



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

MINUTES
July 15, 2021

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on July 15th, 2021, at the EDWDD office in Brookings. Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The following persons attended:

Directors Present

Mark Anderson
Steve Dick
Gary Duffy
Spencer Hawley
Bob Kappel
John Moes
Joedy Poppe

Directors Absent

Jeff Barth
Dana Loseke

Others Present

Jeff Pederson, City of Flandreau
Bob Westal, Lake Poinsett Sanitary

Staff Present

Barry Berg
Jay Gilbertson
Deb Springman

DRAFT

Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda -

Motion by Hawley, seconded by Moes to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the June 17th, 2021, meeting.

Motion by Dick, seconded by Hawley to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the June 2021 financial statements.

Motion by Moes, seconded by Kappel to approve the June 2021 financial statements. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Anderson directed that the approved financial statements be placed in the District files.

DRAFT

Report of Meetings and Conferences -

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

- June 21st - Parker. South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts Vermillion-Big Sioux Area meeting.
- June 23rd - Lake Cochrane. Meet with Lake Cochrane Improvement Association members.
- June 24th - Tea. Lewis & Clark Regional Water System Annual Meeting.
- June 25th - Watertown. Source water & water availability discussions with Sioux Rural Water System and First District Association staff.
- June 28th - Sioux Falls. ‘Groundwater for Public Officials’ presentation to the Minnehaha Planning & Zoning Board.
- June 29th - Sioux Falls. Friends of the Big Sioux River (FBSR) outreach discussions.
- July 1 - Sioux Falls. Big Sioux River Project and FBSR outreach discussions.
- July 8th - Huron. James River Water Development District Board of Directors.
- July 9th - Sioux Falls. Governor’s 2021 Agricultural Summit.
- July 13th - Armour & Rapid City. South-Central and West Dakota Water Development Districts Board of Directors meetings.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **July 20th** - Sioux Falls. Rural Water Open Golf Tournament.
2. **July 21st** - Sioux Falls. South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems Manager’s Group meeting.
3. **July 21st** - Pierre. SD Legislature Joint Appropriations Committee meeting.
4. **August 19th - 8:30 a.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. Personnel Committee meeting.
5. **August 19th - 9:00 a.m.** - EDWDD Office Brookings. Finance Committee meeting.
6. **August 19th - 10:15 a.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. August EDWDD Board of Directors meeting.

Payment Requests - The Manager presented the Board with three payment requests from District-sponsored activities that required Board action. He noted that the requests were in order and consistent with the conditions established by the Board at the time of the awards.

<u>Grant Recipient/Activity</u>	<u>Requested Amount</u>
USGS Dakota Water Science Center	\$ 8,870.00
USGS Great Lakes Water Science Center	\$ 3,230.00
City of Flandreau - Flandreau Dam Options Study	<u>\$ 12,500.00</u>
Total	\$ 24,600.00

Motion by Hawley, seconded by Dick to authorize payments totaling \$24,600.00 as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Pending Vacancy for Director Area 7 - The Manager noted that Directors Loseke has submitted a letter of resignation, which will become effective on August 31st, 2021. As such, the director position for EDWDD Director Area 7 will be vacant as of September 1st, 2021. Director Area 7 encompasses that portion of the City of Sioux Falls that lies within Lincoln County, along with a portion of the south-central part of the City in Minnehaha County.

DRAFT

The Manager requested authorization to initiate the process of filling the pending vacancy in Director Area 7. The pending vacancy would be advertised in the appropriate newspaper for this area (Sioux Falls Argus Leader) in late July and August. He proposed setting a deadline of September 10th, 2021, for nominating petitions to be filed at the District office, with Board action to fill the vacancy at the September 16th, 2021, meeting in Brookings. He noted that the term of office for the appointed position would be through December 31st, 2022.

Motion by Kappel, seconded by Poppe to accept and acknowledge Director Loseke's letter of resignation and to authorize publication of the Notice of Vacancies; to require that all applicants for the vacancy submit their petitions to the EDWDD office no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 10th, 2021; and to set the September 16th, 2021, Board meeting as the initial time to consider all valid petitions and to appoint a new Director for Areas 7. Motion carried unanimously.

