

Mary's River Estates Road District Meeting

Date: December 14, 2023 Zoom meeting hosted by Joe

Meeting will be recorded for the purpose of note taking by secretary. Recording will be kept for one year on personal computer and approved written minutes will be kept on website indefinitely.

Attendees: Joe Chambers (President), Sandy Chapman (Secretary), (Debbie Jackson, treasurer unable to attend) James Roush joined about 7:15

Call to Order: 7:02 by Joe

Additions/Deletions to agenda: Additional signs requested from Benton Co. for speed limits

Review minutes/approval: November 9, 2023: Joe has no changes needed, Email from Debbie says she has no changes and the review of the pumphouse on Daisy was good. [Joe moves we accept the minutes as written.](#) [Sandy seconds.](#) [Joe: All in favor? All Commissioners present agree.](#)

Financial Report and Mail:

Reviewed by Sandy after Debbie had sent all Commissioners her monthly financial records

Sandy screenshared: (Fiscal Year 23-24)

1) MRERD Income/Expenses by Category YTD: 07/01/2023 through 12/06/2023

INCOME:

Interest Inc	\$	2,300.29
Taxes Received	\$	120,898.01
TOTAL INCOME	\$	123,198.30

BILLS:

Capital Expenditures	\$	133,252.43	MRE Chip Seal
Crack Seal	\$	10,500.00	
Ditch Maintenance	\$	1,625.00	
Dust Control	\$	0.00	
Grade/Gravel Iris	\$	8,650.00	
Mowing	\$	2,142.50	
Tree trimming	\$	3,200.00	
Office & Professional	\$	336.00	
Signs & Lights	\$	104.46	
Sweeping/Striping	\$	0.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	160,083.79	
NET INCOME (loss)	\$	36,885.49	

Bank Account Balances as of: 12/06/2023

Citizens Bank Balance	\$	1,483.49
LGIP Balance	\$	139,914.99
Total Bank Accounts	\$	141,398.48

2)MRERD Transaction report 11/07/2023 through 12/06/2023

Citizens Bank

11/10/2023 Trans	LGIP	Transfer to cover checks	3,100.00
11/10/2023	893 Roush Family Construction LLC	Grade/Gravel Iris	(6,056.00)
11/30/2023	894 Cutaway Inc	Ditch maintenance MRE & Daisy	(1,625.00)

11/30/2023	Trans	LGIP	Transfer	to cover checks	1,625.00
12/01/2023	Debit DJ	Consumers Power	Signs/Lights	Utilities	(17.41)
12/06/2023	Trans	LGIP	Transfer	to cover checks	1,600.00
12/06/2023		895 Riddle Tree Service LLC	tree trimming		(1,600.00)
Total					\$2,973.41

LGIP

11/09/2023	Dep	Tax Receipts Benton Co.	Taxes Received		22,233.66
11/09/2023	Dep	Tax Receipts Benton Co.	Taxes Received		11,450.80
11/10/2023	Trans	Citizens Bank	Transfer	To Cover checks	(3,100.00)
11/17/2023	Dep	Tax Receipts Benton Co.	Taxes Received		17,425.37
11/24/2023	Dep	Tax Receipts Benton Co.	Taxes Received		64,723.03
11/30/2023	Trans	Citizens Bank	Transfer	To Cover checks	(1,625.00)
11/30/2023	Dep	LGIP	Interest Income	Interest Accrual	294.03
12/01/2023	LGIP	LGIP	Office/Profes	Transfer fees-November	(0.15)
12/01/2023	Dep	Tax Receipts Benton Co.	Taxes Received		4,363.52
12/06/2023	Trans	Citizens Bank	Transfer	To cover Checks	(1,600.00)
OVERALL TOTAL					111,191.85

Open Forum: Talk about leaf blowing in review of projects

Review of Action items: Same as Review of projects

Review of Projects:

