

80.

**STATE WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Held in Office of State Water Commission in**  
**Bismarck, North Dakota**  
**June 8, 1956.**

A regular meeting of the North Dakota State Water Conservation Commission was called to order on June 8th, 1956, at 9:30 A.M., in the State Water Conservation Commission office in Bismarck, North Dakota, to consider routine business matters. The following were present:

**MEMBERS OF STATE WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION:**

Honorable Norman Brunsdale, Governor and Ex-Officio Chairman  
Curtis Olson, Vice Chairman, Member from Valley City  
Einar Dahl, Member from Watford City  
Oscar Lunseth, Member from Grand Forks  
Earle Tucker, Member from Bismarck  
A. M. Christensen, Member from Minot  
Math Dahl, Commissioner of Agriculture and Labor, Member from Bismarck  
Milo W. Hoisveen, Secretary and Chief Engineer, State Engineer, Bismarck

**OTHERS PRESENT AT THE MEETING:**

M. M. Millhouse, Williston  
H. L. Grimstvedt, Williston

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Curtis Olson with Commissioners Christensen, E. Dahl, Lunseth, Tucker, M. Dahl and Hoisveen present.

It was moved by Commissioner Math Dahl, and seconded by Commissioner Tucker, that the Minutes of the meeting held on May 11, 1956, be approved. All Commissioners voted aye and the motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Tucker and seconded by Commissioner Math Dahl that the Financial Statement for May, 1956, be approved and filed in the Office of the State Water Conservation Commission. All Commissioners voted aye and the motion carried.

Secretary Hoisveen reported that he held a Water Conservation and Flood Control District hearing at Fremont Township on June 5th, 1956. This area suffered a great deal of damage the past spring. Secret ballots were cast and 17 voted in favor of forming a district and one opposed. The residents of the area are anxious to negotiate contracts with the Soil Conservation Service relative to a watershed project for their area. Commissioner Math Dahl moved the adoption of the following Resolution, which motion was seconded by Commissioner Tucker. All members voted aye and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

**RESOLUTION GRANTING PETITION OF FREMONT TOWNSHIP IN  
CAVALIER COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA, REQUESTING CREATION  
OF A WATER CONSERVATION AND FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT.**

WHEREAS, Fremont Township in Cavalier County, North Dakota, acting by and through the Board of Supervisors thereof, did on the 13th day of May, A. D., 1956, file in

81.

the office of the State Water Conservation Commission a petition requesting establishment of a water conservation and flood control district embracing within its boundaries the territory contained within the township; and

WHEREAS, the petition of Fremont Township was accompanied by Resolution authorizing the Board of Supervisors of the Township to file such petition; and

WHEREAS, the report of the Chief Engineer of this Commission, based on his investigation of conditions in Fremont Township, and evidence adduced at a public hearing on the petition held in the Township Hall on the 5th day of June, A. D., 1956, after due notice of such hearing, disclose that extensive damage has been and is being caused to croplands in said township by flood waters and that roads and bridges may be destroyed or seriously damaged unless relief from flood waters of a natural watercourse in the Township can be had,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Petition of Fremont Township be and is hereby approved and that the Chairman and Secretary of the Commission are hereby authorized and directed to execute its order establishing a water conservation and flood control district embracing within its boundaries all of the township of Fremont in Cavalier County, North Dakota, and designate the district as the Fremont Water Conservation and Flood Control District of said County.

Commissioner Olson read a letter addressed to Secretary Hoisveen from Glin J. Wold, County Auditor of Richland County, dated May 22, 1956, in which Mr. Wold requested financial assistance to clean and rebuild outlets on the following drains in Richland County: Drain #7 - \$3600; Drain #2 - \$2000; Drain #1 - \$3600; Drain #5 - \$3600; Drain #55 - \$2500 and Drain #27 - \$3000, or a total approximate cost of \$18,000. Commissioner Tucker moved that we cooperate with Richland County on this project to the extent of 40% of the total cost thereof, exclusive of section line culverts and items generally excluded from drainage payments. Commissioner Math Dahl seconded said motion. Upon roll call all members voted aye and said motion carried.

Secretary Hoisveen stated that there is \$200,000 in the Drainage and Irrigation Fund which has not as yet been used and requested that the Commission grant him permission to use 2½%, or approximately \$5,000, to inspect various drainage projects carried on in the State. The drainage fund generally required administrative costs and in some instances projects were lacking because of engineering inspection. Commissioner Christensen made a motion to this effect, which motion was seconded by Commissioner Einar Dahl. All voted aye and said motion carried.

Commissioner Olson read a letter which the department mailed to the county auditors of the various counties that had requested allocations for drainage purposes. This letter is to determine whether or not the county intends to use the appropriation allotted them and if not, the department will be able to apply this money to other projects in the State. One appropriation will expire on July 1, 1957. All members approved this procedure.

