

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
STATE WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Held in the Conference Room of the Herald Building at Williston,
North Dakota, on August 2, 1948

A meeting of the North Dakota State Water Conservation Commission was held in the Conference Room of the Herald Building at Williston, North Dakota, on August 2, 1948. The following were present at this meeting:

MEMBERS OF STATE WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

Hon. Fred G. Aandahl, Governor & Ex Officio Chairman
S. W. Thompson, Vice Chairman, Devils Lake, North Dakota
Einar H. Dahl, Commissioner from Watford City, North Dakota
Curtis Olson, Commissioner from Valley City, North Dakota
Earle F. Tucker, Commissioner from Bismarck, North Dakota
J. J. Walsh, Secretary and Chief Engineer

Fred J. Fredrickson, Washington D. C., representative for the Commission

OTHERS:

Wesley R. Nelson, Assistant Commissioner of Reclamation, Washington, D. C.
Kenneth F. Vernon, Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Region 6, Billings, Montana
E. W. Rising, Washington, D. C.
Harry E. Polk, President, National Reclamation Association, Williston, N. Dak.
A. R. Weinhandl, President, Missouri-Souris Projects Association, Minot, N. Dak.
A. U. Anderson, Ex-Officio Director, North Dakota Reclamation Ass'n, Crosby, N. Dak.
W. W. Palmer, Bureau of Reclamation, Bismarck, N. Dak.
R. L. Dushinske, Devils Lake, N. Dak.
G. J. Cheney, Minot, N. Dak.
A. M. Christensen, Minot, N. Dak.
Hal Davies, Minot, N. Dak.
E. B. Duncan, Great Northern Railway, St. Paul, Minnesota
Chas. E. Jarrett, Great Falls, Montana
Bill Aldworth, Glasgow, Montana
A. W. Appelgren, Wolf Point, Montana
Ray G. Miller, Poplar, Montana
A. H. Jenson, Homestead, Montana
John Simar, Bainville, Montana
Geo. N. Lund, Reserve, Montana
Lloyd J. Michels, Medicine Lake, Montana
M. A. Lien, Frazer, Montana

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Governor Fred G. Aandahl, at 10:25 a. m., with the following members present: Governor Fred G. Aandahl, S. W. Thompson, Einar H. Dahl, Curtis Olson, Earle F. Tucker, and Secretary J. J. Walsh.

Commissioner Thompson made inquiries as to when the state drill would be available for making investigations in the Devils Lake area, and stated that the people are very much concerned over the delay in starting operations. The Secretary was instructed to write to Mr. P. E. Dennis, District Engineer, U. S. Geological Survey in charge of investigations, and find out, if possible, when they expect to start

R. Heinrichs - Minot, N.D.
E. B. Drennon - St Paul Minn
Chas E. Gerritt - St Paul Minn
Bill Alchath - Glasgow, Mont
W. Applegate - Wolf Point, Mont
C. W. King - Washington D.C.
A. H. Anderson - Crosby, N.D.
J. Palmer - Bismarck, N.D.
Ray S. Miller - Poplar Mont
A. H. Jensen - Horsted
A. M. Christensen - Minot, N.D.
Judge Johnson - Valley of
the Sioux Minot N.D.
John Sigurd - Bismarck Minn
J. Cheney - Minot, N.D.
P. Beckwith - Minot, N.D.

Geo N. Lund - Reserve Mt
Lic. in Medicine & Surgery
M. A. Lien, Frayser, Mont
Harry E. Boek, Williston, N.D.

