



East Dakota Water Development District
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MINUTES
November 21, 2019

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on November 21st, 2019, at the Water Purification Plant, 2100 North Minnesota Avenue, Sioux Falls. Chairman Jarrett called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. The following persons attended:

Directors Present

Mark Anderson
Jeff Barth
Mary Ellen Connelly
Gary Duffy
Spencer Hawley
Martin Jarrett
Kay Kassube
Dana Loseke
John Moes

Directors Absent

- none -

Others Present

Travis Entenman, Northern Prairies Land Trust/Friends of the
Big Sioux River
Garnet Perman
Lyle Perman, SD Agricultural Land Trust
Brian Scott, SD Department of Agriculture

Staff Present

Barry Berg
Jay Gilbertson

DRAFT

Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda -

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

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the October 17th, 2019, meeting. The Manager presented revised language for the first sentence of the second paragraph in the section dealing with the grant to the City of White. Specifically, he suggested the following:

~~Again, The Manager noted that support of the requests as presented would be consistent with past actions of the Board, and I will be recommending support.~~

Motion by Barth, seconded by Duffy to approve the Minutes of the October 17th, 2019, meeting of the East Dakota Water Development District Board of Directors as so amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the October 2019 Financial Reports.

Motion by Moes, seconded by Connelly to accept the October 2019 Financial Reports. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Jarrett then asked that the report be placed in the District files.

Report of Meetings and Conferences - Director Anderson attended a public informational meeting on the South Dakota Department of Agriculture Coordinated Plan for Natural Resources Conservation in Sioux Falls on November 7th.

Directors Connelly and Loseke attended the November 11th meeting of the Friends of the Big Sioux River (FBSR) in Sioux Falls.

Chairman Jarrett reported on the South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems Leadership Seminar in Pierre on November 18th & 19th.

Director Loseke reported on a FBSR meeting with SD DENR Secretary Hunter Roberts in Pierre on November 7th.

Directors Moes attended the Lake Pelican Water Project District meeting in Watertown on November 20th.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. October 22nd - Kingsbury County Commission, DeSmet, Lake Thompson water levels and VBWDD expansion.
2. October 23rd & 24th - South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems Managers Group, Deadwood.
3. November 4th - Big Sioux Water Festival Steering Committee, Brookings.
4. November 5th - US Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, Huron, Source water protection emphasis and ongoing financial assistance for conservation/water quality goals.
5. November 7th - South Dakota Board of Water & Natural Resources, DDN site, Brookings.
6. November 7th - South Dakota Department of Agriculture Coordinated Plan for Natural Resources Conservation public meeting, Sioux Falls.
7. November 12th - Minnesota Ground Water Association Fall Conference, St. Paul, MN.
8. November 13th - Upper Minnesota River Watershed District, Ortonville, MN, discussion of Whetstone River diversion project.
9. November 14th - James River Water Development District Board meeting, Huron.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **November 26th - 8:30 a.m.** - Brookings. 19th Annual Drainage Research Forum.
2. **December 3rd - 10:00 a.m.** - Pierre. Water Development District Managers meeting.
3. **December 3rd - 1:00 p.m.** - Pierre. Governor's 2020 Budget Address.
4. **December 5th - 9:00 a.m.** - Hilton Garden Inn Downtown, Sioux Falls. Big Sioux River watershed Project Steering Committee.
5. **December 5th - 1:00 p.m.** - Hilton Garden Inn Downtown, Sioux Falls. Big Sioux River Water Summit.
6. **December 6th - 10:00 a.m.** - Watertown. Dakota Rural Action CAFO Information Summit.

7. **December 10th - 9:00 a.m.** - Pierre. South Dakota Non-Point Source Task Force.
8. **December 19th - 1:00 p.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. December EDWDD Board of Directors meeting.

Appointment of Designated Member of the Big Sioux River Watershed Project Steering Committee - The Manager requested formal Board action to appoint Director Anderson as the District representative on the Big Sioux River Watershed Project (Project) Steering Committee, with Director Loseke as the alternate. The Project sponsor, the Moody Conservation District, has requested the District appoint a board member to represent the District on this body. Previously, former Directors Lois Brown and Janelle Weatherly had served in this capacity. Director Anderson has been the default representative in the interim.

