



**East Dakota Water Development District**  
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**MINUTES**  
**July 20, 2023**

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 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  
Jeff Barth  
Ryan Donovan  
Bob Kappel  
Troy Larson\*  
John Moes  
Joedy Poppe\*

**Others Present**

- none -

**Staff Present**

Barry Berg\*  
Jay Gilbertson  
Amber Lively\*

**Directors Absent**

Gary Duffy  
Spencer Hawley

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\* - participated via video-conference.

**Administrative Items**

Approval of Agenda - The Manager requested that item III. Project Assistance Request(s) be removed from the Agenda.

**Motion** by Barth, seconded by Kappel to approve the agenda as so amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, meeting.

**Motion** by Barth, seconded by Moes to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the May and June 2023 financial statements.

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**Motion** by Moes, seconded by Barth to approve the May and June 2023 financial statements. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Anderson directed that the approved financial statements be placed in the District files.

Report of Meetings and Conferences - Director Donovan reported on the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System (LCRWS) Annual Meeting held in Tea on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. He also attended the 605 Summer Classic on June 24<sup>th</sup> and the First Friday Chamber of Commerce Event on July 7<sup>th</sup> in Sioux Falls on behalf of the Friends of the Big Sioux River.

Director Larson reported on the LCRWS Annual Meeting and the July 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of the South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems Manager's Group in Sioux Falls.

Director Moes reported on the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Lake Pelican Water Project District, and the Governors Ag Summit on July 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Both events were held in Watertown.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

May 19<sup>th</sup> - Vermillion. Clay County zoning issues trial.

May 24<sup>th</sup> - Blunt. Dakota Mainstem presentation to the Central Plains WDD Board of Directors.

May 25<sup>th</sup> - Pierre. Dakota Mainstem RWS discussion with DANR staff.

May 30<sup>th</sup> - Madison. Dakota Mainstem SWRMS application work.

May 31<sup>st</sup> - Sioux Falls. BSRP exit interview for McKenzie Blaine.

June 5<sup>th</sup> - Lake Cochrane/Clear lake. Wetland fill complaint inspection.

June 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> - Deadwood. South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS) Board of Directors.

June 12<sup>th</sup> - Sioux Falls. Minnehaha Conservation District Board of Supervisors.

June 13<sup>th</sup> - Howard. South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts (SDACD) Vermillion-Big Sioux Area meeting.

June 21<sup>st</sup> - Webster. SDACD Coteau Area meeting.

June 22<sup>nd</sup> - Rosholt. Northeast SD Geology Tour, sponsored by the Roberts Conservation District.

June 27<sup>th</sup> - Dell Rapids. Big Sioux River Project Steering Committee.

July 29<sup>th</sup> - Pierre. South Dakota Board of Water & Natural Resources.

July 13<sup>th</sup> - Webster. Lakes Region County Commissioners meeting.

July 18<sup>th</sup> - Sioux Falls. Rural Water Open Golf Tournament.

July 19<sup>th</sup> - Sioux Falls. SDARWS Manager's Group meeting.

July 19<sup>th</sup> - Salem. Vermillion Basin WDD Board of Directors meeting.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **July 27<sup>th</sup> - 10:00 a.m.** - Madison. SDARWS Quality On Tap Editorial Board.
2. **August 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Arrowwood Resort, Oacoma - South Dakota Climate Summit.
3. **August 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>** - Medora, ND. National Water Resources Association 2023 Western Water Seminar.
4. **August 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Larson Nature Center @ Dakota Nature Park, 1705 32<sup>nd</sup> Street South, Brookings. 2023 South Dakota Watershed Academy, sponsored by SDSU Extension & Water Resources Institute.
5. **August 10<sup>th</sup>** - SDSU Raven Precision Ag Center, Brookings. South Dakota Aquatic Invasive Species Citizen Monitoring Course, sponsored by SD Lakes & Streams Association.

