

**MINUTES OF THE ROSEAU RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT BOARD OF
MANAGERS MEETING HELD May 12, 2015
5:00 p.m. at Caribou Township Hall**

The Board of Managers met with local landowners at the Caribou Township Hall to discuss the Roseau River WMA Pool 3 Outlet Project. Engineer Nate Dalager gave a presentation on the purpose and design aspects of the project. Landowners questioned the need for the project and felt it would not improve their flooding situation. Engineer Dalager explained that the project would use projected flood peaks and stream gage readings to discharge water from the WMA pools prior to the flood peak at Caribou, then storing water in the pools during the peak. There was extensive discussion on the operating plan and operating up to 2500 cfs at Caribou.

Another landowner concern is the condition of the Roseau River in Canada. Landowners would like to see improvements made so that the Roseau River in Canada can handle higher volumes of water without backing water up on the U.S. side.

District Administrator Halstensgard discussed conservation drainage practices and project funding. Administrator Halstensgard pointed out that the RRWD, in addition to the RRWMA project, is pursuing water retention in the District as a whole and promoting conservation drainage practices throughout the district in an effort to reduce the effects of flooding. Administrator Halstensgard also discussed the opportunity for landowners to enroll in a Federal program known as the "Agricultural Land Easement" program. Some information was given to the group and Administrator Halstensgard stated that if there was any interest in enrolling, landowners should get any questions they have about the program to her as soon as possible.

There was a brief discussion about the DNR being in charge of the operation of the project once complete. The landowner sentiment was one of mistrust towards the agency. The fear is that future DNR area managers won't adhere to the operating plan. Administrator Halstensgard stated that the Watershed District would still be involved in the project and working in cooperation with the DNR beyond construction.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Cody Schmalz, Secretary

Tracy Halstensgard, Administrator