



East Dakota Water Development District

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MINUTES

April 20, 2006

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on April 20, 2006 at the Living Waters Retreat Center, 30 South Lake Drive, Lake Poinsett. Chairman Dempsey called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. The following persons attended:

Directors Present

Dave Bennett
Lois Brown
Bill Dempsey
Curt Eggers
Doug Feten
Vincent Flemming
Martin Jarrett
Kay Kassube
John Weidler

Others Present

Dan Eisenbraun, Eisenbraun & Associates
Shirley Flemming, Florence
Jerry Myers, South Dakota Lakes & Streams Association
Fred Prah, Lake Poinsett Water Project District
Rick Smith, Lake Poinsett Watershed Project
Todd VanMannen, Eisenbraun & Associates
Russ Wilkins, Watertown

Staff Present

Jay Gilbertson
Angela Guidry
Pat Hammond
Deb Springman

Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda - **Motion** by Brown, seconded by Weidler to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the March 16, 2006 meeting in Brookings. **Motion** by Eggers, seconded by Flemming to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Selection of a New Municipal Area 1 Director

The Manager reviewed the process undertaken to select a Director to fill the current vacancy in Municipal Area 1. SDCL 46A-3B-9 allows for the remaining Board members to appoint a replacement (until the next general election) from candidates proposed by nominating petitions signed by at least 25 eligible voters from the area.

At the November 2005 meeting, the Board declared the position to be vacant following the death of Director Royce Hueners of Madison. In December, public notices of the vacancy were published in the official newspapers for the area. Completed nominating petitions were to be submitted to the District office in Brookings. A petition was submitted on March 23rd, 2006, by Martin Jarrett of Madison. The Lake County

Auditor confirmed that all signatures on the petition were valid and Mr. Jarrett was invited to the April Board meeting.

Motion by Eggers, seconded by Feten to appoint Martin Jarrett of 126 Woodland Drive, Madison, to serve as the Director for Municipal Area 1 through the end of calendar year 2006. The Manager noted that Mr. Jarrett's term of office would commence immediately on the passage of the motion. Motion carried unanimously, with Director Bennett abstaining. Mr. Jarrett then signed the Director's Oath of Office, and assumed his position on the Board.

Administrative Items (continued)

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the March 2006 Financial Report (Attachment A). **Motion** by Bennett, seconded by Weidler to accept the March 2006 Financial Report. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Dempsey then asked that the report be placed in the District files.

The Board then reviewed the First Quarter Financial Summary.

Report of Meetings and Conferences - Director Feten attended a presentation on wellhead protection area (WHPA) delineation by Derric Iles, State Geologist, to the Deuel County Commission March 21 in Clear Lake.

Director Flemming reported on the March 19 meeting of the Lake Pelican Water Project District in Watertown and the Clark Rural Water System Annual Meeting held in Clark on March 28.

Director Weidler attended the Sioux Empire Water Festival in Sioux falls on March 28 and the Big Sioux Community Water System Annual Meeting in Chester on April 4.

Chairman Dempsey attended the March 21 WHPA presentation in Clear Lake, the Kingbrook Rural Water System Annual Meeting in Madison on April 10 and the Brookings-Deuel Rural Water System Annual Meeting in White on April 11.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. March 17 - Flandreau. Nitrate testing at the Moody County Farm & Home Show.
2. March 20 - Flandreau. Moody County Conservation District Board of Supervisors Meeting.
3. March 21 - Clear Lake. WHPA presentation by Derric Iles, State Geologist, to the Deuel County Commissioners.
4. March 22 - Sioux Falls. Minnehaha County Conservation District Board of Supervisors Meeting and Ag United Board of Directors Meeting.
5. March 31 - Sioux Falls. Inspection of stream mitigation project (also on April 4 & 5).
6. April 3 - Clear Lake. Deuel County Conservation District Board of Supervisors Meeting.
7. April 4 - Chester. Big Sioux Community Water System Annual Meeting. Presentation on the Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project.
8. April 6 - Pierre. SD Nonpoint Source Task Force Meeting.
9. April 10 - Madison. Kingbrook Rural Water System Annual Meeting
10. April 11 - White. Brookings-Deuel Rural Water System Annual Meeting. Presentation on the systems

WHPAs.

11. April 13 - Brookings. SD Lakes & Streams Association (SDLSA) Board meeting.
12. April 17-18 - Rapid City. Western South Dakota Hydrology Conference.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **April 20 - 6:00 p.m.** - Northeast Grant County. Whetstone River watershed tour with Clean Up the River Environment (CURE) of Montevideo, MN.
2. **April 20 - 7:00 p.m.** - City Hall, Watertown. Upper Big Sioux River Watershed Advisory Board.
3. **April 22 - 10:00 a.m.** - Methodist Camp, Lake Poinsett. Lake Poinsett Water Project District Annual Meeting.
4. **April 24 - 7:00 p.m.** - Lunkers Restaurant, Watertown. Lake Kampeska Water Project District Annual Meeting.
5. **April 25 - 7:00 p.m.** - Codington County Extension Complex, Watertown. Lake Pelican Water Project District Annual Meeting.
6. **May 2 - 7:00 p.m.** - Methodist Camp, Lake Poinsett. Lake Poinsett Water Project District Board of Directors Meeting.
7. **May 9 - 9:00 a.m.** - Beadle County Extension Center, Huron. James River Water Festival.
8. **May 11 - 1:00 p.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. South Dakota Lakes & Streams Association Board Meeting.
9. **May 18 - 9:00 a.m.** - SDSU Campus, Brookings. Big Sioux Water Festival.
10. **May 23 - 9:00 a.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. May EDWDD Board of Directors meeting.

