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

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

The Joint Board next discussed the bills set forth in the May Board Packet totaling \$666,527.88. Chairman Ashley opened it up for questions from the Board on each bill being approved.

Dan Jonasson moved to approve the payment of bills totaling \$666,527.88. Dan Steinberger seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.

Engineering contract amendments were discussed by the Joint Board. HDR Engineering is proposing a contract amendment that would allow for the Independent External Review of Phase MI-4 design services. The objective of this work is to assess, analyze, interpret, and evaluate design/engineering and construction criteria through a process known as Type II Independent External Peer Review (IEPR) Safety Assurance Review (SAR) for the MREFPP ("Task Order 14").

Tom Klein moved to approve Task Order No. 14 with HDR in an amount not to exceed \$124,749.65 and authorize the chairman to sign the agreement. Dan Steinberger seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.

Additionally, HDR Engineering is proposing a contract amendment to perform a value engineering study of Phase MI-4. The objective of this work is to perform and document the results of a Value Engineering (VE) Study by HDR Engineering, Inc., via a structured VE workshop, on the design development for the subject project ("Task Order 16").

Dan Steinberger moved to approve Task Order No. 16 with HDR in an amount not to exceed \$33,429.92 and authorize the chairman to sign the agreement. 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 May Board Packet. Ribbon cutting is scheduled at the site tomorrow morning.

Jerry Bents updated on Phase MI-4A and Phase MI-4B. A Project Status Report from Houston Engineering is contained in the May Board Packet. Kemper Construction is waiting for weather to conditions to improve for work to get started. Completion is expected to be summer of 2022.

Jerry Bents updated on Phase MI-5. A Project Status Report from Houston Engineering is contained in the May Board Packet. Clearance from OLDCC staff was received yesterday.

Jerry Bents updated on Phase MI-6. A Project Status Report from Houston Engineering is contained in the May Board Packet. Comments from the USACE are expected to be received next week. Jerry Bents detailed the floodwall areas of the project. A public meeting is tentatively set for May 24, 2022 at the Minot Auditorium. Dan Steinberger questioned how the city council is handling the bridge. Dan Jonasson advised they are keeping it in their capital improvements program. Dan Jonasson said it may be worthwhile for the SRJB to send a letter to verify understandings of the city council and request to move forward. Clif Issendorf suggested the letter should reference cost and who will be responsible for payment of costs.

Jason Westbrook updated on Phase MI-2C. A Project Status Report from Houston Engineering is contained in the May Board Packet.

Jason Westbrook of Barr Engineering provided an update to the Joint Board regarding Phase MI-7. A Project Status Report is contained in the May Board Packet. A public information meeting was held last night with a good turnout. A Design Review Meeting was also held and feedback was received from the City.

Jason Westbrook provided an update to the Joint Board regarding Phase WC-1. A Project Status Report is contained in the May Board Packet. Ryan Ackerman advised the SRJB that the levee alignment for WC-1A impacted Chuck and Sandra Swenson's property in Tierrecita Vallejo. Successful negotiations were completed in April 2020, and a partial acquisition was completed in August 2020. Part of the negotiating pertained to the property owner continuing to receive access to river water for irrigation. Two options discussed were designing an "up and over" to continue pumping from the river or drilling a well. As negotiations continued it was determined that a well would be the most beneficial for the property owner and for the SRJB.

Dan Jonasson moved to authorize Illand Mariner Water Well Service to drill a well located at Lot 2 of Swenson addition based on the cost estimate of \$9,465.00. Clif Issendorf seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.

Ryan Ackerman discussed the Phase BU-1. A bid opening was conducted on May 2, 2022, for Phase BU-1E. Two bids were received. Detailed bid tabulations are contained in the May Board Packet. The

engineer's estimate for the construction of this phase of the project was \$200,000.00. The lowest bid was received from Bluestone Construction, LLC in the amount \$281,844.00.

Tom Klein moved to accept the low bid of Bluestone Construction, LLC for Phase BU-1E in the amount of \$281,844.00 and authorize the chairman to sign the appropriate agreements on behalf of the SRJB. Dan Steinberger seconded the motion. Clif Issendorf asked whether there are regulations in place with respect to accepting bids over the estimate and Ryan Ackerman advised that at the discretion of the Joint Board. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed with opposition from Clif Issendorf.

Ryan Ackerman advised the Joint Board that the StARR program is in the process of being closed out. Updates are contained in the May Board Packet.

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

The Joint Board discussed the Velva Master Lift Station. Ryan Ackerman advised that on Page 192 of the Board Packet is a letter from the Velva City Commission President. The City of Velva applied for a grant and they were awarded around \$300,000 through that program to update their existing lift station. At Page 195 of the Packet is a layout of where the existing lift station sits (middle of proposed levee in Velva) so the City is asking the SRJB to consider working together on a project to construct a new lift station away from the proposed levee so that modifications are not necessary in the future when flood control is built in Velva. No action was requested or taken by the Board.

The Joint Board took note of future meetings and events as set forth in the May Board Packet. On May 6, 2022 there is a Phase MI-1 ribbon cutting at 10:00 a.m. On May 24, 2022, there will be an MI-6 public information meeting. On June 2, 2022 will be the next SRJB regular meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Clif Issendorf advised he talked to Leland Goodman and discussed the minutes as written and he said that is generally a broad view of what happened. Kyle Flannery, of US Fish and Wildlife, wants to meet with Leland at 9:00 a.m. next Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at Leland's farmyard. Leland said the Board is welcome and he requested an engineer to be present.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular meeting of the Joint Board is scheduled for Thursday, June 2, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 203 of the Minot Auditorium.



Jack Dwyer
Legal Counsel