

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING  
of the  
STATE WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Held Friday, July 7, 1939, in the office of the Commission.

A special meeting of the State Water Conservation Commission was called to order in the office of the Commission at 11:15 A. M., Friday, July 7, 1939, by the Chairman, Governor John Moses.

Roll was called showing the following members present: Governor John Moses, Chairman; Henry Holt, Vice Chairman; and Commissioners S. W. Thompson, Kenneth W. Simons, and Einar H. Dahl. Absent, none. Governor Moses asked to be excused because of other urgent business and Vice Chairman Holt took the Chair.

The Secretary reported that copies of the minutes of the last meeting of the Commission, held June 14 and 15, 1939, had been sent to all members. It was moved by Comm. Simons, seconded by Comm. Dahl, that in view of the fact that no errors had been noted, the minutes be approved as written. The motion carried, all Commissioners voting aye.

Mr. C. T. Hinze, of the Bureau of Reclamation, was called into the meeting. He presented a map showing the units in North Dakota on which the Bureau of Reclamation is working. He stated that this included about 200,000 acres to date. He said the Bureau is making a complete field survey and plans, and that their report will be in by the first of November, on these units--the ultimate demand for Ft. Peck power to be the main study. He further stated that the report will include the lift, irrigable acres, and the maximum demand for each unit so that the Bureau will know the ultimate demand for power in the vicinity. In answer to a question by Mr. Simons, he stated that the survey is sufficiently complete so that designs for a project could be made from them. Thirty one men are working in North Dakota now on this survey, according to Mr. Hinze. He stated that everything on the river survey will probably be completed this month. There was further discussion of the survey, and Mr. Hinze stated that reports of the surveys would be available to the Commission as soon as they are in final form. In answer to a question as to what assistance the Water Conservation Commission could give in this work, Mr. Hinze stated that he understood some financial assistance would be appreciated. The Commissioners assured him that the Commission would be glad to assist along that line, and he was asked to inform Mr. Sloan to that effect.

It was moved by Comm. Simons, seconded by Comm. Dahl, that the Secretary be directed to offer the cooperation of the North Dakota State Water Conservation Commission to the Bureau of Reclamation in the work that they are doing in North Dakota, and that he be authorized to offer a financial contribution on behalf of the Commission. On roll call the motion carried, all Commissioners voting aye.

At 12 o'clock, the meeting was recessed until 1:30 P. M.

At 1:30 P. M., the Commission reconvened with all members present. Governor John Moses asked to be excused, and Vice Chairman Holt took the Chair.

The Secretary reported as follows:

1. He stated that the Rural Rehabilitation Corporation had been advised that the Water Board of Montana has completed the enlarged intake to serve, in addition to their own project, the Yellowstone Pumping Project #214 in North Dakota. The \$3,500.00 provided by the Rural Rehabilitation Corporation has been paid to the contractor. No immediate construction of the balance of the North Dakota project has been arranged.

2. He stated that authority is requested to repair an abandoned N. P. Railway dam to

provide additional water storage for Grant County Project #191, otherwise completed. The cost is not to exceed \$450.00 for the sponsor's share to be paid from Item 5, 1939 Appropriation -- "Maintenance of existing dams in connection with work relief projects, \$7,000.00". WPA advises that this may be started immediately. The secretary read further correspondence regarding this dam, and Mr. H. C. Frahm, Assistant Engineer, was called into the meeting. Mr. Frahm stated that he thought the title to the dam was held by the N. P. Railway, but that they were no longer using the dam and that he understood they were agreeable to the Commission's taking it over.

It was moved by Comm. Simons, seconded by Comm. Dahl, that the Secretary be authorized to enter into an agreement with the WPA for the repair of the dam on Grand County Project #191, with the understanding that he will ascertain if the Commission is legally permitted to do so. On roll call the motion carried, all Commissioners voting aye.

3. The Secretary reported the following collections since the last meeting of the Commission (June 14 - 15, 1939):

From the Rural Rehabilitation Corporation  
On Lewis & Clark Irrigation Project #175.

June 14 - Rue Construction Company - Transmission Line	\$ 7,319.49
June 21 - Carl L. Lindberg - Payment on Intake	5,626.98
June 21 - Miscellaneous Cost for May	2,596.22

From the Rural Rehabilitation Corporation  
On Sioux Irrigation Project #213

June 21 - Miscellaneous Costs for May	\$ 2,490.03
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From Individual Projects

June 15 - Wallace Kyes Project #79	\$ 34.65
June 21 - R. C. Ike Project #118	\$ 35.00

(Mr. Ike has agreed to pay \$10.00 per month until the total is paid)

It was moved by Comm. Dahl, seconded by Comm. Simons, that the Secretary be directed to inform the Lewis & Clark Irrigation District of the financial condition of the project and ask that the district submit to a vote a proposal for an additional bond issue in the sum of \$20,000.00, said election to be held as soon as possible. The motion carried, all Commissioners voting aye.

Comm. Dahl stated that the Sioux Irrigation Project was completed and that the project looked very good. All ditches are completed and water has been run into them. He stated that it took about two and a half hours for the water to get to the end of the project. Mr. McColly supplemented the report on the Sioux Irrigation Project with the statement that some leveling needs to be done on the project and that the Rural Rehabilitation Corporation proposes to possibly provide a leveler for this work. The work would cost between three and four hundred dollars, and would take about three weeks, with one man to run the machinery.

