



East Dakota Water Development District

132B Airport Drive

Brookings, SD 57006

605-688-6741

605-688-6744 Fax

---

---

## MINUTES

December 15, 2005

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on December 15, 2005 at the EDWDD Office, 132B Airport Drive, Brookings. Chairman Dempsey called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. The following persons attended:

### Directors Present

Dave Bennett  
Lois Brown  
Bill Dempsey  
Curt Eggers  
Doug Feten  
Vincent Flemming  
John Weidler

### Directors Absent

Kay Kassube

### Others Present

Chuck Berry, USGS-Biological Resources Division  
Dennis Davis, SD Association of Rural Water Systems  
Otto Hagedorn, SD Association of Rural Water Systems  
Boyd Schulz, US Fish and Wildlife Service

### Staff Present

Becky Banks  
Lisa Bretsch  
Jay Gilbertson  
Angela Guidry

## Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda - The Manager asked to have a brief discussion of the District's Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual added under Administrative Items. **Motion** by Eggers, seconded by Weidler to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the November 15, 2005 meeting. It was noted that the date given at the beginning of the document (November 15, 2004) was wrong. **Motion** by Flemming, seconded by Feten to approve the Minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the November 2005 Financial Report (Attachment A). **Motion** by Weidler, seconded by Bennett to accept the November 2005 Financial Report. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Dempsey then asked that the report be placed in the District files.

Report of Meetings and Conferences - The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings attended by District staff:

1. November 16 - Brookings. Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project (CBSRWP) Conservation District Advisory Group.
2. November 21 - Brookings. South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts Nutrient Management Team discussion.
3. November 21 - Watertown. Sioux Valley Commissioners Association.
4. December 1 - Sioux Falls. CBSRWP Easement/SRF Funds Advisory Group.
5. December 6 - Flandreau. Moody County Board of Adjustment - Jopson Dairy CAFO permit hearing.
6. December 7 - Egan. CBSRWP Conservation District Advisory Group.

7. December 8 - Huron. James River Water Development District Board Meeting.
8. December 9 - Brookings. South Dakota Lakes and Streams Association Board of Directors.
9. December 10 - Morton, MN. AREA II Minnesota River Basins Project Legislative Breakfast.
10. December 14 - Brookings (teleconference). Non-Point Source Task Force Information & Education Sub-Committee.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **January 4 - 3:30 p.m.** - Brookings (teleconference). CBSRWP Easements Group meeting.
2. **January 5 & 6** - Various DDN sites and teleconference. SD Board of Water and Natural Resources.
3. **January 10-12** - Ramkota Convention Center, Pierre. SDARWS Annual Convention.
4. **January 10 - 1:00 p.m.** - State Capitol, Pierre. Opening day of the 81<sup>st</sup> Session of the South Dakota Legislature. Governor's State of the State Address.
5. **January 11 - 9:00 a.m.** - American Legion Hall, Pierre. James River Water Development District Board of Directors meeting.
6. **January 11 - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** - State Capitol Rotunda, Pierre. Capitol Water Festival.
7. **January 11 - 4:00 p.m.** - Ramkota Convention Center, Pierre. SDARWS Legislative Reception.
8. **January 12 - 8:00 a.m.** - NRCS Conference Room, 171 North Lincoln Avenue, Pierre. State Conservation Commission.
9. **January 19 - 9:00 a.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. January EDWDD Board of Directors meeting.

**Motion** by Feten, seconded by Bennett to designate Director Eggers as the District delegate to the SDARWS Annual Convention. Motion carried unanimously.

Payment Requests - The Manager presented the Board with one payment request.

*United States Geological Survey*- At the October 2004 meeting, the Board agreed to provide up to \$11,754 in project assistance funds to the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for operation of stream gaging stations within the District during federal fiscal year 2005 (October 1, 2004 - September 30, 2005). USGS has submitted a payment request for \$11,754 for project expenses. **Motion** by Brown, seconded by Flemming, to authorize payment of \$11,754 to USGS as requested. The Manager noted that this would complete the District's obligation to this activity. Motion carried unanimously.

Travel Authorization - The Manager requested Board authorization for staff to travel to Golden, Colorado, to attend the Rocky Mountain Regional Lake and Reservoir Management Conference (RMRLRMC) on February 15-17, 2006. The District has been asked to make presentations on watershed assessment and TMDL programs in South Dakota, and the Manager and Becky Banks have prepared talks for the event. Cost will be covered by watershed assessment grant funds.