Motion by Duffy, seconded by Moes to designate Director Anderson as the District representative on the Big Sioux River Watershed Project Steering Committee, with Director Loseke as the alternate. Motion carried unanimously.

Payment Requests - The Manager presented several payment requests from District-sponsored activities. He noted that the requests were in order and consistent with provisions set by the Board at the time of award. He requested Board authorization to make the following payments:

<u>Grant Recipient/Activity</u>	<u>Requested Amount</u>
SDSU/Nitrate Removal by Ag Residual Media (Hua)	\$ 197.05
SDSU/Engaging Citizens in Low-Impact Design (McMaine)	\$ 76.80
Kingsbury County/Lake Thompson Outlet Investigation	\$ 327.50
Total	\$ 601.35

Motion by Kassube, seconded by Hawley to authorize payments totaling \$601.35 as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

South Dakota Agricultural Land Trust

Lyle Perman, Chairman of the South Dakota Agricultural Land Trust (SDALT) Board of Directors, briefed the Board on the history, mission and goals of the organization. He noted that they were responding to a desire by South Dakota farmers and ranchers for long-term options for the protection and preservation of rural lands across the state. The effort was a collaboration between four well-established organizations – the South Dakota Grassland Coalition, South Dakota Cattlemen’s Association, South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts, and the South Dakota Farm Bureau – which have cooperatively founded SDALT.

The purpose of this new statewide land trust is to provide South Dakota landowners a non-profit partner to assist with land conservation needs, estate planning, and succession planning. The land trust is being launched following several years of feasibility research and business planning and draws from the experience of highly successful agricultural land trusts established in other states, such as the Colorado Cattlemen’s Agricultural Land Trust and the California Rangeland Trust.

SDALT founders believe that by providing landowners/operators with long-term easement options developed and managed by an organization with a strong agricultural identity will be well received.

SD Department of Agriculture 2020 Coordinated Plan for Natural Resources Conservation

Brian Scott, with the South Dakota Department of Agriculture (SDDA) Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry, presented a summary of efforts to update the Coordinated Plan for Natural Resources Conservation (Plan). The Plan provides a collaborative approach among federal, state, local sponsors, and the public to develop a proactive conservation plan based on an assessment of previous conservation efforts and current conditions. The goals and objectives of the Plan are drafted based on the State's conservation priorities to provide information and to assist the State Conservation Commission. The initial State conservation plan, called the "Coordinated Soil and Water Conservation Plan," was implemented in 1991. The most recent Plan was completed in 2012.

SDDA, in conjunction with their consultants, are holding a series of meetings across the state to gather public input. They are taking input regarding:

- 1) the existing condition of SD's natural resources,
- 2) the success of our conservation programs,
- 3) the goals and objective that should be set for the new plan and
- 4) any other additional information important regarding natural resources

Mr. Scott distributed copies of DRAFT information on what has been proposed for the 2020 version of the Plan, and encouraged the Board and others to submit comments.

District Updates

Big Sioux River Watershed Project - Barry Berg, Project Coordinator for the Big Sioux River Watershed Project (Project), presented an update on Project activities and his efforts. He noted that Project Segment 3 will be completed next summer. A request for Segment 4 funding has been submitted to SD DENR for \$950,000 in EPA Section 319 funding. A decision of the request will be considered at the December 10th Non-Point Source task Force meeting in Pierre.

Potential Legislation for the 2020 Legislative Session - The Manager briefed the Board on two pieces of legislation he expected to be brought before the 2020 Session of the South Dakota Legislature. The first involves the expansion of the Vermillion Basin Water Development District. McCook County, along with portions of Lake, Miner and Kingsbury Counties would be added to the current territory of the entity. The portions of Lake, Miner and Kingsbury Counties involved are currently part of the East Dakota water Development District.

The second piece of legislation would remove 'disability' as a criteria for declaring a director position vacant. The language is currently included in South Dakota Codified Law 46A-3B-9.

Adjournment

There being no further District business, Chairman Jarrett declared the meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

John Moes, Secretary