



**East Dakota Water Development District**  
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**MINUTES**  
**June 21, 2018**

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on June 21, 2018, at the EDWDD office in Brookings. Chairman Jarrett called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The following persons attended:

**Directors Present**

Mark Anderson  
Lois Brown  
Mary Ellen Connelly  
Gary Duffy  
Martin Jarrett  
Kay Kassube  
Dana Loseke  
John Moes  
Janelle Weatherly

**Others Present**

Roger Hageman, Lake County Commission  
Lyle Johnson, Brooking/Hamlin/Sioux Water project District

**Staff Present**

Jay Gilbertson  
Jeremy Hinke  
Deb Springman

**Director(s) Absent**

- none -

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**Administrative Items**

**Approval of Agenda**

**Motion** by Duffy, seconded by Loseke to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes** - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018, meeting.

**Motion** by Loseke, seconded by Connelly to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Financial Reports** - The Board reviewed the May 2018 financial statements.

**Motion** by Loseke, seconded by Weatherly to approve the May 2018 financial statements. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Jarrett directed that the approved financial statements be placed in the District files.

Report of Meetings and Conferences - Directors Brown and Jarrett attended the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System Annual Meeting in Tea on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Directors Connelly and Loseke attended the June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Friends of the Big Sioux River in Sioux Falls.

Director Loseke attended meetings of the Lake Cochrane Improvement Association on June 9<sup>th</sup> and the Minnehaha County Conservation District in Sioux Falls on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. May 23<sup>rd</sup> - Clark. Sioux Valley County Commissioners meeting.
2. May 24<sup>th</sup> - Brookings. 2018 Big Sioux Water Festival wrap up.
3. June 6<sup>th</sup> - Pierre. SD DENR policy discussions.
4. June 11<sup>th</sup> - Brookings. Winter manure application research update.
5. June 15<sup>th</sup> - Chamberlain. Water development district managers meeting.
6. June 18<sup>th</sup> - Howard. SD Association of Conservation Districts (SDACD) Vermillion-Big Sioux Area meeting.
7. June 19<sup>th</sup> - Webster. SDACD Coteau Area meeting.
8. June 20<sup>th</sup> - Menno. Southeast County Commissioners Group meeting.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **June 21<sup>st</sup> - 12 noon** - Mitchell. South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts (SDACD) South James-Missouri Area Meeting.
2. **June 27<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 a.m. (CST)** - Phillip. SDACD Prairie Area Meeting.
3. **June 28<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 a.m.** - Water Purification Plant, 2100 North Minnesota, Sioux Falls. Big Sioux River Watershed Implementation Project Steering Committee.
4. **June 28<sup>th</sup> - 1:00 p.m.** - various Dakota Digital Network sites. SD Board of Water & Natural Resources.
5. **July 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>** - Brookings. 2018 North Central Regional Cooperative Soil Survey Conference. Field tours on 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.
6. **July 11<sup>th</sup> - 1:00 p.m.** - Matthews Training Center, Pierre. SD Water Management Board.
7. **July 17<sup>th</sup>** - Elmwood Golf Course, Sioux Falls. SD Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS) 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Rural Water Open.
8. **July 18<sup>th</sup> - 8:00 a.m.** - Grand Falls Casino Resort, Larchwood, IA. SDARWS Manager's Group Meeting.
9. **July 19<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 a.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. July EDWDD Board of Directors meeting.

**Project Assistance Request(s)**

Friends of the Big Sioux - Dana Loseke, President, presented the Board with a description of the goals and function of the Friends of the Big Sioux River (FBSR). It is comprised of individuals from businesses, business organizations, outdoors groups, and private citizens in the Sioux Falls metropolitan area. The goals of the organization are to influence all stakeholders, urban residential, urban commercial, and agricultural entities that it is in everybody's interest, and everybody's

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responsibility, to do their part in improving the water quality in the Big Sioux watershed. Conservation of water for essential ag and urban uses is a secondary interest.

