



East Dakota Water Development District
132B Airport Drive
Brookings, SD 57006
605-688-6741 605-688-6744 Fax

MINUTES
May 17, 2018

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on May 17, 2018, at the District office in Brookings. Chairman Jarrett called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. The following persons attended:

Directors Present

Mark Anderson
Lois Brown
Mary Ellen Connelly
Martin Jarrett
Dana Loseke
Janelle Weatherly

Others Present

Scott Anderson, Minnehaha County
Roger Hageman, Lake County
John McMaine, SDSU (via telephone)
Pete Sexton, SDSU

Staff Present

Jay Gilbertson
Jeremy Hinke

Directors Absent

Gary Duffy
Kay Kassube
John Moes

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Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda - Director Connelly asked to have a discussion of District priorities to the Agenda. The Manager recommended it be added under District Program Updates.

Motion by Loseke, seconded by Weatherly to approve the agenda as so amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the meeting on April 19th, 2018.

Motion by Loseke, seconded by Connelly, to approve the April 19th, 2018, Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the April 2018 Financial Reports.

Motion by Weatherly, seconded by Loseke to accept the April 2018 Financial Reports. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Jarrett asked that the report be placed in the District files.

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Report of Meetings and Conferences - Directors Anderson, Connelly and Loseke attended the Friends of the Big Sioux River in Sioux Falls on May 7th.

Director Loseke attended the Izaak Walton League State Convention on April 24th and the Minnehaha County Conservation District meeting on May 14th. Both meetings were held in Sioux Falls.

Chairman Jarrett attended the April 20th Earth Day assembly at the High School in Flandreau.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. April 24th - Brookings. Source water protection discussions with Brookings Municipal Utilities staff.
2. April 25th & 26th - Rapid City. South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems Manager's Group meeting.
3. April 27th - Ortonville, MN. Minnesota River Headwaters Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) meeting.
4. May 2nd & 3rd - Moorhead, MN. MN-SD-ND American Water Works Association Surface Water Treatment Workshop.
5. May 7th - Sioux Falls. Friends of the Big Sioux River general meeting
6. May 8th - Fort Pierre. SDSU Extension/SD Dept of Agriculture Climate Outlook Forum.
7. May 8th - Rapid City. West Dakota Water Development District Board meeting.
8. May 10th - Mitchell. James River Water Development District Board of Directors.
9. May 10th - Mitchell. SE-Central County Commissioners District meeting.
10. May 14th - Kennebec. Randall Reservoir County Commissioners District meeting.
11. May 15th - Brookings. 26th Annual Big Sioux Water Festival.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **May 18th - 1:00 p.m.** - Ramkota, Pierre. Land and water rights seminar.
2. **May 23rd - 12 noon** - Clark. Sioux Valley County Commissioners meeting.
3. **May 24th - 4:30 p.m.** - Tea Events hall, Tea. Lewis & Clark RWS Annual meeting
4. **June 13th - 12 noon (MST)** - Faith. South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts (SDACD) Northwest Area Meeting.
5. **June 14th - 1:00 p.m. (MST)** - Rapid City. SDACD Hills Area Meeting.
6. **June 18th - 10:00 a.m.** - Howard. SDACD Vermillion-Big Sioux Area Meeting.
7. **June 19th - 9:00 a.m.** - Webster. SDACD Coteau Area Meeting.
8. **June 19th - 6:00 p.m.** - Lebanon. SDACD North Missouri Area Meeting.
9. **June 21st - 9:00 a.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. June EDWDD Board of Directors meeting.
10. **June 21st - 12 noon** - Mitchell. SDACD South James-Missouri Area Meeting.
11. **June 27th - 10:30 a.m. (CST)** - Phillip. SDACD Prairie Area Meeting.
12. **June 28th** - Matthews Training Center, Pierre. South Dakota Board of Water & Natural Resources.