Wesley R. Nelson
Kenneth F. Vernon

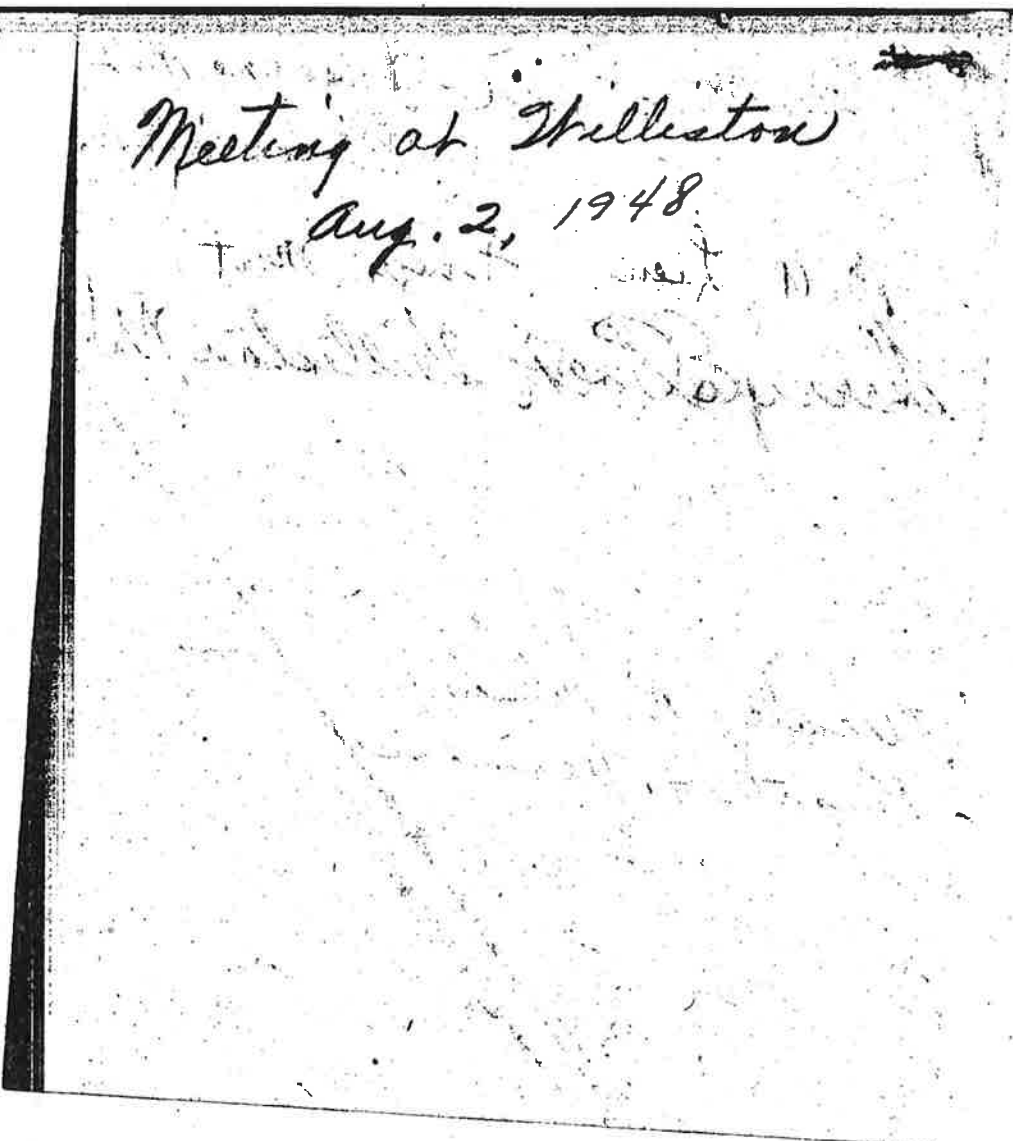
Meeting at Williston

Aug. 2, 1948.

Tuesday

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drilling operations.

Secretary J. J. Walsh attended the International Joint Commission engineering committee meeting held in Havre, Montana, on July 23, 1948. During the meeting, Colonel W. K. Wilson of the St. Paul Office, Corps of Engineers, reported on the Red River drainage basin problems. George J. Cheney of the Bureau of Reclamation, Minot, reported on the Missouri-Souris project, including the Souris River in North Dakota, and the Big Muddy river in Montana. The next meeting of the Engineering Committee, to provide data to the engineering board of the International Joint Commission, is to be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on September 21, 22 and 23. The Commission authorized Mr. Sivert Thompson, member from Devils Lake, and the Secretary and Chief Engineer, J. J. Walsh, to attend the meeting.

The Secretary and Chief Engineer was authorized to attend the meeting of the Western State Engineers at Flagstaff, Arizona, on August 23, 24 and 25.

At 11:30 a. m. the members of the State Water Conservation Commission moved to the Great Northern Hotel and met with a delegation from the Missouri-Souris Association, including Mr. A. R. Weinhandl of Minot, Mr. A. U. Anderson of Crosby, and L. L. Monson from Noonan, to discuss the Missouri-Souris project conservancy district organization and conservancy district laws. Mr. Anderson suggested that Mr. Burke, Regional Counsel for the Bureau of Reclamation, Billings, Montana, be invited to assist the district and the Commission in studying conservancy laws for the formation of the district. It was the opinion of the members of the Commission that the Missouri-Souris Association take the lead in this work and that the State Water Conservation Commission do everything possible to assist. Other problems were discussed, including local cooperation, repayment contracts, etc. The Commission assured the delegation the State Water Conservation Commission would aid in every way possible in financing the work of organizing the district.

The afternoon meeting opened at 2:00 o'clock p. m. in the Herald Building Conference Room with all members of the Water Commission present, and including the following:

Wesley R. Nelson, Asst. Reclamation Commissioner, Kenneth F. Vernon, E. W. Rising, Harry E. Polk, A. R. Weinhandl, A. U. Anderson, W. W. Palmer, R. L. Dushinske, G. J. Cheney, A. M. Christensen, Hal Davies, E. B. Duncan, Chas. E. Jarrett, Bill Aldworth, A. W. Appelgren, Ray G. Miller, A. H. Jensen, John Sinar, Geo. N. Lund, Lloyd J. Michels and M. A. Lien.

Mr. Wesley R. Nelson, Assistant Reclamation Commissioner from Washington, D. C. spoke briefly on general problems in connection with the construction of the Missouri-Souris, including the topographic features, soil, and drainage problems. Mr. Kenneth F. Vernon, Regional Director, Billings, Montana, discussed the Missouri-Souris project, and the proposed construction for the Missouri River diversion dam, Medicine Lake Crossing, Grenora Pumping Plant, diversion into Devils Lake, and general investigations and studies on the Missouri-Souris project.

The question of organizing a district prior to the delivery of water was discussed and it was the opinion of the Bureau of Reclamation officials present that it would be difficult to have the farmers sign up a contract fifteen years prior to the delivery of water. It was also felt that some expression of the local people to the Secretary of the Interior would assist in putting the project under construction, and the attached form was suggested.

It was the general opinion of those present at the meeting that the Missouri-Souris

Association should have a full-time Secretary employed to contact local farmers and town and city people in securing signers for a petition signifying their interest in the project and requesting the Bureau to commence construction at as early a date as possible.

The Six Year Plan was explained by Mr. Vernon of the Bureau of Reclamation, covering the long range program showing the proposed construction plan and the estimated expenditures required for construction of the projects, as prepared by the Missouri Basin Inter-Agency Committee, a copy of which is attached.

At 5:00 o'clock p. m. motion was made by Commissioner Thompson that the meeting adjourn, which motion was seconded by Commissioner Olson. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary

ATTEST:


Chairman