

MINUTES OF THE EDDY COUNTY WATER RESOURCE BOARD  
September 3, 2024

A regular meeting of the Eddy County Water Resource Board was held on September 3, 2024 at 8:00 AM at the Eddy County Courthouse. Board members Kenny Reis, Monty Schaefer, Mike Tweed, and Secretary/Treasurer, Travis S. Peterson, were present in the basement of the Eddy County Courthouse. Also present was Alex Lies of Fairville Township, Wells County.

The minutes of the regular August 6, 2024 meeting were presented. Schaefer made a motion to approve. Second by Tweed. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was presented and reviewed. Schaefer made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Tweed seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Correspondence:** Peterson reported that he received an August 26, 2024 letter from ND Water Resource Districts Association. The letter explains the Water Resource Districts Association's effort to honor water managers' years of service. Eddy County Water Board members' years of service were reviewed. The date Monty Schaefer was appointed to the Eddy County Water Board is currently unknown. Peterson will research water board minutes to determine the date Schaefer was appointed. The updated information will be forwarded to ND Water Resource Districts Association.

**Old Business:**

**Johnson Lake/Forde Township/Snagging and Clearing:** Schaefer reported that it is his understanding that the recently completed drain cleanout will be plugged and managed. It is not clear how this will be accomplished. There were complaints by local landowners that Johnson Lake is now too low.

**Upper Sheyenne Joint Water Resource Board:** Schaefer reported that there was nothing new to report.

**Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board:** Tweed summarized the business conducted at the last meeting held on August 14, 2024. The next meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2024.

**Garrison Diversion Conservancy District:** Tweed informed the board that there is an executive board meeting scheduled for September 26, 2024. The next meeting of the full board is not until January of 2025.

**Chester Flaagan cleanout inquiry:** Tweed was contacted by Chester Flaagan regarding clean out of debris and soil. The area in question is the same area that was the subject of the Halvorson/Ryan complaints in September 2020. Because the board could not recall the specifics of the prior complaint or the manner in which the prior complaint was resolved, it was agreed that Peterson would review the file and forward relevant information to board members. This matter may be revisited at the next regular water board meeting.

**New Business:**

**Alex Lies/Fairville Township/Wells County Water Board:** Alex Lies of Fairville Township in Wells County was present to discuss Wells County culvert concerns. Apparently, there is a dispute between Fairville Township supervisors and the Wells County Water Board. Aside from the Fairville Township/Wells County Water Board dispute, Lies was present to inform the board of his belief that certain Oak Creek Drain culverts were modified and/or the capacity increased. The alleged modifications or increased capacities are as follows:

1. 30" oval culvert replaced by a 36" round culvert between Sections 19 and 30 in Fairville Township, Wells County, ND; and
2. 24" culvert was added between Sections 21 and 22 in Germantown Township, Wells County, ND.

Lies guesstimated the above modifications occurred around 2019. Initial concerns the Eddy County Water Board had are: what procedure was followed to accomplish the alleged modifications to culverts within the Oak Creek/Rocky Run assessment district; and what is/was the impact of those alleged modifications on the operating plan and downstream landowners. Further investigation of this matter is required. It may be necessary that the Eddy County Water Board send a letter to the Wells County Water Board for information related to any modifications and/or increased capacities.

**Glen Walz:** Schaefer indicated that Glen Walz inquired about the 80/20 cost share program. Apparently Walz has concerns about the water course near his farmstead. Schaefer informed Walz of the time and place of today's meeting. Walz did not attend.

**Next Meeting:** The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 1, 2024 at 9:00 AM in the Eddy County Courthouse.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Travis S. Peterson, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:

  
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Kenneth Reis, Chairman