



East Dakota Water Development District
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MINUTES
March 21, 2019

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on March 21, 2019, at the District office in Brookings. Chairman Jarrett called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following persons attended:

Directors Present

Mark Anderson
Gary Duffy
Spencer Hawley
Martin Jarrett
Kay Kassube
Dana Loseke
John Moes

Directors Absent

Jeff Barth
Mary Ellen Connelly

Others Present

Scott Anderson, Minnehaha County
Michael Hennen, Izaak Walton League
Alan Wittmuss, SD Dept Environment & Natural Resources
Catherine Zeman, University of Northern Iowa

Staff Present

Kevin Christenson
Jay Gilbertson
Jeremy Hinke
Deb Springman

Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda -

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kassube to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the February 21st, 2019, Board meeting.

Motion by Duffy, seconded by Kassube to approve the Minutes of the February 21st, 2019, Board meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the February 2019 financial reports.

Motion by Moes, seconded by Duffy to accept the February 2019 financial report. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Jarrett then asked that the report be placed in the District files.

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Report of Meetings and Conferences - Directors Anderson and Loseke attended the Big Sioux River Watershed Project Steering Committee meeting March 20th in Sioux Falls.

Director Moes attended meetings of the Lake Pelican Water Project District (March 19th) and Upper Bg Sioux River Watershed Advisory Board (March 20th) in Watertown.

The Manager briefly summarized the following meetings he attended since the February 2019 Board meeting:

1. February 23rd - Brookings. Big Sioux River channel diversion discussion.
2. February 27th - Brookings. SD DENR 2019 Rotating Basin Pilot Project planning discussions.
3. March 12th - Pierre. 31st Annual Environmental & Ground Water Quality Conference.
4. March 19th - Moorhead, MN. 1st Annual Red River Basin Drainage Conference.
5. March 20th - Sioux Falls. Big Sioux River Watershed Project Steering Committee.

In addition, the Manager acted in his capacity as District lobbyist to the 2019 South Dakota Legislature in Pierre during this period.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **March 21st - 7:00 p.m.** - Froiland Science Center Auditorium, Augustana University, Sioux Falls. Lecture by Dr. Catherine Zeman, University of Northern Iowa, on the health risks of high nitrates in drinking water sources.
2. **March 28th & 29th** - Matthews Training Center, Pierre. SD Board of Water & Natural Resources.
3. **April 2nd - 6:30 p.m.** - Clear Lake. Brookings-Deuel Rural Water System Annual Meeting.
4. **April 9th - 6:30 p.m.** - Colman. Big Sioux Community Water System Annual Meeting.
5. **April 11th & 12th** - Rapid City. Western South Dakota Hydrology Conference.
6. **April 18th - 9:30 a.m.** - South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS) Office, 203 West Center Street, Madison. **April EDWDD Board of Directors meeting.**

Payment Requests - The Manager presented the Board with two reimbursement requests from the sponsors of District-supported projects. He noted that each request was in order, and consistent with provisions set by the Board at the time of award. He requested authorization to pay the following:

<u>Grant Recipient/Activity</u>	<u>Requested Amount</u>
SDSU/Nitrate Removal in Bioreactors of Agricultural Residue (Hua)	\$ 833.74
SDSU/Low Impact Development (McMaine)	\$ 282.00
Total	\$ 1,115.74

Motion by Loseke, seconded by Anderson to authorize payments totaling \$1,115.74 as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Equipment Purchase Authorization - The Manager requested Board authorization to execute several equipment purchases. The first request was for a new water quality sampling boat and trailer. He noted that the District's current boat (a 17' flat-bottomed jon boat) was purchased in 2000 in support of assessment projects on a number of smaller lakes in the District. It has subsequently been used for sample collection on a range of lakes, although use on larger water bodies, like Lake Thompson, has

been problematic. He proposed purchase a boat that could be better used on the larger lakes under windy conditions. Staff have secured a quotes for a boat, motor, trailer and accessories for just under \$20,000.

The second purchase would replace the existing hand-held water quality meters. They are used to gather water temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen and conductivity in the field. He noted that while the current meters remain functional, they are 12 years old, and maintenance is becoming an issue. Staff have secured a quote of just under \$12,000 for two units configured to our needs.

The Manager requested that the Board defer action on this request until later in the meeting, following the presentation on the proposed SD DENR Rotating Basins Water Quality Assessment. Chairman Jarrett concurred.

2019 Legislative Session Review

The Manager reviewed the February 20th status of numerous bills he is tracking as the District lobbyist during the ongoing 94th Session of the South Dakota Legislature.

House Bill (HB) 1018, An Act to transfer the collection of various fees from the Department of Revenue to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources,

HB 1048, An Act to authorize a public body to conduct certain deliberations in an executive or closed meeting,

HB 1075, An Act to revise certain provisions regarding the authority of conservation district governing boards,

HB 1156, An Act to designate the accordion as the official state musical instrument,

HB 1161, An Act to revise certain provisions regarding the issuance of temporary permits for the use of public water

HB 1187, An Act to authorize the Bureau of Administration to conduct a study of the Flaming Fountain on Capitol Lake, to make an appropriation therefor, and to declare an emergency,

HB 1239, An Act to revise certain provisions regarding temporary permits for the use of public water,

HB 1240, An Act to revise certain provisions regarding water permits,

HB 1254, An Act to make appropriations from the water and environment fund and its revolving fund subfunds for various water and environmental purposes and to declare an emergency,

HB 1255, An Act to make an appropriation from the coordinated natural resources conservation fund to the State Conservation Commission, and to declare an emergency,

HB 1258, An Act to create the clean air act settlement fund, to make an appropriation from the fund, and to declare an emergency,

Senate Bill (SB) 46, An Act to repeal provisions regarding river basin natural resource districts,

SB 58, An Act to authorize the Bureau of Administration to conduct a study of the Flaming Fountain on Capitol Lake, to make an appropriation therefor, and to declare an emergency,

SB 59, An Act to revise certain provisions regarding public records,

SB 66, An Act to establish an interim legislative committee to study issues related to electric services in an annexed area

SB 73, An Act to revise qualifications for sanitary district trustees,

SB 77, An Act to revise provisions regarding candidates running for office,

SB 91, An Act to revise certain provisions regarding open meeting requirements,

SB 100, An Act to reduce the number of petition signatures required for conservation district supervisor elections.

