

STATE WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes of Meeting
Held in Office of State Water Commission in
Bismarck, North Dakota
September 11, 1953

A regular meeting of the North Dakota State Water Conservation Commission was called to order on September 11, 1953, at the State Water Conservation Commission office in Bismarck, North Dakota, to consider regular business matters. The following were present:

MEMBERS OF STATE WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

- Curtis Olson, Vice-Chairman, Member from Valley City
- Earle F. Tucker, Member from Bismarck
- Einar H. Dahl, Member from Watford City
- Oscar Lunseth, Member from Grand Forks
- J. J. Walsh, Secretary and Chief Engineer, State Engineer

OTHERS PRESENT AT THE MEETING:

- G. A. Freeman, U. S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Einar Berge, Technical Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 o'clock p.m. by Vice-Chairman Olson with Commissioners Earle F. Tucker, Oscar Lunseth, Einar H. Dahl, Secretary J.J. Walsh and Einar Berge present.

It was moved by Commissioner Tucker and seconded by Commissioner E. Dahl that the Minutes of the meeting of the State Water Conservation Commission held on August 13, 1953, be approved. Upon roll call of the Commissioners all voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Tucker and seconded by Commissioner Lunseth that the Financial Statements for August, 1953, be approved and filed in the office of the State Water Conservation Commission. Upon roll call of the Commission, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Mr. G. A. Freeman, District Supervisor of the O. & D. Section, U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, Bismarck, North Dakota, entered the meeting at 1:45 o'clock p.m. and reported to the Commission on the present status of the reorganization of the Heart River Irrigation District. Petitions are being circulated calling for an election on the dissolution of the District and good progress has been made in securing the required signatures for this election. Mr. Freeman also stated that financial assistance would be needed by the district for the expenses incurred in connection with the dissolution of the present district and formation of a new district.

Commissioner Tucker made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Lunseth that statements for expenses incurred in the dissolution of the Heart River Irrigation District and organization of a new district should be considered by the Commission upon presentation by the district for approval and payment. Upon roll call by Vice-Chairman Olson, Commissioners Tucker, Lunseth, E. Dahl and Olson all voted aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Einar Berge left the meeting at 2:15 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Freeman left the meeting at 2:20 o'clock p.m.

A letter from J. J. Walsh, Secretary of the State Water Conservation Commission and Jerome H. Svore, State Sanitary Engineer to the Williston Basin Refining Corporation in Williston, North Dakota, concerning the waste disposal of that plant was read to the Commissioners for their information by Vice-Chairman Olson.

Repair work on the Odland Dam in Golden Valley was discussed by the Commissioners. The repairs needed were estimated at \$4,000.00. A cooperative agreement form signed by county officials of Golden Valley County agreeing to contribute 1/3 or \$1,335.00 to the costs of the proposed repairs was read by Vice-Chairman Olson. A motion was made by Commissioner E. Dahl and seconded by Commissioner Tucker that the State Water Conservation Commission should enter into an agreement with the State Game and Fish Department and Golden Valley County whereby each would contribute 1/3 of the costs of the repair work to the Odland Dam in Golden Valley County. Upon roll call by Vice-Chairman Olson, Commissioners Lunseth, E. Dahl, Tucker and Olson all voted aye. Motion carried.

A letter from Mr. R.L. Dushinske of Devils Lake along with vouchers totaling \$39.32 for painting and installing signs showing the water surface elevations of Devils Lake at various years was considered by the Commission. Commissioner Lunseth made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Tucker that the vouchers submitted for the costs incurred in connection with painting and installing signs showing the water surface elevations of Devils Lake in the amount of \$39.32 be approved and paid by the State Water Conservation Commission. Upon roll call by Vice-Chairman Olson Commissioners E. Dahl, Lunseth, Tucker and Olson voted aye. Motion carried.

The annual membership to the National Reclamation Association was discussed by the Commissioners. There was a motion made by Commissioner Lunseth and seconded by Commissioner Tucker that the State Water Conservation Commission pay the \$400.00 as the annual membership of the Commission to the National Reclamation Association. Upon roll call by Vice-Chairman Olson, Commissioners Tucker, E. Dahl, Lunseth and Olson all voted aye. Motion carried.

A letter from Mr. A.R. Weinhandl of Minot, North Dakota, was read by Vice-Chairman Olson thanking the State Water Conservation Commission for subscribing to the Missouri-Souris Projects Association in the amount of \$1,000.00.

The appointment of Mr. Milo W. Hoisveen, Ephrata, Washington, as Assistant State Engineer was discussed by the Commissioners. A motion was made by Commissioner Tucker and seconded by Commissioner Lunseth that the State Water Conservation Commission confirm the appointment of Mr. Milo W. Hoisveen as Assistant State Engineer, at a salary of \$6,600.00 per year. Upon roll call by Vice-Chairman Olson, Commissioners E. Dahl, Tucker, Lunseth and Olson all voted aye. Motion carried.

