

Minutes of Meeting
Of the Board of Managers
Of the Lower Heart River WRD
July 25, 2023
2:00 p.m. – Veteran’s Room
Mandan City Hall

Attendees: Bill Robinson, Chairman; Alan Kemmet, Manager (phone); Ryan Jockers, Manager (phone); Mitch Bitz, Manager; Luci Snowden, Manager (phone) and Carol Beechie, Secretary/Treasurer.

Also in attendance: Dennis Reep, HDR Engineering; Ryan Anderson, HDR Engineering; Chris Korkowski, HDR Engineering; Vicki Twerdochib, HDR Engineering (phone); Cody Mattson, Morton County Emergency Manager (phone); Tim Helbling, Mayor of Mandan (phone) and Andy Zachmeier, Morton County Commissioner.

The minutes of the June 23, 2023, Board Meeting were presented. Mitch Bitz made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Luci Snowden. Motion passed unanimously.

Monthly bills for July and the financial report for June 2023 were reviewed. Mitch Bitz made a motion to approve the financial report and the monthly bills as presented, seconded by Alan Kemmet. Motion passed unanimously.

Ryan Jockers presented the 2024 Lower Heart budget to the Morton County Commissioners on July 13th. Lower Heart River WRD should hear back on a finalized budget in August or September.

Vouchers approved for payment:

HDR Engineering, Inc.	General Engineering Services – Task Order 3 June 4, 2023 to June 30, 2023	\$3627.50
HDR Engineering, Inc.	Flood Risk Design Phase 2 - Task Order 5 June 4, 2023 to June 30, 2023	\$26,056.75
HDR Engineering, Inc.	Levee System Section 408 Permit June 4, 2023 to June 30, 2023	\$5,653.75
BNSF Railway Company	Prelim Engineering to pursue a levee raise FEMA Accreditation	\$1,420.15
Bobcat of Mandan, Inc.	Disc Mulcher & T770 Rental	\$1,950.00
Morton County Weed Control	Tordon & Venue Herbicide	\$262.00
Bismarck/Mandan Tire Center	Farm Mount/Dismount	\$743.00
City of Mandan	Gas	\$379.40
ND Tax Commissioner	State Tax Payment	\$40.00

Updated MOU for LHRWRD, NDDOT and City of Mandan: The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been executed by all parties for the Memorial Highway storm plan and shared project lift station.

Operations and Maintenance:

Spring Flood Debris Cleanup: Spring cleanup was performed from the Youth Correctional Center to the Trolley Bridge by using a Bobcat with a mulcher. Mitch Bitz is currently working with Cody Mattson, Morton County Emergency Manager, on FEMA cost assistance for the spring cleanup.

City Equipment Storage Request: The City of Mandan has requested if they could use the Lower Heart Shop (40' x 80') for storage of some of their equipment over the winter months. A question regarding insurance coverage was raised. Carol Beechie will email HUB Insurance the insurance question and include Mitch Bitz and Bill Robinson on the email to clarify insurance coverage.

Burlington Northern - Emergency Response Plan Refresh: Burlington Northern is updating their Emergency Response Plan and reached out as to whether they could operate the flood gates if a diesel spill happened in the middle of the night. Ryan Jockers requested HDR to check the O&M Manual for such procedures and formalize the process in place regarding turning the valves and notification of such.

Update on SWIF Plan: Ryan Anderson, HDR Engineering, provided a written update for the board. The \$500 fee for the Levee System Submittal Information (both within the levee right-of-way and within the levee critical area and outside the levee right of way) was discussed. The Board will discuss in further detail at the August meeting.

DCN Fiber Optic Damage: DCN has stated that it is not cost effective for them to go through the levee and will determine another plan. Dennis Reep requested that DCN provide an update on how they will abandon their existing line running through the levee.

201 Riverwood Avenue: Their package was submitted to the USACE for review of site work. Estimated time frame to hear back from USACE is approximately 9-12 months.

Update on Mandan Flood Risk Reduction Plan: Dennis Reep, HDR Engineering, provided a written update for the board. A meeting with USACE Section 408 Coordinator was held on July 7 with three of the eleven technical reviews complete. HDR is working with BNSF to accommodate relocation of their utilities. The memorial highway team is reviewing alternatives for how to manage the drainage on the east half of memorial highway, which could have an impact on the size of the Lower Heart stormwater pump station. We are anticipating BRIC funding decision by FEMA in July or August. CLOMR was submitted to FEMA on June 23rd and HDR has received comments back. Subsequent meetings held with FEMA contractor on June 28 and July 13 to clarify comments and assist in resolution. HDR has a ninety-day time window to respond, with a due date of September 21. An update on the response will be provided at the August meeting.

Update on Lower Unit Landowners: Dan Vander Vorst, HDR Engineering, is presenting landowners with offers today.

Other Business:

Ryan Jockers asked about the Phase 3 application process to the Department of Water Resources. An approved CLOMR and construction permit need to be submitted.

The Board adjourned at 3:10 p.m. Next meeting is Tuesday, August 22 at 2 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary/Treasurer