

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

Location of meeting: Temple Baptist Church 313 18th St SW, Great Falls, Mt.

Call to Order: 7:05 PM by Commissioner Rogers.

Roll call: Commissioners Rogers, Mares and Fairhurst present. Janet Fulmer was absent. A quorum was present.

Public Attendance: Judy Rogers, Jeffi Poulsen, Sandra Erickson, Lynn Baker.

Reading of Minutes: Minutes of June 20, 2023 were not available. Minutes of the July 18th meeting were approved as read.

Reports:

July Treasurer's was not available. The June Treasurer's report, Operations balance \$487,088.05, Maintenance Reserve balance \$51,214.29, Flood Emergency balance \$24,672.19 and Taxes receivable \$2,997.33.

Inspection Report – Commissioner Rogers reported he had not yet finished the inspection. Still needs to inspect from Station 186 down to 135.

Emergency Preparedness Report – Commissioner Mares reported there are new contacts at the city public works and would like to get together with them. Commissioner Rogers requested that a state of the levee report be prepared for state, county and city emergency managers.

Mowing report – Commissioner Rogers reported the mowing job was great up to 27th St. and then became very hit and miss with most of the north end of the levee being missed. None of the outlet corridors have been done. Nor the 323 drainage ditches.

Pest Control Progress Report - Commissioner Fairhurst said there were no beavers taken last month. Liability release forms should be done soon. Regular beaver season ends the end of August.

Drainage Structure & Flap Gate repairs – Commissioner Mares reported Mike Andre had some time and got an early started on exercising, lubricating and inspecting drainage structures. He had repaired the alignment problem at station 135 manhole number 2. Mike is also trying to find someone to jet flush the larger pipes that need cleaning, Commissioner Mares said there was going to be a lot of work needed on the Watson Coulee outlet (258) structure in the near future.

Fencing Report – Commissioner Fairhurst reported there was no started date yet for the 6th St SW fence replacement. He said he also noticed the homeless were already moving be under the the sixth street bridge. The was a recommendation to keep the new fence as close to the bridge as practical. Commissioner Fairhurst will followup on the homeless people

under the bridge.

Status of Annual fiscal report - Commissioner Rogers said the report is due to the district court in July of each year but, that is not possible because the numbers from the treasurers office do not come out until the end of July. Commissioner Mares said she would do the report.

Woody Vegetation Removal Report - Commissioner Rogers said he had not contacted Donny Leighthizer yet but will when the mowing is complete.

Lake Drain upgrade status Report – Commissioner Rogers said Great West is working on the issue. There was some confusion about whether or not a USACE section 404 permit would be required. Omaha said we would need one but Helena already gave us one.

Permit required confined space progress – Commissioner Fairhurst said he is working with a Mouse River levee system in North Dakota to use their format and templates.

Pott's summons and complaint against the district - Commissioner Mares reported the district had files its answers on July 18th. Since our attorney has not files his notice of withdrawal with the court the district has not been getting any notices of other filings, Commissioner Rogers said he would email our attorney asking him to file a notice of withdrawal.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Conex box, Video System and mowing equipment moved to next month.

NEW BUSINESS:

Proposal to allow Thares to move the access gate from its present location to the west is tabled until Fairfield fence can get us a bid.

Motion made by by Commissioner Mares to contract with Dr. Lawn to mow sides of the levee for an additional \$11,500.00. Discussion included the USACE requirements to mow all of the levee. And the necessity of maintaining good sod cover. Motion passed. Commissioner Rogers said he would take care of getting the contract signed.

Motion made to sign the check for the mowing invoice but have the president hold the check until he is satisfied with the final mowing. Passed.

O&M assessment are due 9/7/2023. Commissioner Rogers said he would file the report with the Treasures office and the Clerk and Recorder.

General Public Comments:

Comments centered around the difficulty of our contractors getting and keeping people to do the work. The was still more support for hiring our own grounds keeper.

Invoices to be paid: Approved warrants for Commissioner Mares \$158.62, Commissioner Rogers \$158.62, and Dr Lawn \$14,832.00

Meeting Adjourned 7:49 PM

Charles Rogers,
Commissioner

Fred L. Fairhurst,
Commissioner

Sandy J. Mares,
Commissioner