Schedule Finance & Personnel Committee Meetings - The Manager noted that at its August 19th meeting, the Board is scheduled to review and give initial consideration to a DRAFT 2022 District budget. The formal public budget hearing will take place at the September 16th Board meeting. In advance of the development of the DRAFT budget, standard practice has been to have the Personnel Committee (Directors Barth, Loseke, Moes & Poppe) meet with the Manager to conduct his annual performance review, and during which the Manager presents comments and recommendations on District staff. This is followed by a meeting of the Finance Committee (Directors Dick, Duffy, Hawley and Kappel), which conducts an preliminary of the DRAFT, which would include any changes suggested by the Personnel Committee.

DRAFT

He requested that dates and times be selected to hold both such meetings. He also distributed copies of the Managers Annual Performance Evaluation Form for each director to complete and submit to the Personnel Committee Chair (Moes).

It was the consensus of the Board to hold the meetings in conjunction with the regular August meeting.

Flandreau Dam Modifications

Jeff Pederson, City Manager for the City of Flandreau, reviewed the status of efforts to explore options for the long-term management, future renovations and safety improvements of the community-owned dam on the Big Sioux River. The dam is an important, long-time part of the community, and a popular site for recreation and fishing. In place since the 1800's, the dam had undergone a number of repairs and re-builds. Unfortunately, the dam has also been the site of human fatalities and near fatalities due to the presence of dangerous recirculating currents found below the structure.

Barr Engineering was engaged to evaluate options for removing and/or modifying the dam. The total project cost was \$47,500, with the funds coming from the City (\$12,500), South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks (\$12,500), East Dakota (\$12,500) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (\$10,000). He noted that they had developed four alternatives - full dam removal, rock rapids at full height (of dam as it currently exists), rock rapids at a reduced height and a rock ramp at full height.

After conversations with various stakeholders, a fifth option, full removal with rock features, was identified as a the preferred alternative. Mr. Pederson noted that the rock features, to be located

downstream of the current dam, would focus river flow and provide a opportunities for canoeing and kayaking. They would also create a variety of fish habitats, accessible from the top of the structures. The City Council will be making a final decision on moving forward in the near future.

Project Assistance Request(s)

Lake Poinsett Sanitary District - Bob Westal, Board member of the Lake Poinsett Sanitary District (LPSD), presented a request for District cost-share assistance for the completion of a engineering facility plan covering system maintenance and potential expansion. They have engaged Banner Associates out of Brookings to conduct the study, at a projected total cost of \$34,800. They are anticipate receiving \$10,000 in assistance from SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) in the form of a Small Community Planning grant, and are therefore seeking up to fifty percent (50%) of the remaining costs (\$24,800) from the District, which would come to \$12,400.

Mr. Westal answered question about the effort from the Board.

Motion by Duffy, seconded by Hawley to provide District cost-share assistance to the LPSD to cover up to fifty percent (50%) of the local costs of the proposed investigation, up to a maximum of \$12,400, as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

SD DANR Riparian Buffer Initiative - The Manager presented a request for further District project-assistance funding for the DANR proposed South Dakota Riparian Buffer Initiative (RBI). At it's May 2021 meeting, the Board pledged up to \$120,000 in support of a DANR application to the USDA Regional Conservation Partnership Program - Alternative Funding Arrangement (RCPP-AFA) seeking funding for the RBI. The DANR RCPP-AFA grant request was submitted on May 28th, which would provide funding for the RBI effort for a period of five (5) years. A decision on the request is expected in September or October.

He distributed a letter requesting additional assistance to be applied to a second phase of the RBI, which would be used as match for an additional RCPP-AFA request to support a second five years of the RBI to also be supported by an RCPP-AFA grant.

He noted that DANR Secretary Hunter Roberts had planned to be in attendance, but was unable to make the trip to Brookings.

Motion by Poppe, seconded by Kappel, to table consideration of the request until such time as Secretary Roberts would be able to make the request in person. It was noted that as the status of the initial RCPP-AFA RBI request was unknown, there did not appear to be a pressing need for action. Motion carried unanimously.

District Updates

2021 Virtual Big Sioux Water Festival - Deb Springman provided a summary of the 2021 Big Sioux Water Festival, which was held 'remotely' earlier in the year.

DRAFT

Big Sioux River Project - Barry Berg, Senior Watershed Coordinator for the Big Sioux River Project (BSRP), to provided an overview of the BSRP activities and efforts to address water quality issues within the project area.

Adjournment

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

Spencer Hawley, Secretary

DRAFT