



East Dakota Water Development District
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MINUTES
May 15, 2025

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on May 15th, 2025, at the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System Water Treatment Plant, 31476 SD Highway 19, Vermillion. Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m. The following persons attended:

Directors Present

Mark Anderson
Rick Bonander
Debra Elofson
Spencer Hawley
Bob Kappel
Troy Larson
Julie Loveland-Swanstrom
John Moes

Directors Absent

Jeff Barth

Others Present

Arden Abild, Vermillion
Jim Auen, Lewis & Clark Regional Water System
Fred Butzke, Vermillion Basin Water Development District
Sarah Chadima, Vermillion Basin Water Development District
Michael Crist, Vermillion Basin Water Development District
Robin Dykstra, Vermillion Basin Water Development District
Anthony Halverson, Vermillion Basin Water Development District
Darren Johnson, SD DANR Geological Survey Program
Bob Iverson, Vermillion Basin Water Development District
Brad Preheim, Vermillion Basin Water Development District
Alan Wittmuss, SD DANR Watershed Protection Program

Staff Present

Jay Gilbertson

Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda -

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

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the March 20th, 2025, meeting.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Elofson to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the March and April 2025 Financial Reports.

Motion by Hawley, seconded by Moes to accept the March and April 2025 Financial Reports. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Anderson asked that the report be placed in the District files.

Report of Meetings and Conferences - Directors Bonander, Elofson, Larson, Loveland-Swanstrom and Chairman Anderson attended the 2025 Big Sioux Sustainability Summit on April 17th in Sioux Falls.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. March 21st - Sioux Falls. Dakota Mainstem Regional Water System Annual Meeting.
2. March 24th - Clear Lake. Deuel County Planning & Zoning Committee hearing.
3. March 25th - Dell Rapids. Big Sioux River Project Steering Committee.
4. March 25th - 27th - Fort Pierre. 2025 Environmental & Water Quality Conference.
5. March 27th - Pierre. South Dakota Board of Water & Natural Resources.
6. April 1st - Colman. Big Sioux Community Water System Annual Meeting.
7. April 3rd - Pierre. South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems Board of Directors.
8. April 7th - Sioux Falls. New 2025 PFAS sample site visit.
9. April 8th - Clear Lake. Brookings-Deuel Rural Water System Annual Meeting.
April 9th - EDWDD Office, Brookings. South Dakota Lakes & Streams Association Board of Directors meeting.
10. April 10th - Rapid City. Western South Dakota Hydrology Conference.
April 14th - video-conference. SDARWS Quality On Tap Editorial Board.
11. April 17th - Sioux Falls. Big Sioux River & Sustainability Summit.
April 22nd - Brookings. Brookings County CO2 Pipeline Advisory Committee.
April 23rd & 24th - video-conference. SDARWS Managers Group Meeting.
12. May 7th - Sioux Falls. Conservation Technology Information Center Conservation In Action Tour.
13. May 12th - Clear Lake. Deuel County Planning & Zoning Committee hearing.
14. May 13th - South Dakota State University Campus, Brookings. 2025 Big Sioux Water Festival.
15. May 14th - video-conference. USEPA NPS Tech Exchange Seminar presentation.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **June 9th - 3:00 p.m.** - Sioux Falls. Minnehaha Conservation District Board of Supervisors.
2. **June 17th & 18th** - Deadwood. 2025 South Dakota Governor's Ag Summit.
3. **June 18th - 9:30 a.m.** - Good Earth State Park, Sioux Falls. South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts (SDACD) Vermillion-Big Sioux Area meeting.
4. **June 19th - 9:00 a.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. June EDWDD Board of Directors meeting.
5. **June 23rd - 9:00 a.m.** - Fort Sisseton State Park, Lake City. SDACD Coteau Area meeting.
6. **June 25th & 26th** - Deadwood. South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS) Board of Directors.
7. **June 26th & 27th** - Pierre. South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources.

Payment Requests - The Manager presented the Board with a single payment request from a District-sponsored activity that required Board action. He noted that the request was in order and consistent

with the conditions established by the Board at the time of the award.

Grant Recipient/Activity

2024 Dakota Mainstem RWS Developmental Support

Requested Amount

\$ 20,193.83

\$ 20,193.83

Motion by Kappel, seconded by Hawley to authorize payment of \$ 20,193.83 to Dakota Mainstem RWS as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Project Assistance Request(s)

SD DANR Watershed Protection Program - Alan Wittmuss, with the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) Watershed Protection Program presented a request for District cost-share assistance in the acquisition of equipment and materials to establish three (3) stream gaging stations on streams within the District. He noted that DANR currently maintains 23 stream gaging stations within the District, which covers portions of the Big Sioux River (BSR) and Minnesota River (MR) watersheds. They are proposing to add two stations to the BSR watershed network, one each on Spring Creek in northern Moody County and one on Pipestone Creek in northeastern Minnehaha County. The third site is Mud Creek in southern Grant County, which is within the MR basin. The estimated cost per station is \$6,500, for a total request of \$19,500. DANR will match the request with \$11,100 of additional equipment.

The request is for the purchase of equipment and materials only. DANR staff will install and maintain the gaging stations, and then they maintain the network without an annual partnership agreement.

Motion by Kappel, seconded by Bonander to allocate up to \$19,500 in District project-assistance funds in support of the purchase of the requested stream gaging equipment and materials. Motion carried unanimously.

South Dakota Geological Survey

Darren Johnson, geologist with the South Dakota Geological Survey (technically the Geological Survey Program within DANR), provided an overview of the role and function of the agency. The Survey performs scientific investigations on the state's geologic and ground water resources, providing information that is used to develop and protect our natural resources. The Survey is located on the campus of the University of South Dakota (since 1893), and is the only program within DANR not headquartered in Pierre.

Survey staff explore and map the geologic and ground water resources. Data collection is facilitated through an active sub-surface drilling program. Detailed lithologic logs of the test holes are maintained in an in-house database, and serve as a foundation of various geologic and hydrogeologic map products.

The Survey also maintains a network of observation wells in shallow aquifers across the state that are used to monitor long-term conditions and changes in water quality.

A wide range of publications describing the activities and findings of the Survey investigations are available through its website.

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Water Development Districts and Future-Use Water Rights

The Manager noted that under state law, entities that are directly, or indirectly, involved in supplying water to the public, are allowed to reserve water for future use, including water development districts (WDDs). Future-use water permits held by WDDs are acquired for the benefit of the constituents of the entity, and can be re-directed toward actual public water suppliers as required.

In 1977, the East Dakota Conservancy Sub-District (the precursor to the East Dakota Water Development District), acquired a future use permit for 400,000 acre-feet per year to be drawn from the Missouri River. In the early 2000s, 255,000 ac-ft/yr was relinquished. In 2004, 1,000 ac-ft/yr of the District's allocation was transferred to the Clay Rural Water System. In 2022, the District transferred 52,500 ac-ft/yr to the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System. With the transfers, the District retains 91,500 ac-ft/yr.

The Manager provided an overview of the general water rights laws and procedures in South Dakota, reviewed future use permits currently held by WDDs, and discussed the potential pursuit of additional water rights by WDDs down the line. At present, three (3) WDDs hold future use permits. As demand increases on what are limited water resources, it has been suggested that other WDDs perhaps get involved in the future-use permit process, such as the Vermillion Basin WDD. The Manager also noted he is reviewing the coverage of the current District permit.

Adjournment

There being no further District business or issues for consideration, Chairman Anderson declared the meeting adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

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Spencer Hawley, Secretary