Commissioner Olson read a letter addressed to Governor Brunsdale from Mr. John W. Johnson, Manager of the Dickinson Chamber of Commerce. It is anticipated that the Missouri Basin Inter-Agency Committee will meet in Dickinson the latter part of October or the early part of November. The Commission felt that Dickinson should be awarded the meeting. Commissioner Einar Dahl moved that the State Water Conservation Commission arrange to have its meeting in Dickinson at the same time. Commissioner Tucker seconded said motion. All members voted aye and said motion carried.

82.

Secretary Hoisveen reviewed the Grand River project, stating that the Corps of Engineers had wanted to withdraw the Grand River from their authorized investigation projects. As a consequence, the Commission took action at their last meeting objecting to the withdrawal of the Grand River from the Corps' list of authorized surveys. Secretary Hoisveen attended a meeting at Scranton on May 21st, 1956, relative to this project, at which time he and Mr. Karabotsos of the Corps of Engineers were the featured speakers. There was an excellent attendance at this meeting, over 200 being present. The Corps of Engineers has now written to Secretary Hoisveen, under date of May 25, 1956, stating that they will not withdraw the Grand River in view of the Commission's objection and the local interest in the Bowman-Haley area. Mr. John Rouzie chaired the meeting and immediately took action to form an association known as the Grand River Development Association. This dam will be used for municipal and industrial water, flood control and possibly some irrigation. A detailed report of the meeting was made available to all members. As a result of a letter addressed to Fred Fredrickson, Senator Young contacted the Corps of Engineers of the Omaha District and stated \$5,000 was available but an additional \$15,000 is required. A report from Senator Young indicated that he had obtained this money for reinvestigation studies. A telegram from Senator Young received on June 7th confirming the availability of a lump sum of \$15,000 was read to the Commission.

Commissioner Olson read a letter from Mr. D. E. Buckman, Secretary of the Grand River Basin Development Association, in which he requested the State Water Conservation Commission to make a survey of the municipal water requirements for cities that may obtain water from the proposed Bowman-Haley reservoir. The Commission members recommended that a survey be made in this particular area, and that the department cooperate with the Corps of Engineers in making this survey. Secretary Hoisveen received Commission approval to negotiate with the Bowman County Water Conservation and Flood Control District relative to State Water Commission participation in the Scranton protective works which is being sponsored by the county group.

Funds were allocated for the repair of Jackson Dam, which is in the Western portion of McKenzie County. The estimated cost of such repair is \$3200. Commissioner Math Dahl moved that the Commission reconstruct Jackson Dam for proper stabilization. Commissioner Einar Dahl seconded said motion. Upon roll call all members voted aye and said motion carried.

Repairs to the Hanson Dam in Barnes County was also discussed. This dam was built approximately five years ago and it was generally agreed that all dams built by the department should be repaired as and when necessary. This project will cost approximately \$200,000.

Commissioner Olson read a letter from Mr. John L. Honnold, Clerk of the Village of Sentinel Butte, North Dakota, in which he requested financial assistance in repairing the Sentinel Butte Dam. This dam provides a reservoir which is the sole source of water for fire protection. The estimated cost of repairing this dam is \$4,000 and the cost is to be pro-rated as follows: State Water Conservation Commission \$2,000, or any additional sum if the job exceeds \$4,000; Golden Valley County \$1200 and the Village of Sentinel Butte \$800, and if the job runs less than \$4,000 to be prorated less accordingly. Commissioner Tucker moved that the department begin repair of this dam as soon as possible, which motion was seconded by Commissioner Christensen. All members voted aye and said motion carried.

Secretary Hoisveen reported that construction has begun on the Portland Dam but that no definite allocation has been made by the Commission. Commissioner Lunseth moved that the State Water Conservation Commission allow \$14,000 for the construc-

tion of said dam and that the local community likewise finance \$14,000. Commissioner Tucker seconded said motion. All members voted aye and said motion carried.

Secretary Hoisveen reported that work on the Golden Lake Dam and Restoration Project would begin before July 1st. Allocation of funds have been made and it is anticipated that the Federal Fish and Wildlife will participate.

Commissioner Math Dahl moved that \$750 be allotted for the repair of the Enderlin Dam. This will be a cooperative undertaking between the city and the Commission. Commissioner Lunseth seconded said motion. All members voted aye and said motion carried.

The estimated cost of the Apple Creek Dam is \$4500. Secretary Hoisveen stated that the Apple Creek Country Club is willing to grant a perpetual easement that can be used for park purposes. Commissioner Tucker moved that the department participate in this project, which motion was seconded by Commissioner Christensen. All members voted aye and said motion carried.