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6. **August 17<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 a.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. August EDWDD Board of Directors meeting.
7. **August 23<sup>rd</sup> - 9:00 a.m.** - Dell Rapids. Big Sioux River Project SRAM Grazing Lands Partnership Field Day.

Payment Requests - The Manager presented the Board with two 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>
Miner Conservation District (grass drill)	\$ 5,000.00
City of Clear Lake Facility Plans (DW/WW/SW)	<u>\$ 15,763.41</u>
Total	\$ 20,763.41

**Motion** by Moes, seconded by Kappel to authorize payments totaling \$20,763.41 as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Schedule Finance & Personnel Committee Meetings - The Manager noted that at it's August 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board is scheduled to review and give initial consideration to a DRAFT 2024 District budget. The formal public budget hearing will take place at the September 21<sup>st</sup> Board meeting. In advance of the development of the DRAFT budget, standard practice has been to have the Personnel Committee (Directors Barth, Donovan, 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 Duffy, Hawley, Kappel and Larson), which conducts a preliminary review of the DRAFT budget, which would include any changes suggested by the Personnel Committee.

He indicated he would be circulating suggested dates for both of the meetings. He would also be distributing copies of the Managers Annual Performance Evaluation Form for each director to complete, along with a return envelope to submit to the Personnel Committee Chair (Moes).

Out-of-State Travel Authorization - The Manager requested Board authorization for out-of-state travel by Deborah Springman and himself. The Manager will be attending the National Water Resources Association 2023 Western Water Seminar to be held in Medora, North Dakota, on August 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Springman will be attending the 2023 Midwest Environmental Education Conference, which will be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> in LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

**Motion** by Larson, seconded by Barth to authorize the out-of-state travel as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Potential 2024 Water Development District Legislation**

The Manager stated that at present, two pieces of legislation were under discussion/development for the 2024 Legislative Session. The first would complete the 'expansion' of the Vermillion Basin WDD by the adding those portions of the western part of East Dakota that are within the Vermillion River watershed. Historically, this move has had strong local support, with the county

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commissioners recognizing the advantages of having a single entity encompassing the entire watershed.

The second bill would address the issue of how to fill a water development district director position that has been created by an increase in district population. South Dakota Codified Laws (SDCL) 46A-3B-2 and 46A-3B-3 call for additional directors if a district total population exceeds certain thresholds, but the chapter does not provide a timely mechanism for filling the positions. He indicated that the initial thoughts are to formally define such seats as ‘vacant,’ and then fill them following the existing procedure laid out in SDCL 46A-3B-9.

### **District Updates**

Dakota Mainstem Regional Water System - The Manager indicated that the effort continues to move forward. Articles of incorporation were filed in late May with the SD Secretary of State’s Office. A State Water Resources Management System (SWRMS) application was filed with South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources (DANR) on June 1<sup>st</sup>, seeking a grant of \$1,000,000 to assist in the scoping and planning efforts, along with preliminary engineering costs. A DRAFT set of corporate by laws have been developed, and are expected to be approved in the near future. Fund raising has topped \$100,000, with the bulk of the support to-date coming from the area water development districts.

Lake Poinsett Management Plan - The Manager noted that a variety of stakeholders around Lake Poinsett, including the Lake Poinsett Association, the Poinsett Sanitary District and the Lake Poinsett Water Project District, have come together with the idea of developing a Lake Poinsett Management Plan (LPMP), to, “.. identify and prioritize critical needs and solutions for Lake Poinsett with a focus on water quality, water quantity, fish and wildlife habitat, tourism, recreation, economic development, roads and land use.” The Manager worked with them to develop a request for proposal to develop the LPMP, which was released earlier this year. They have subsequently selected Banner Associates of Brookings to develop the LPMP, with work expected to begin shortly. He indicated that he would expect the group to bring forward a cost-share assistance request in the near future.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further District business, Chairman Anderson declared the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

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Spencer Hawley, Secretary