

Morton County Water Resource District

Unapproved Minutes

December 1, 2021

The Morton County Water Resource District held their regular meeting at 10am on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 in the Missouri Room at the Comfort Inn & Suites, 1516 27th St Nw, Mandan, ND.

The following were present: Chairman Wade M. Bachmeier, Brenda Winckler, Sec-Treas., Managers Jamie Wetsch, Mike Kemnitz, Bruce Engelhardt, Karen Garvie, MWWS, Tim Nilsen, MC Parks, Ron Sando, via skype, George Saxowsky, Tom Bair, Legal Counsel, Mike Gunsch, Houston Engineering, Josh & Amanda Kadrmas.

1. Chairman Bachmeier called the meeting to order. Mgr. Engelhardt moved to approve the October 27, 2021 minutes. Mgr. Wetsch seconded the motion, MCU. Mgr. Bachmeier requested minutes be sent to Legal Counsel, County Auditor and SWC.
2. MWWS: The Board reviewed the income, totaling \$252,167 expenditures, totaling \$216,212 of the MWWS for the month of October 2021. Manager Schmidt made a motion to accept and place in the files. Manager Engelhardt seconded the motion. MCU. Monthly reports were reviewed. Pasture tap bills are sent out on Dec. 1st. P taps used 18,328,754 gallons between 190 pasture taps. Cost of Living: Mgr. Garvie suggested due to all factors from the last year, she would like to give an end of year adjustment for 2021 at a cost of \$16,500 disbursed between the 5 employees based upon years of experience and level of responsibilities. Mgr. Kemnitz moved to approve and allow Mgr. Garvie and portfolio holder Kemnitz to disburse \$16,500 at their discretion. Mgr. Engelhardt seconded the motion. MCU. 2022 employee wage increase: Discussion was held concerning a 4.5%, 5.5% or 6.5% COLA increase. Mgr. Garvie's recommendation is 5.5% increase which would increase payroll by \$22,994. Mgr. Wetsch moved to approve the 2022 Cola increase of 5.5% for the MWWS employees. Mgr. Schmidt seconded the motion. MCU. 2022 scheduled maintenance projects could include New Salem tank rehab and a tank fix by the animal shelters at a cost estimate of \$145,000. Mottsiff Subdivision meeting was held to get an idea of where to go to get them water service. Agreed on the best path to go. More information is needed from Beaver Creek Archaeology for a cost to place the water service line. The Lyons Road potential project. Mgr. Garvie asked Bryan Ziegler to come up with a list of potential water users. Currently the list is 19. Bryan will send a letter to potential users in December. January 2022 meeting will be held at the MWWS meeting room. MGS would like to extend the lease of the building to December 31, 2022. Mgr. Kemnitz moved to extend the lease to December 31, 2022 with an agreement to have full access to the board room. Mgr. Schmidt seconded the motion. MCU.
3. Water Funds from SWC: Mgr. Schmidt reported \$9.2 billion requests for 700 millions dollars of money. 75 million remained for water projects. 25 Red River, 25 for Minot and 25 for water projects. Request from Standing Rock for \$17million for a water system and Selfridge \$6million for in town water with nobody contacting Schmidt for these projects. They can't qualify for funds. Want to start a water project stabilization fund for industrial use for water. Soybean plant needs power and water. Blue Flint Ethanol wants \$11 million to put in their own water

system. City of Washburn will get a loan for \$4 million to put into the intake which they would sell to McLean water system and they will sell to Blue Flint.

4. Morton County Parks: Tim Nilsen reported: Trees at HL: only tree that seems to grow is pine. Tim suggests putting a native cottonwood. Tim will try that. Revenue for HL for November \$30. Total season \$31,848. Water is down about 6.5 feet.
5. MRJB: Mgr. Schmidt had a project brought to him collecting all information on the Missouri River and promoting it. Met and had a meeting to discuss a way to implement the plan with \$25,000 from the Garrison Diversion. Chairman Bachmeier has been put on the agenda of Water Topics to discuss implementing this plan promoting other uses of the MR. Asked if the Garrison Diversion would like to donate to implement this if there is any local support. Schmidt would like to fund a long term plan. Ken Royce and Chairman Bachmeier put together a 1 year proposal for a total of \$50,000 for a 1 year pilot project with an employee chosen by MRJB and take it out promoting to advocate, educate and engage the public on the benefits of MR. Would like to start the ball rolling and suggests MCWRD put forward a contribution. ND uses approximately 1% of all water that flows thru MR. People in all of ND need to know why the water in the MR is important to all people. Mgr. Schmidt moved to have MCWRD contribute \$5,000 towards the MRJB project for the MR . Mgr. Engelhardt seconded the motion. Mgr. Schmidt moved to amend the motion to \$10,000. Mgr. Engelhardt seconded the motion. MCU. Mgr. Engelhardt will attend the meeting on December 15th at 8am.
6. Kadrmas Tree Planting: Josh and Amanda Kadrmas were present to discuss the easement proposed for tree planting on their property. Tom Bair put together a proposal for an easement to plant and maintain trees on the Boards property. One change has been made to the document paragraph 7, which removed the word building and changed the address of the Kadrmas land. They will take the easement to their lawyer before they sign it. Mgr. Kemnitz moved to execute the easement with the Josh and Amanda Kadrmas. Mgr. Engelhardt seconded the motion. MCU.
7. City of Flasher: Mgr. Engelhardt reported MC Highway replaced a culvert on their property and sloped the land and cleaned out the ditch on the north side by the Park & 3rd intersection. He thinks this will solve most of the problems. There will need to be fill on Merritt's lot which would be provided by Merritt.
8. Crown Butte Lagoon Shortage: Money allocated for the CBL. Project taxes collected does not cover the principal, interest and the admin. Fee. Started at 119 lots and is currently 86. Still paying the taxes levied and amount paid do not equal. Tom will discuss with the County Commissioners.
9. Next. Meeting date: January 26, 2022 at the MWWS. Board Room
10. Financial Reports: Mgr. moved to approve and and pay. The following bills. Mgr. Schmidt moved Mgr.. Wetsch seconded the motion.

<i>CK#</i>	<i>NAME:</i>	<i>AMOUNT:</i>	<i>MEMO:</i>
1312	Bair Law Firm	\$3750.00	Legal Fees
1313	Ronald Sando	\$1210.00	Consultant Fees

1314 Comfort Inn & Suites \$75.00

Room Rent

There being no further business, motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Wade M. Bachmeier, Chairman

Brenda Winckler, Sec-Treas