Project Assistance Request from the City of Hartford

The manager reviewed a project assistance request from the City of Hartford. In January, the Board first considered a request from the City for assistance in paying for an engineering facility plan of its waste water treatment and collection system. The total project cost was projected at \$25,000. The Board requested additional information on the project and deferred action on the request.

The Manager reported on a conversation he had with the City Manager about the project in late March. They reviewed the scope of the study and projected costs. He noted that the City would appreciate any level of cost-share assistance the District could provide. **Motion** by Weidler, seconded by Eggers to provide District cost-share assistance to the City of Hartford for the development of the wastewater system engineering facility plan in the amount of 20% of project costs, not to exceed a total of \$5,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Area Water Resources Programs

South Dakota Lakes and Streams Association - Jerry Myers, President of the South Dakota Lakes and Streams Association (SDLSA), updated the Board on progress on the City of Flandreau's Wetland Nature Center. The Nature Center is being constructed at a wetland/slough located in the Flandreau City Park. The slough is an old oxbow (former river channel) of the Big Sioux River. SDLSA is the primary contractor for the project, and has worked with the City to get assistance from a variety of sources. Project work elements include:

removal of numerous dead trees, although some were left to serve as wildlife habitat; excavation of part of the slough to create a deep pool for fish and other landscaping; development of signs describing local flora and fauna; construction of sidewalks and handicap-accessible areas. The Manager noted that the District has contributed \$5,000 toward this activity.

Lake Poinsett Watershed Project - Rick Smith, Project Coordinator for the Lake Poinsett watershed project, gave an update on the project. The project has been successful in promoting a range of best management practices in the Lake Poinsett watershed. These include shoreline/bank stabilization, zero-phosphorus fertilizer use, nutrient management systems for livestock operations, grassed waterways and riparian area restorations. A particularly successful program involves grassland and grazing management. The project has sponsored numerous grazing workshops, with the most recent event attended by over 100 people. The project is nearing the end of its current 319 grant, and Mr. Smith indicated they would be seeking additional funding later in the year.

Mr. Smith also talked briefly about local concerns over how the DAVISCO cheese plant in Lake Norden is handling its wastewater. The original design called for a series of constructed wetlands (ponds) to be used to treat the wastewater. Early last year, the company sought temporary permission to land apply the wastewater as they had not completed all of the intended ponds. Land application sites are limited, and the existing ponds are now full. At this time, several ponds are completely full, with water rising to within less than a foot of the rim. The ponds are located just west of Lake John, which is part of the Lake Poinsett watershed, and any discharge would enter the lake very quickly.

Lake Poinsett Water Project District - Fred Prael, Chairman of the Lake Poinsett Water Project District (LPWPD), gave a brief summary of issues of concern. Low water levels in the lake over the past several years have generated considerable debate. A significant faction of the local population is seeking to alter the operation of the flood-control gates on the inlet/outlet to the Big Sioux River. They want the gates to be opened when river levels are high so that the lake level can be raised to its "normal" level. The current permit requires the gates to be closed whenever the river level is higher than the lake.

Earlier this year, representatives of the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) spoke to a group of property owners. Gene Stueven, DENR Watershed Protection Program spoke on water quality trends in Lake Poinsett and the Big Sioux River. Lynne Beck, DENR Water Rights Program, presented information on historic lake levels discussed the flood-control permit. The primary objection to using river water to raise the lake level was the significantly higher phosphorus content of the river (0.5 milligrams per liter versus 0.1 milligrams per liter in the lake). Phosphorus is a controlling nutrient for algae, and increased levels can lead to algal blooms in the lake. The Manager noted that Deb Springman would be attending the LPWPD Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 22, and will be making a similar presentation.

District Project Updates

Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project - Angela Guidry reviewed recent efforts with the Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project. Memorandums of understanding (MOUs) have been prepared to cover the cooperative work on the project between the area conservation districts and EDWDD. To date, the Brookings, Hamlin, Minnehaha and Moody Conservation Districts have signed (or have agreed to sign) the MOUs, and they are under review by the Codington, Deuel and Lake County Conservation Districts. The Manager requested Board authorization for Chairman Dempsey to sign the MOUs on behalf of the EDWDD. **Motion**

by Eggers, seconded by Brown to have Chairman Dempsey sign the MOUs with the conservation districts. Motion carried unanimously.

There was a presentation by representatives of the Eisenbraun and Associates engineering firm, which will be working with the District on the design and construction of the feedlot renovations and manure management programs. Dan Eisenbraun and Todd VanMannen reviewed the process by which sites are evaluated and plans and building specifications are developed. The Manager presented the Board with a cooperative agreement between EDWDD and Eisenbraun that would cover the first part of the overall project. **Motion** by Brown, seconded by Jarrett to authorize Chairman Dempsey to sign the agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

Watershed Assessment Studies - Deb Springman reviewed progress on the District's watershed assessment projects. The Final Reports for the Central Big Sioux River and the School Lake Watershed Assessment Projects are under review by DENR and EPA. Staff are responding to comments on the North-Central Big Sioux River/East Oakwood Lakes Assessment Project. The major revision involves breaking the report into separate river/tributary and lake sections.

Source Water Protection - Deputy Manager Pat Hammond has been working in conjunction with Kristie Happeny of the South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems to review source water protection options for the Minnehaha Community Water Corporation (MCWC) near Baltic. MCWC wells are located in the shallow Big Sioux Aquifer, close to the Big Sioux River. Land-use practices in the area, particularly along the river upstream from their well fields, have the potential to degrade the resource.

Adjournment

There being no further District business, Chairman Dempsey declared the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Doug Feten, Secretary