On a related matter, the Manager indicated that the South Dakota Lakes and Streams Association (SDLSA) had asked that District cost-share funds, previously allocated to support its 2006 Annual Meeting, be instead used to support the RMRLRMC. In September 2005, \$100 from the District's Small Education Grant Fund had been set aside for the SDLSA Annual Meeting, but the meeting was cancelled.

**Motion** by Eggers, seconded by Weidler to authorize 1) out-of-state travel for the Manager and Becky Banks to attend the Rocky Mountain Regional Lake and Reservoir Management Conference in Golden, Colorado,

on February 15-17, 2006, and 2) payment of \$100 from the District’s Small Education Grant Fund to support the RMRLRMC. Motion carried unanimously.

2006 Board Meeting Schedule - **Motion** by Brown, seconded by Feten to adopt the meeting schedule as listed below:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>Meeting Site</b>
January 19	Brookings	9:00 a.m.	EDWDD Office
February 21	Brookings	9:00 a.m.	EDWDD Office
March 16	Brookings	9:00 a.m.	EDWDD Office
April 20	Lake Poinsett	9:30 a.m.	(to be determined)
May 23	Brookings	9:00 a.m.	EDWDD Office
June 15	Brookings	9:00 a.m.	EDWDD Office
July 20	Brookings	9:00 a.m.	EDWDD Office
August 17	Brookings	9:00 a.m.	EDWDD Office
September 21	Flandreau	9:30 a.m.	(to be determined)
October 19	Brookings	9:00 a.m.	EDWDD Office
November 16	Sioux Falls	9:30 a.m.	(to be determined)
December 21	Brookings	1:00 p.m.	EDWDD Office

Motion carried unanimously.

Project Assistance Review - The Manager reviewed the status of eight projects that had previously received District cost-share assistance. Each project has been completed and will not be requesting further funds. The Manager requested that the Board rescind the balance of District funds committed to these projects. **Motion** by Bennett, seconded by Brown to rescind remaining District cost-share assistance allocated to the following projects:

1. Moody County CD - Bachelor Creek Implementation Project, \$791;
2. Deuel County CD - Clear Lake Implementation Project, \$1,656;
3. Deuel County CD - Cochrane/Oliver Implementation Project, \$1,775;
4. Lake County CD - Lake County Implementation Project (3 separate awards), \$5,415;
5. Minnehaha County CD - Gevik Outdoor Learning Center Signs, \$851;
6. Rocky Mountain Volunteer Monitoring Project, \$2,000;
7. Statewide Geochemical Survey, \$2,000; and
8. Minnehaha County CD - Wall Lake Reassessment, \$755.

The Manager noted that the total amount reverted with this action would be \$15,243. Motion carried unanimously.

EDWDD Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual Review - The Manager requested that Board review the District’s Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. The last major update was in 1998. He distributed copies to the Personnel Committee, and will work with Committee Chair Eggers to schedule a Committee meeting prior to the next Board meeting.

## **Water Resource Program Update Reports**

South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems - Dennis Davis, Executive Director of the South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS), and Otto Hagedorn, SDARWS Board of Directors, gave an overview of pending legislative issues. In the upcoming South Dakota Legislative Session, SDARWS will be supporting the Water Omnibus Funding Bill, which provides state support for most water projects in the state. They will be promoting legislation to allow water user districts (SDCL 46A-9) to engage in management and operation of wastewater services. They are also looking into efforts to modify the rule (SDCL 46-8-1.2) that restricts the location of conveyances of water. Historically this has been applied solely to waterways, but in 1983 a change was made that expanded the restriction to include underground water pipelines. This has presented a serious problem for large water systems in the siting of distribution pipeline, particularly the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System. Finally, they continue to monitor the proposal developed last year by the South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts to impose a water user fee on all public water suppliers.

United State Geological Survey Biological Resources Division - Chuck Berry, USGS - Biological Resource Division, reviewed the efforts and programs of the South Dakota Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit. Work in South Dakota has included fish surveys and endangered species inventories in streams and rivers that assess temporal changes in water quality. They have been looking at the presence of heavy metals, particularly mercury (Hg) in game fish in area lakes. Bio-accumulation of Hg can lead to fish consumption advisories, and they are attempting to better understand the source(s) of this pollutant. USGS also works with SD Game, Fish and Parks Department and the US Fish and Wildlife Service to monitor the presence and distribution of wetlands in the Prairie Pothole Region, a critical waterfowl reproduction resource. Research has been conducted on the impact of road crossings (culverts and bridges) on fish migration, and near-stream dugouts on endangered species survival.