Payment Request(s) - The Manager presented the Board with payment requests from the sponsors of several District-supported activities. He noted that the requests were in order, and consistent with

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provisions set by the Board at the time of award. He requested authorization to make payments on the following requests:

<u>Grant Recipient/Activity</u>	<u>Requested Amount</u>
City of Colman/Engineering expenses for Hwy 34 water improvements	\$ 23,000.00
SDSU/Alternative ag media for nitrate bioreactors (Hua)	\$ 73.10
Total	\$ 23,073.10

Motion by Brown, seconded by Anderson to authorize payments totaling \$23,073.10 as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Project Assistance Request(s)

SDSU Agricultural Experiment Station - The Manager noted that the Board had been presented with a request on behalf of Dr. John McMaine, South Dakota State University (SDSU) Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, for District project cost-share assistance the April 2018 meeting. Specifically, Dr. McMaine had requested assistance with an Agricultural Experiment Station study to assess the impact of using winter rye as a cover crop. The request had been tabled pending an opportunity for project representatives to be present to address Board questions. The Manager noted that Peter Sexton from the SDSU Southeast Research Farm was present at the meeting, and Dr. McMaine was available on a telephone connection.

Motion by Anderson, seconded Weatherly to take the request off the table. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Sexton and Dr. McMaine reviewed the proposed activities, and addressed questions from the Board. The project will involve intense monitoring of nitrate inputs and exports, to include sampling of the nitrate concentrations in water from sub-surface tiles lines beneath the field plots. The request would provide support to gather nitrate concentration data remotely, by way of autonomous probes. The initial plan was to physically collect samples from the lines on a weekly basis, but it is expected that the autonomous probes would collect analyses over much shorter time periods, perhaps as often as every 15 minutes. The estimated costs for the equipment, which would provide data collection for six (6) discharge lines, is estimated to be up to \$27,000. The proposal was to split the costs of equipment acquisition equally between the Southeast Research Farm, the James River Water Development District and the District.

Motion by Brown, seconded by Loseke to provide District cost-share assistance to cover one-third (1/3) of the costs of nitrate monitoring equipment acquisition as requested, up to a maximum of \$9,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

District Updates

Low-Head Dams - The Manager reviewed recent requests for assistance from communities in addressing efforts to manage low-head dams along the Big Sioux River. Similar structures can be found on river and stream channels in other parts of South Dakota, including along the James and Vermillion Rivers.

Such structures has posed considerable risk to human health and safety over the years, including claiming the lives of several people that became trapped in the recirculating currents at the base of the structures. Ownership is often a question with these legacy structures, with most installed close to 100 years ago. In the absence of a clearly responsible party, maintenance has often been neglected. In the end, whether removal, renovation or alteration of the structures is desired, the costs of the changes will be substantial.

The Manager proposed the creation of a fund to provide external State (and District) assistance for the rehabilitation, alteration or removal of these structures. Support would be contingent on resolution of ownership and long-term operation and maintenance issues. The Board concurred with the concept, and encouraged the Manager to pursue the matter.

2018 District Water Quality Sampling - The Manager briefed the Board on the planned water quality sampling activities for the 2018 field season.

Agropur Surface Water Discharge Permit - The Manager noted that he had prepared and delivered a letter expressing the District's concerns regarding the potential adverse impacts of the elevated concentrations of nitrate that would be permitted in the DRAFT Surface Water Discharge Permit for the Agropur facility in Lake Norden. The deadline for submitting comments was May 11th. The Manager stated that comments had also been submitted by four (4) public water suppliers (Minnehaha Community Water Corporation, Big Sioux Community Water System, Brookings-Deuel Rural Water System, and KingBrook Rural Water System), the South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems, Friends of the Big Sioux River, South Dakota Division of the Izaak Walton League, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks. Three (3) individual citizens also submitted comments. He further noted that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) had requested an additional 30 days to review the proposed permit.

The Manager indicated that the next step in the process would be for the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources to develop responses to the comments received. Given the extension granted to USEPA, he did not expect that any responses would be developed prior to mid-June.

District Priorities Discussion - Directors Connelly and Weatherly noted that during the summer of 2014, the Board met to develop a set of priorities and guidelines to help direct District activities and assistance. They requested that this information be provided to the Board in the monthly packet of meeting materials as a guide and aid. The Manager indicated that he would work to develop a shortened version of the material, and have Directors Connelly and Weatherly review the material prior to the July Board meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further District business or issues for consideration, Chairman Jarrett declared the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

John G. Moes, Secretary