Secretary Hoisveen reported that the total cost to the Commission for their participation in the Sheyenne Snagging and Clearing Project was \$12,818.28, which is approximately 36.6% of the cost. Secretary Hoisveen stated that he had checked with the U.S.G.S. as to the results of this project and that the flow had been reduced 1.6 feet on the gauge and reduced the channel carrying capacity by at least 20%. He also stated that the Corps of Engineers was very pleased with the job on this project.

Commissioner Olson read a letter from Mr. Manfred Ohnstad, Clerk of the Cass County Drain Board of West Fargo, in which he requested that the department inspect a situation where the Sheyenne River is washing out a township road. A survey of the area was authorized.

Authorization was granted to Marvin Sheldon to attend the Midwest Engineers meeting at Jefferson City, Missouri, on June 12-15. Commissioner Math Dahl made a motion to this effect, which motion was seconded by Commissioner Lunseth. All Commissioners voted aye and said motion carried.

It was reported by Secretary Hoisveen that Cass County has disbanded the county-wide district and now contemplates the organization of possibly three or four districts within the county. Commissioner Christensen moved that Secretary Hoisveen be granted permission to hold these hearings, which motion was seconded by Commissioner Math Dahl. All members voted aye and said motion carried.

A letter dated June 7, 1956, from Mr. Manfred Ohnstad, Clerk of the Cass County Drain Board, was read by Commissioner Olson. This letter pertained to Cass County Drain No. 21 and stated that if the Drain Board established the drain, they would be desirous of obtaining financial participation from the State Water Commission. The purpose of the letter was largely to keep the Commission informed as to the present status of said drain. No action will be taken until the request is formally made through the Drainage Board.

Mr. M. M. Millhouse, City Park Commissioner, and Mr. H. L. Grimstvedt, City Auditor, of Williston, entered the meeting at 10:30 o'clock A.M. These gentlemen requested the Commission to assist them in cleaning out Spring Lake, which is just North of the City of Williston. The lake is filling up with silt and sediment and is getting rather shallow, and is not giving them the proper facilities

that they once enjoyed. Commissioner Christensen moved that the State Water Commission participate with Williams County in cleaning out the lake to the extent of 40% of the cost, but not to exceed \$4,000. Commissioner Einar Dahl seconded said motion. All members voted aye and said motion carried. It was also recommended that these gentlemen consult the State Game and Fish Department in an effort to see whether they will participate, inasmuch as there is some fish potential.

Commissioner Math Dahl moved that Secretary Hoisveen be granted permission to hold a hearing in Walsh County relative to establishing a water conservation and flood control district. Said motion was seconded by Commissioner Tucker. All members voted aye and said motion carried.

Commissioner Olson read a letter from Mr. Henry Pavlicek, City Auditor of Scranton, North Dakota, which included a Resolution requesting financial participation in a flood control project, which is to be sponsored by the Bowman County Water Conservation and Flood Control District. The Commission granted approval in assisting the City of Scranton financially in their flood control project. Consideration of an allocation of funds for this purpose was deferred until a future meeting when the estimated cost of the project is available.

Governor Brunsdale entered the meeting at 10:50 o'clock A.M.

Commissioner Olson read a Resolution from the Board of County Commissioners of Grant County relative to Huber Dam. Governor Brunsdale recommended that this dam be investigated and a survey made so that the facts and figures are available when needed, but that construction be deferred until further appropriations are available, or unless our present appropriation should be sufficient to care for this repair job.

Commissioner Olson read a proposed letter written by Secretary Hoisveen to Dr. Nelson Sayre, Chief of the Ground Water Branch of the U.S.G.S., recommending that effective July 1, 1957, the Commission rent the rotary drill rig to the U.S.G.S. at the proposed rental of \$1.25 per foot. Commissioner Christensen moved that this letter be mailed to Dr. Sayre, said motion being seconded by Commissioner Math Dahl. All members voted aye and said motion carried.

Increases in salary to Commission personnel were approved by the Commission. Commissioner Math Dahl moved that Assistant Secretary Vernon Cooper be increased from Schedule K-3 to Schedule K-5, his salary to be \$634.67 per month, and that Secretary Hoisveen request the Garrison Conservancy District to reimburse the State Water Conservation Commission \$1,000 per year for services performed by Mr. Cooper on their behalf. Commissioner Dahl also moved that Secretary Hoisveen receive an increase in salary from Schedule K-6 to Schedule K-8. Commissioner Christensen seconded said motions. All members voted aye and said motions carried.

Commissioner Olson read a letter from the City of Crosby dated June 5, 1956, requesting assistance in obtaining an adequate supply of water for the City, and suggested the possibility of Long Creek. The Commission authorized a survey of the Crosby municipal water problem. Long Creek is an international stream and comes under the jurisdiction of the International Joint Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 o'clock A.M.

ATTEST:  
  
Governor

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Secretary