He noted that at this point in time, rural land owners, in cooperation with conservation districts, and the City of Sioux Falls, are making major strides to reduce contamination sources along Skunk Creek and the Big Sioux River through the Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project. With prior District support (\$6,000 awarded at December 2014 meeting), FBSR has conducted a range of outreach and education activities targeting municipal residents and businesses as to what they can do to improve water quality and practice water conservation.

Mr. Loseke, on behalf of FBSR, requested \$6,000 from the District to continue their urban education and outreach program. Based on the usage of the prior award, he anticipated that such an award would provide assistance for a 2-3 year period.

**Motion** by Duffy, seconded by Moes to award \$6,000 in District cost-share assistance to the Friends of the Big Sioux River as requested. Motion carried unanimously, with Directors Connelly and Loseke abstaining.

### **Amendment to Big Sioux River Watershed Implementation Project Working Agreement with Moody County Conservation District**

The Manager noted that at the May 2016 meeting, the Board approved/entered into a Working Agreement with the Moody County Conservation District (MCCD) in support of the Segment 3 of the Big Sioux River Watershed Implementation Project (Project). Under the Agreement, the District provides all necessary staff, along with any support required by such staff, needed to implement the Project. Under the Agreement, the District hired necessary staff, and have agreements with the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) to provide office space in Sioux Falls. MCCD reimburses the District for ninety-five percent (95%) of staff salaries and benefits, along with all Project-related expenses. The initial Agreement, which became effective on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016, expires on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

The Manager presented a proposed Amendment to the Agreement to cover the balance of the Project, the current version (Segment 3) of which is scheduled for completion on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. The substantive changes are:

1. The term of the agreement will be extended for another two years, with a new end date of July 31, 2020; and
2. To cover the two year extension, the grant amount of the Agreement by \$320,000. This brings the total grant amount to \$670,000.

MCCD has conducted a preliminary review of the proposed Amendment, and did not identify any issues. They will take formal action at their July meeting. The Manager requested Board action to adopt the Amendment and to authorization the Chairman to sign the agreement.

**Motion** by Weatherly, seconded by Kassube to approve and adopt the proposed Amendment and to authorize the Chairman to sign the document on behalf of the Board. Motion carried unanimously.

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**District Program Update(s)**

Agropur Surface Water Discharge Permit - The Manager noted that the formal comment period for the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) DRAFT surface water discharge permit for the expansion of the Agropur cheese plant in Lake Norden ended May 11<sup>th</sup>. At that point, fourteen individuals and entities had provided comments. However, as is their option, the US Environmental protection Agency requested an additional 30 days to review the material, and submitted their comments in mid-June. The Manager reviewed the various comments, noting that most centered on the desire to see the final permit include actual limitations on the nutrient loads discharged by the facility. DENR is working on developing responses to the comments, but no time line for release of the response has been established.

2018 Big Sioux Water Festival - Deb Springman, Project Coordinator, provided the Board with an overview and summary of the 26th Annual Big Sioux Water Festival, held on the campus of SDSU on Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. There were 1,193 fourth grade students in attendance from 25 area schools. The theme this year was Life in the Rainforest. Assemblies brought back by popular demand included Zoo Man, the Science Museum of Minnesota, and Water Rocks. New activities included Rumbling Rainsticks, How Hot is Ice, and Incredible Journey.

Ms. Springman stated that the Coordinator of the Iowa Children's Water Festival spent the day observing the event. They are very interested in putting together presenter kits, which can be used by volunteers who might not have access to their own materials. They are also looking at creating a teacher resource area for teachers attending their event. Ms. Springman has been collaborating with Iowa for the past few years, sharing knowledge and resources.

She concluded by thanking the Board, on behalf of the Big Sioux Water Festival Steering Committee, for their continued support of this program. The next Big Sioux Water Festival will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2019, on the campus of SDSU.

**Adjournment**

There being no further District business, Chairman Jarrett declared the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

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John Moes, Secretary