A letter written to Mr. Tom Smith, General Chairman of the National Reclamation Association Convention, reserving hotel rooms for the Commissioners and their wives was read to the Commissioners for their information.

The Sixty-ninth meeting of the Missouri Basin Inter-Agency Committee to be held in Fargo on September 29 and 30 was discussed by the Commissioners. It was decided by the Commissioners that they should all be present in Fargo on September 29 and meet with Assistant Secretary of the Interior Fred G. Aandahl to discuss the Heart River Irrigation District matter. Secretary Walsh is to make reservations for the Commissioners for the night of September 29, 1953.

A progress report from P.D. Akin, District Engineer, U.S. Geological Survey, Grand Forks, North Dakota, was presented to the Commissioners for their information on ground-water surveys being conducted in North Dakota.

The Commission considered a report on the repairs recommended to the Meissner Dam in Morton County and a copy of a letter from the State Game and Fish Department to Peter Meissner of Glen Ullin, North Dakota, concerning that department's assistance for the repairs. The repairs recommended consist of replacing the toe section of the spillway which was washed out in a recent flash flood. The estimated cost of the repairs is \$600.00. The State Game and Fish Department will contribute \$200.00 providing an easement allowing access to the reservoir is given by the landowners on whose property the dam and reservoir is located. Local groups will cooperate in the repair of the dam.

Commissioner Tucker made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Lunseth that the State Water Conservation Commission cooperate with local interests in the repair of the Meissner Dam. Upon roll call by Vice-Chairman Olson, Commissioners Tucker, E. Dahl, Lunseth and Olson all voted aye. Motion carried.

A copy of a letter from Bruce Johnson, District Manager, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Bismarck, North Dakota, to Mr. W.E. Hoopes, St. Petersburg, Florida, concerning irrigation water available in the storage from the James River watershed was read to the Commissioners for their information.

A report on the progress being made on the Soldiers Home Dam at Lisbon, North Dakota, by the State Water Conservation Commission dam repair crew was made to the Commission by Secretary Walsh.

Vice-Chairman Olson and Secretary Walsh reported on a meeting with the City Council of Lisbon relative to the repairs needed at the Lisbon Dam to the outlet channel at that dam. The Commission instructed the Secretary to write to the Mayor of Lisbon and inform him that the Commission would not be able to do any construction work on this project this season because of the backlog of construction work that was scheduled and had to be finished before the end of the construction season.

The Commission discussed a proposed increase in salary of the Secretary of the Commission and State Engineer from \$6,600.00 a year to \$7,200.00 per year.

Commissioner E. Dahl made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Tucker that the salary of the Secretary and Chief Engineer of the State Water Conservation Commission be increased from \$3,600.00 per year to \$4,200.00 per year so that his salary including that portion he receives as State Engineer will be \$7,200.00 per year. Upon roll call by Vice-Chairman Olson all voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Lunseth, and seconded by Commissioner E. Dahl, that the action of the State Engineer in granting the application of Fred Weight, Oakes, North Dakota, for a permit to divert and appropriate water from a well, for the irrigation of 77 acres of land described as the $S\frac{1}{2}NW\frac{1}{4}$; $N\frac{1}{2}SW\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 28, Township 131 N., Range 59 W., located in Dickey County, North Dakota, be approved and limited to an annual diversion of 77 acre feet of water, subject to all prior and existing water-rights and appropriations covering the well. Upon a unanimous vote of the Commissioners, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Tucker, and seconded by Commissioner Lunseth, that the action of the State Engineer in granting the application of Oswald Skiftun,

Breien, North Dakota, for a permit to divert and appropriate water from the Cannonball River, for the irrigation of 87.2 acres of land described as the E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 15, Township 133 N., Range 82 W., located in Morton County, North Dakota, be approved and limited to an annual diversion of 87.2 acre feet of water, subject to all prior and existing water-rights and appropriations covering the Cannonball River. Upon a unanimous vote of the Commissioners, the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner E. Dahl, and seconded by Commissioner Tucker, that the action of the State Engineer in granting the application of Kenneth Bagley, Marmarth, North Dakota, for a permit to divert and appropriate water from the Little Missouri River, tributary of the Missouri River, for the irrigation of 77 acres of land described as the E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 29; W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 28; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 21, Township 130 N., Range 106 W., located in Bowman County, North Dakota, be approved and limited to an annual diversion of 77 acre feet of water, subject to all prior and existing water-rights and appropriations covering the Little Missouri River. Upon a unanimous vote of the Commissioners, the motion carried.

As there was no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 3:00 o'clock p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary

ATTEST:


Chairman