Comm. Dahl reported that the Lewis & Clark Project is progressing very well. He said that about 30 acres of millet has been planted. He also stated that grasshopper poison is being spread with planes.

4. The Secretary reported that the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors has postponed the hearing originally scheduled for June 26, at Washington, D. C., on the Heart Butte and Bowman Projects until advised that the Commission is ready to proceed.

It was moved by Comm. Dahl, seconded by Comm. Simons, that the Irrigation Committee be instructed to take care of this matter and send representation to Washington, if necessary. On roll call the motion carried, all Commissioners voting aye.

5. The Secretary reported that at an abandoned CCC camp in Williston is one building divided into units 20x72, 20x30, 20x70, and 20x25, which will be offered to North Dakota if the State shows an interest, and no federal agency wants it.

It was moved by Comm. Dahl, seconded by Comm. Simons, that the Governor be asked to request that the CCC building at Williston be turned over to the State, to be disposed of later. The motion carried, all Commissioners voting aye.

6. The Secretary read a report by Commissioners Holt and Thompson concerning their trip along the James River in South Dakota and along the Missouri River from Yankton to Omaha, in the interests of Missouri River Diversion. The Secretary was instructed to file the report of this special committee.

7. Vice Chairman Holt reported for the Tri-State Waters Commission. He stated that he hoped to have Governor Moses come to Fargo for a meeting July 14th, to make plans for the beginning of the first Federal water project in North Dakota. He stated that he would like to have the former members of the Commission invited to the commencement of that project, including former Commissioners Engen, Olson and Whitney, Ex-Governor William Langer, and the former Secretary, D. J. Beakey.

It was moved by Comm. Simons, seconded by Comm. Dahl, that the Chairman of the Tri-State Commission be authorized and directed, on behalf of the North Dakota Water Conservation Commission, to invite to the beginning ceremonies of the Bois des Sioux - Lake Traverse Project, former Water Commissioners Frank P. Whitney of Dickinson, Gerald C. Olson of Mooreton, and J. Arthur Engen of Finley. Also Ex-Secretary D. J. Beakey of Williston, and Ex-Governor William Langer of Bismarck. The motion carried, all Commissioners voting aye.

8. Comm. Simons stated that the Irrigation Committee had no report to make except that the installations on the Cedar River Projects in Sioux County have been practically completed, and that the projects are in operation

9. The Secretary read a letter dated July 7, which he had received from Oscar Becker, staff supervisor of a WPA project related to the former State Planning Board. The Commission was asked to care for the telephone bill for a time until other arrangements could be made. The office cannot be moved to the Water Conservation Commission office at this time due to lack of space.

10. The Secretary reported that a press release of June 17, 1939, from the U. S. Department of the Interior announces a \$5,000,000.00 appropriation for a Great Plains water conservation program. Recommendations are to be prepared by the Interior department; allocations for individual projects are to be made by the President and construction will be handled by the Bureau of Reclamation.

11. The Secretary read the following bills:

Zale F. Palmer-----	\$ 5.83
Mockel Brothers-----	\$291.80
Midland Lumber Co.-----	\$ 1.68
Yellowstone Lumber Co.-----	\$347.99
Servicised Products Co.-----	\$ 2.83
M. W. Associated Store-----	\$ 3.72
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.-----	\$ 3.47
Janney-Semple-Hill-----	\$ 61.00

Fairview Service-----	\$ 19.08
Joe Kellar-----	\$ 53.80
State Highway Department-----	\$ 4.64
State Highway Department-----	\$ 2.64
Dempster Mill Mfg. Co.-----	\$ 27.00
Western Union-----	\$ 9.95
Kather's Drug Co.-----	\$ 55.26
Margaret E. Kerr-----	\$153.40
R. E. Kreiger-----	\$ 21.00
Campbell's Photo Studio-----	\$ 2.13
(Films for Mr. Farmer)	

It was moved by Comm. Dahl, seconded by Comm. Thompson, that the bills be paid, subject to the approval of the Rural Rehabilitation Corporation, where such corporation is concerned. On roll call the motion carried, all Commissioners voting aye.

It was moved by Comm. Thompson, seconded by Comm. Dahl, that the Burroughs Adding Machine bill in the sum of \$45.80 be paid. On roll call the motion carried, all Commissioners voting aye.

It was moved by Comm. Simons, seconded by Comm. Thompson, that the Commission extend its thanks to Mr. D. J. Beakey, its former Secretary, for the achievement of assisting the Commission to finish its first biennium with a cash balance to its credit. The motion carried, all Commissioners voting aye.

Mr. McColly told of his trip to Burlington. He stated that the farmers there want a diversion dam enabling them to use flood irrigation in raising hay crops. He stated that they had been informed of the proper procedure for application for such a dam.

It was moved by Comm. Thompson, seconded by Comm. Dahl, that the meeting adjourn to the call of the Chair as to time and place. The motion carried, all Commissioners voting aye.

Respectfully submitted,

*H. F. McColly*

H. F. McColly, Secretary

APPROVED:

*Henry Holt*  
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 Chairman

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