Sweeping: Marrissa was supposed contact for sweeping company. She did not let on even after months of contacting her that she was not the contact for sweeping. When the leaves were finally down, a call and mail contact was made with Marrissa on November 20 & 21st the we needed the sweeping done on our roads. She said she would get back with me. We talked about the blowing off of the leaves on our multi-modal and gravel roads also. After 3 weeks of no contact for sweeping to be done another email was made and she wrote back that she would "get me to Shane". Shane is the new owner of sweeping Co. since Feb. 2023. I called Shane and was able to get a next day (Friday) date for sweeping, but then 3 employees called in sick. Then another call on Monday and Shane was able to send 2 trucks out for sweeping next day again. The road debris was dumped on the property of Kevin and Janet Cornelius with their response to the request to the community for space to do so. Thanks so much to them for their willingness to do that. The trucks would have had to drive to Corvallis to dump each load which would have been an hour trip each time. **Action Item: We shall have to discuss an alternative way for disposal next year.** In previous years the road debris had been swept into the ditches and this we decided just filled up the ditches faster, so we changed that practice. Again, we have to address the height of the grass/road edges in regard to the road edges cleaning because the height of that stopped better road cleaning in places. **Action Item: discuss height of road edges versus grass/edge of ditch height for cleaning and water runoff.**

Striping: Because of the change in weather being cold and wet, the striping of MRE hill on the new chip sealed area will not get done until next year with good weather.

Ditching: Sandy: The ditching got done on MRE and Daisy Dr. The Commissioners received an email from a concerned resident living on MRE, that the ditch was not done. Joe responded to that email and his responses will be added into this record (per request of both parties). Sandy personally looked at the ditch in question and there was a place that just had a small amount taken out of the area of concern (which took a buildup of dirt away). During high water flow, the ditch was draining and not backing up. As far as the rest of the job, there were areas on Daisy that were not smooth on

the bottom, but water was flowing okay. **Action item: Will have to look at culverts themselves to see if they need clearing out.** Joe responded to that email and his responses will be added into this record (per request of both parties).

Email received and entered as received:

[11/20/2023 9:29PM FROM YVETTE (to all Commissioners)]:

Dear Commissioner,

I was so excited when I received the email from Sandy announcing ditch cleaning today along MRE. However, it was followed by the biggest disappointment. Indeed, I left home around 11:00am and there was barely any sign of cleaning along MRE (I sent an email to Sandy at that time to make sure that Andy May does not miss any), same when I came back. I have been begging for several years (Sandy even makes fun of me when I mention ditch cleaning at two or three meetings in a row) to have the ditch cleaned on the stretch between the freezing sign and my driveway (33755). Sandy agreed with me that the ditch should be dug when we spoke in June and she saw the ditch and the culvert. At that time I was trimming the tall grass as I usually do. I cannot wait for the mowing as the grass blocks my view when I get out of the driveway and the uphill drivers are not going as slowly as they should. This ditch gets the whole hill water from the MRE top to my driveway. The water goes through my property, coming from both sides of MRE, including BrightStar Lane and the woody area. The water from the west side goes under the road to get to the east side in two big culverts. Then it goes through the woody area, through my property, under my driveway and then the almost non-existent ditch to the next culvert that goes under the road and ends up just north of the peach house. There is barely any water going down the ditches after the freeze sign and along the next two/three properties going to HW20. I am getting more and more damage on my property (deep ditches and flooding) due to the fact that the ditch south of my driveway is not maintained on a regular basis (many years have gone by, Bill Pepper did an excellent job last time and it lasted until 3-4 years ago). I do not have the equipment and with a shovel it is a lot of work. Otherwise I would do it like I do the mowing along my property.

I am not sure how to communicate with the commissioners. Do we have to belong to a club to have things done? I pay my taxes as everybody else and do not use much of the road. That is ok, but when there is a necessity such as ditch cleaning and the work is done but is elsewhere, this is not ok anymore. I hope that Andy May will do clean that ditch tomorrow, maybe he is not done yet with the work.

Please add this email to next meeting minutes as this is important to have it recorded with the correct wording.

Thank you for your attention.

Yvette Spitz

[11/21/2023 2:08 PM; FROM JOE]:

Hello Yvette,

Quite honestly, I find your comments insulting to myself and the other commissioners. As you obviously know full well how to communicate with the commissioners and that belonging to a "club" is not the only way to get things done. The fact that you have our emails and sent this message to us is evidence of that. The fact that we spent over \$140,000 this year alone in maintenance costs to preserve the road that leads to your driveway also supports this.

