

West Great Falls Flood Control & Drainage District  
PO Box 791, Great Falls, Mt 59403-0791  
July 15, 2023  
Commissioners' Meeting Minutes

**Location of meeting:** Parking lot of the Temple Baptist Church 313 18<sup>th</sup> St SW, Great Falls, Mt.

**Call to Order:** 7:14 PM by Commissioner Rogers.

**Roll call:** Commissioner Rogers and Commissioner Fairhurst and Commissioner Mares present. Janet Fulmer was absent.

**Public Attendance:** Judy Rogers, Nicky Putnam, Barb Lankford, Scott Lankford, Jeffi Poulsen, Trina Mans, Aspen Northerner, Mark Tracy (beaver trapper), Dennis Croxford, Dennis Vroman(Fairfield Fence), Cory Buford and Josh Summer(Great West Engineering).

Josh Summer from Great West Engineering presented a summary of the lake drain permitting process needed before the project can be let for bids. Although there is not much likelihood of construction getting started this year the district let Mr. Summer know that there was a deadline of the FWP grant for the project. Mr. Summer also outlined the steps Great West would take in evaluation of the Great Falls storm sewer system and wanted to know if there were any concerns the flood district might have. There were no concerns at this time the district and Great West agreed to keep each other informed as the project advances.

Dennis Vroman of Fairfield Fence gave a presentation on repairing the fence paralleling 6<sup>th</sup> St SW from the river to the corner of Carlson's property. Mr. Vroman suggested a heavy duty 6 Foot chain link fence topped with barbed wire to stop the indigents living under the Sixth Street bridge from trespassing on and causing damage to District property and the private property within the District. A motion was made by commissioner Fairhurst to contract with Fairfield Fencing to replace the fence and gate between the corner of the Carlson property and the Sun River along 6<sup>th</sup> St SW. at a cost of \$13,749.50. Motion was approved unanimously.

**Reading of Minutes:** Minutes of June 20, 2023 were not available.

**Treasurer's report:** The Treasures' office had not provided the June Financial reports by meeting time.

Inspection Report – Commissioner Rogers said he had one half of the levee inspected, but the condition of the grass made inspecting the remainder difficult and hazardous.

Emergency Preparedness Report - Commissioner Mares reported the Emergency preparedness report was done except entering it into the database and emailing it to everyone.

Weed Spraying report – Commissioner Rogers said inspection of the levee showed about 50% of the weeds had been sprayed. It was agreed the commissioners would meet with Dr. Lawn on 7/24/2023 to negotiate on how to best handle the situation. It was also decided to

withhold payment until a solution was reached.

Mowing Report – Commissioners will talk to Dr. Lawn about getting the mowing started at the 7/24/2023 meeting.

Pest Control Report – Commissioner Fairhurst introduced Mark Tracy as the beaver control agent for the lower half of the levee. Mr. Tracy said he would be doing most of the his beaver control activities from the river and during the winter time to ensure the animal would not be wasted when practical.

Drainage Structure and flap gate repairs- Commissioner Rogers reported that those projects are still waiting contractor availability.

Woody Vegetation Removal report - Commissioner Mares is in the process of identifying additional areas that need tree and brush removal.

Lake Drain Upgrade status report – Was covered in Mr. Summer's report.

Permit Required Confined Space Program Report – Commissioner Fairhurst report he is gathering program information from other agencies and businesses to use as a template.

Potts Summons and Complaint Status – Commissioner Rogers reported the district has files an answer to the Pott's complaint. The filing fee was \$70.00. Aspen Northerner explained the process as the case continues. Scheduling and discovery will be the next items. The District still does not have an attorney.

### **Unfinished Business:**

Purchase of Spraying and mowing equipment is still in the investigation and feasibility stage. There was public comment about leasing or borrowing equipment from Cascade County.

Purchase of Staff gauge Monitor is still under investigation for pricing. There was strong public support for the idea. Commissioner Rogers to get firm pricing by next meeting.

Storage container purchase is still under investigation. Scott Lankford said he would check with Sletten Construction since they had a lot of them. General public comment was in favor of the idea.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Besides the motion the replace the fence at 6<sup>th</sup> St SW there was no other new business.

Public comment was concerning mowing and people mowing their portion of the levee and a permanent meeting place.

Approved payments for: July Payroll: Chuck Rogers \$158.62, Sandy Mares \$158.62 and Chuck Rogers reimbursement for \$75.00 for filing fees

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, August 15, 2023, unless otherwise noticed.

**Adjourn:** Chuck Rogers adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

West Great Falls Flood Control and Drainage District.

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Charles E Rogers,  
Commissioner

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Fred L Fairhurst,  
Commissioner

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Sandy J Mares,  
Commissioner