Mr. Berry distributed a recent publication of the South Dakota Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, A Field Guide to South Dakota Turtles, which is one of a series of such publications providing information to the general public on the State's wildlife resources.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service - Boyd Schulz, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), reviewed wetland restoration efforts in the area. In June 2003, the District agreed to provide \$7,000 to support a North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) project. The project provides over \$1,000,000 to restore wetlands across northeastern South Dakota.

### **Project Updates**

Watershed Assessment Projects - Becky Banks reviewed recent activities on the District's watershed assessment projects:

***Central Big Sioux River Watershed Assessment Project*** – The Final Report and 17 Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) reports were submitted to DENR on August 17<sup>th</sup>. They were recently forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for final review. Once accepted, they will go up for public notice. DENR expects this will take place in three months.

***North-Central Big Sioux River-East Oakwood Lake Watershed Assessment Project*** - The draft Final Report is nearly complete, with only the AnnAGNPS analysis and management recommendations remaining. The East Oakwood Lake was completed recently, and AnnAGNPS scenarios will be finished by the end of the month. The Manager noted that the current grant agreement for this project expires at the end of December. DENR has agreed to a one-year extension to the project.

***School-Bullhead Lakes Watershed Assessment Project*** - Final revisions to the draft Final Report and TMDL Reports were submitted to DENR in late November. These are expected to be forwarded to EPA for final review shortly. They will then go out for public notice. The Manager noted that this project is scheduled to end on December 31, 2005.

The Manager requested authorization to expend the final \$265 of District cost-share assistance allocated to the project. The funds would be used to purchase textbooks and resource materials dealing with watershed and water resource topics. They would be applicable to both the assessment and implementation efforts. **Motion** by Eggers, seconded by Weidler to authorize expenditure of the balance of the District's fund committed to the project. Motion carried unanimously.

Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project - Angela Guidry has met with the City of Sioux Falls, SECOG representatives, DENR, and NPLT to formulate a plan to move forward with the Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project (CBSRWP). She has met with the local conservation districts twice to finalize ranking sheets and program fact sheets for animal waste management systems, CRP incentives, and riparian easements. She has also met with John Hay in Moody County to identify potential landowners who may be willing to enroll land in the buffer easement program. Ms. Guidry attended the recent Crops/No-Till Clinic in Mitchell, SD.

The Manager requested that the Board allocate District project assistance funds in support of the CBSRWP. District resources were built into the project proposal in support of several activities. In October, the Board allocated \$2,500 to be applied to water quality sampling. The Manager requested that a total of \$10,000 be awarded, with \$2,500 applied to Information and Education activities, and \$7,500 toward animal waste management system (AWMS) engineering and design. The funds would be listed separately to aid in tracking use of the funds. **Motion** by Brown, second by Bennett to allocate \$2,500 in District project assistance funds to CBSRWP Information and Education efforts and \$7,500 to be applied to CBSRWP AWMS engineering and design efforts. Motion carried unanimously.

Future Projects - The Manager reviewed several projects currently in development. A proposal to have the District complete the Final Report for the Wall Lake Watershed Reassessment Project has been filed with DENR. Work on this effort begins early in 2006, and will be completed by years end.

A proposal is in development for a general assessment of Covell Lake. The lake is the last impaired water body in the Big Sioux basin yet to be studied. The watershed is almost entirely contained within the City of Sioux Falls storm sewer system, making it a unique investigation.

A plan to hire a regional (multi-county) feedlot program manager/inspector has been proposed to area county commissioners. The person would operate under the authority of county issued permits for animal feeding operations, and cover three or four counties. The position would provide expertise that individual counties

could not otherwise afford. The proposal was well received. A funding source is being sought.

District Small Education Grant Fund - At the February 200 meeting, the Board established a Small Education Grant fund. The purpose of the fund was to support educational activities that require only modest (\$500 or less) levels of support. The original allocation was \$2,500. A second allocation of \$2,500 was made in May 2003. To date, all but \$68 from the two previous allocations has been pledged and/or expended. The Manager requested that the Board allocate an additional \$2,500 to this fund.

**Motion** by Eggers, seconded by Flemming to allocate \$2,500 in District project assistance funds to the District's Small Education Grant Fund. Motion carried unanimously. The Manager noted that awards from the fund would continue to require individual Board actions.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further District business, Chairman Dempsey declared the meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

---

Doug Feten, Secretary