SB 102, An Act to make an appropriation for gas well cleanup in Harding County.

SB 176, An Act to make an appropriation for the second century habitat fund and to declare an emergency.

SB 178, An Act to make an appropriation to the Department of Game, Fish and Parks to fund certain improvements to Palisades State Park and to declare an emergency, and

SB 183, An Act to revise certain provisions regarding buffer strips.

2019 Rotating Basin Pilot Project

Alan Witmuss, South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (SD DENR), presented a summary of the planned SD DENR Rotating Basins Water Quality Assessment. He noted that every two years, SD DENR compiles information on the quality of rivers, lakes and streams across the state. The data is used to assess the condition of the water bodies, and in particular whether or not they are meeting the beneficial uses assigned to each. Support or non-support of a given beneficial use is determined by whether or not the results of various chemical, physical or biologic tests meet established standards. Typically, if some percentage of the samples (>10%) violate the standard, then the water resource is listed as impaired (non-support of a designated beneficial use). The results of these biennial assessments are published by SD DENR in even-numbered years. The most recent report, the 2018 South Dakota Integrated Report for Surface Water Quality Assessment, can be found at: <http://denr.sd.gov/documents/18irfinal.pdf>.

Data used to generate the biennial Integrated Reports comes from various sources. SD DENR maintains a network of about 160 monitoring sites along rivers and streams across the state, which are sampled on a monthly or quarterly basis. They also regularly collect water quality data from a couple of dozen lakes each year. The United States Geological Survey also regularly obtains some water quality data statewide. He noted that these state and federal efforts provide a reasonable data set from which to identify likely problems, but lack the detail necessary to really define issues. Local water quality studies generate information applicable to a particular Integrated Report, but as these are often short-lived, spatially-restricted efforts, they do not provide much long-term information.

Historically, high-frequency, spatially-extensive water sampling has typically only occurred as part of a targeted watershed/sub-basin assessment. Such sampling is necessary to truly determine both the actual condition of a particular water body, and also better understand the likely source(s) of any impairments. Unfortunately, once such studies have been completed, there is rarely any formal follow-up sampling. The lone exception to this approach has been the District's current water quality sampling program.

SD DENR has concluded that a new approach to surface water quality data is needed at the state level. The proposed Rotating Basins Water Quality Assessment would involve two years of intensive sampling of lakes, streams and rivers within one of five regions of the state. Sampling would move to another region after two years, ultimately returning to the original region after 10 years. They believe that such a rotating sample collection program will address shortcomings in the current process.

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The initial sampling effort will cover a three year period, 2019 thru 2021 field season, and cover water resources within the Big Sioux River, Minnesota River and Red River watersheds. The extra year is necessary to determine just what sort of effort will be required, and allow time to develop data collection plans and strategies. Mr. Wittmuss noted that by starting in this area, the project could take advantage of the District's existing water quality sampling capabilities and experience.

The Manager noted that District staff have been working with Mr. Wittmuss and other SD DENR staff to develop sampling schedules, logistics and equipment needs for the effort. The Manager stated that he intended to have District staff handle the majority of the sample collection efforts, using two two-person crews. Sampling equipment used will be a combination of existing District resources and new acquired SD DENR gear. Analytical costs will be paid for using SD DENR grant funds. The Manager noted that this would result in a significant reduction in the projected District water quality analytical costs for 2019, as SD DENR would be paying for work the District had planned to do.

At present, the proposal calls for twice-monthly sampling at forty-two (42) river and stream sites, and monthly sampling at forty (40) lakes. The expectation is that all 42 river and stream sites can be sampled in 2019, but only 24 lakes will be targeted the first year. The expectation is that sampling will begin in early May, and run thru mid-October.

The Manager requested Board authorization to participate and partner with SD DENR in the Rotating Basins Water Quality Assessment effort. He noted that if the Board agreed to the effort, a formal agreement would be developed once all the details were worked out.

Motion by Kassube, seconded by Anderson to approve District participation and collaboration on the SD DENR Rotating Basins Water Quality Assessment. Motion carried unanimously.

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Equipment Purchase Authorization (continued) - The Manager proposed funding the equipment purchases under a District project assistance grant in support of the Rotating Basins Water Quality Assessment, rather than take the funds out of our budgeted WQ Equip/Supplies/Materials funds. Although the items acquired would remain with the District, the effort is in support of a State-led, stand-alone 'project.' He suggested that keeping the funds separate from the normal operational expenditures will help better define the budgetary, equipment and staffing needs for the SD DENR Rotating Basins Water Quality Assessment.

Motion by Duffy, seconded by Moes to authorize up to \$32,000 in District project assistance funds for the purchase of equipment in support of the SD DENR Rotating Basins Water Quality Assessment. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

There being no further District business, Chairman Jarrett declared the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

John Moes, Secretary