That the ditch running across your property may not have been the first one cleaned out when Andy May started his work may be disappointing to you, but could also just be a matter of efficiency in completing the work. As you say, it might be more difficult to clean out your ditch than it is to clean out all the others that need done as well. It could be that Andy is saving the most fulfilling work for last.

I'll make sure that this note makes it into the meeting discussion in December.

Thanks,

Joe

MRERD President

[11/21/23 3:43; FROM YVETTE]:

Joe

Quite frankly I find your answer to my email equally insulting if not more. Indeed, \$140,000 was not spent "alone in maintenance costs to preserve the road that leads to **my** driveway". The road is everybody's road, not only the one that leads to my driveway. Most of the traffic on that road does not come to my house., but leads to more than 100 houses past my driveway, many of them with several vehicles and business. If it was for the road leading to my driveway \$140,000 would not have been required (the repair was past my driveway and the chip seal was be much shorter). Also I am not talking about the ditch that runs across/along my property but a small portion along the road (maybe 30 feet or less). The cleaning would also be very straightforward.

Andy May started at the bottom of the hill. There is sign of it. I drove around the neighborhood (MRE and Daisy) and the only sign of real work was along Adam Schultz' properties. My email came after years of deny from a commissioner (and participant to some meeting in the pas) that there was a culvert in that area until the commissioner stopped at that area and finally acknowledge the presence of the culvert and the need of taking care of the ditch.

I am available to show the area to the commissioners, let me know if you would like to meet with me.

And please get your answer and my answer attached to my first email as I found the response quite offensive.

Yvette Spitz

Tree/ branch trimming: Opinions on the work: they got the big branch right after the turn onto Iris down, still some branches on Columbine on the right, before the Iris junction that could come down. No work yet on the gravel part of Iris Circle, will have to come back and get that done.

Gravel on Iris needed: Discussion: Since grading and graveling of Iris and the rains coming, the road is soft. James says there was not as much gravel over the 3" base that Knife River put down with the road repairs they did (a few years back). To add gravel now with a dump truck coming and dropping the gravel there will be lips from the dumping, no compaction and the gravel will only be as wide as the truck. Ruts will probably form and in the long gravel would be "wasted" if not applied properly. Next time the road is graded needs to be gravel applied. With Joe driving on Iris he will keep us posted at the meetings on the roads' condition. He feels that there is only on really slick spot near his driveway that is a problem, unless we get snow.

Additional info on Sweeping: There was a cost overage on the bid proposal for the sweeping. The original was for 1 truck at 10 hours for \$1,300.00 and 2 trucks were sent out at over 8 hours, plus the hand blowing of the multimodal road. Shane stated that an increase of \$200.00 to a total of \$1500.00 would be acceptable to him. **Sandy makes motion to accept the \$200.00 overage cost. Joe seconds. Joe: All in favor? All present Commissioners agree.** Info on the owner of the sweeping co: he was the sales manager with Allied Waste for over 20 years before he bought the sweeping company. The company also can spread de-icer and clean off roads. Shane will send info to us on what else his company can do.

Report on Daisy Dr. repair: No contact yet from Dan Watson with K&D for what we need to do to repair road bank area and water run-off at Daisy Drive.

New business: Chris Bailey with Benton Co, Public Works called to discuss the need for the additional speed limit and no parking signs we need on our roads. He said the County will approve four more speed limit signs. This was after Sandy emailed the county and made a point of the population density of our road district being "residential" despite the fact that we are zoned "rural". We only have 2, one has disappeared we should have 3 now. So, a total of 7 which is more than we had before. No mention from county if we need to change our current "speed 25 mph" sign to "speed limit 25 mph" which is the new standard. Four new signs installed by Benton County would be \$1,000.00. Five "No Parking" signs, that the fire dept says we need in our turnouts, would be an additional \$942.00. Combined with doing the speed limit signs would go down to \$1,700.00. **Action Item: We need to determine where to place them. We will involve Debbie with that decision.**

Meeting adjourned: 7:42