



East Dakota Water Development District
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MINUTES
July 16, 2015

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on July 16, 2015, 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
Lois Brown
Mary Ellen Connelly
Gary Duffy
Martin Jarrett
Kay Kassube
John Moes
Jerry Soholt

Directors Absent

Janelle Weatherly

Others Present

Nathan Edwards, South Dakota State University
Guanghai Hua, South Dakota State University
Jesse Johnson, SD Corn
Andy Kopp, SD Dept. Environment & Natural Resources
Dana Loseke, Friends of the Big Sioux River
John Maursetter, Lake County
Kyungnan Min, South Dakota State University
Roger Scheibe, SD Dairy Producers
Dennis Todey, South Dakota State University

Staff Present

Jay Gilbertson
Deb Springman

Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda - The Manager requested that a request for assistance from Grant County Planning & Zoning Office be added to the Agenda.

Motion by Soholt, seconded by Duffy to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the June 18th, 2014 meeting.

Motion by Kassube, seconded by Moes to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

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Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the June 2015 Financial Reports.

Motion by Duffy, seconded by Connelly to accept the June 2015 Financial Reports. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Jarrett asked that the report be placed in the District files.

Report of Meetings and Conferences - Director Brown attended a South Dakota State University (SDSU) Extension tour of animal feeding operations (including that of Director Moes) on July 14th.

Director Connelly reported on meetings of the Friends of the Big Sioux River and the Minnehaha Conservation District on June 25th July 13th respectively. Both meetings were in Sioux Falls.

Director Moes reported on the July 15th meeting of the Lake Pelican Water Project District held in Watertown.

Director Soholt attended the July 9th meeting of the James River Water Development District in Yankton.

Chairman Jarrett reported on the May 28th Lewis & Clark Regional Water System Annual Meeting in Tea.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings and activities:

1. **June 24-26** - Duluth, MN. Minnesota Association of Watershed District Summer Meeting & Tour.
2. **July 1** - Worthington, MN. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Missouri River Basin Task Force.
3. **July 9** - Yankton. James River Water Development District Board of Directors.
4. **July 13** - Mitchell. South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems Quality On Tap Editorial Board.
5. **July 14** - Armour. South-Central Water Development District Board of Directors.
6. **July 14** - Rapid City. West Dakota Water Development District Board of Directors.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **July 21** - DeSmet. Kingsbury County Commission.
2. **July 21** - Sioux Falls. Friends of the Big Sioux River.
3. **July 22 - 8:00 a.m.** - Lewis & Clark RWS Office, Tea. SD Association of Rural Water Systems Manager's Group.
4. **August 13 - 10:00 a.m.** - State Capitol, Pierre. River Basin Natural Resource District Oversight Task Force.
5. **August 20 - 8:30 a.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. Finance Committee.
6. **August 20 - 10:00 a.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. August EDWDD Board of Directors.

Payment Requests - The Manager presented four (4) payment requests:

SDSU (I) - In October 2014, the Board agreed to provide up to \$6,000.00 in cost-share assistance to Dr. Guanghui Hua, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at South Dakota State University (SDSU), for a project entitled, "Nutrient Removal from Agricultural Subsurface Drainage Using Denitrification Bioreactors and Phosphate Adsorbents II." SDSU has submitted a reimbursement request of \$448.43 for this project covering expenses incurred between May 1st and May 31st, 2015.

SDSU (II) - In October 2014, the Board agreed to provide up to \$6,000.00 in cost-share assistance to Dr. Kyungnan Min, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at SDSU, for a project entitled, "Controlling Harmful Algal Blooms in Eutrophic Lakes by Combined Phosphorus Precipitation and

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Sediment Capping.” SDSU has submitted a reimbursement request of \$358.21 for this project covering expenses incurred between May 1st and May 31st, 2015.

Friends of the Big Sioux River - At the December 2014 meeting, The Board agreed to provide up to \$6,000 in District support to the Friends of the Big Sioux River (FBSR) to be applied toward education and outreach efforts of urban/municipal residents of Sioux Falls and surrounding communities. FBSR has submitted a reimbursement request of \$565.32 for expenses incurred.

United States Geological Survey MN Water Science Center - At the September 2014 Board meeting, the District pledged \$2,867 toward the operation and maintenance of gaging stations on the Whetstone River in Grant County (USGS 05291000) and the Yellow Bank River gage in Lac qui Parle County (USGS 05293000). The USGS has submitted a billing for the operation of these two gages during FFY 2015 in the amount of \$2,867. This will complete the District obligation for this time period.

The Manager noted that all four payments requests were in order, and consistent with the Board’s award of support, and requested authorization to make payments totaling \$4,238.96.

Motion by Moes, seconded by Duffy to authorize payments totaling \$4,238.96 for the four projects as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Out-of-State Travel Request - The Manager requested authorization for Kevin Christenson to attend the National Rural Water Association WaterPro Conference, which will be held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on September 28-30.

Motion by Soholt, seconded by Brown to authorize out-of-state travel by Kevin Christenson to attend the National Rural Water Association WaterPro Conference as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Equipment Purchase - The Manager requested authorization to purchase a new storage server to support the office computer network and a new field camera. Estimated total costs of the purchases are \$1,300.

Motion by Connelly, seconded by Kassube to authorize equipment purchases as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

South Dakota Automatic Weather Data Network

Dr. Dennis Todey, State Climatologist, provided the Board with a review of activities of the State Climate Office, with particular emphasis on the South Dakota Automatic Weather Data Network (SDAWDN), a network of weather stations around the state. District funds have supported SDAWDN stations located within the District, often in cooperation with other entities.

SDSU CEE In-Lake Nutrient Isolation Study

Dr. Kyungnan Min, South Dakota State University Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, briefed the Board on the District-supported project, “Controlling Harmful Algal Blooms in Eutrophic Lakes by Combined Phosphorus Precipitation and Sediment Capping.” The objective of this project is to develop an effective flocculating and capping process to control harmful algal blooms in eutrophic lakes in South Dakota. The research is looking at chemical flocculants to draw phosphorus removal from the water

combined with mineral particles to help keep the phosphorus-laden sediments on the lake bottom. Laboratory experiments have been initiated to evaluate the efficiency of this technology and develop the optimum application conditions for controlling algal blooms in South Dakota lakes. Primary funding for this effort is coming from a USGS 104(b) grant of \$23,135, along with \$6,000 in District support.

Grant County Planning & Zoning Office Request

The Manager presented the Board with a request he had received from Krista Atyeo-Gortmaker, Grant County Planning & Zoning Office. The County has received a written complaint about possible pollution event from a large-scale animal feeding operation, and Ms. Atyeo-Gortmaker has requested assistance in evaluating current and historic water quality data for the area. Specifically, she requested assistance in 1) assembling historical water tests for the Big Sioux River in the area, 2) providing a control point on the river that could be used for future measurements, 3) collection of additional water samples, as needed, and 4) interpretation of the assembled data. The Board engaged in a discussion of the request and possible implications for future activities.

Motion by Soholt, seconded by Moes to authorize the Manager to provide the requested assistance with two conditions. First, if water sample collection requires an extraordinary effort by District staff, then a portion of the sampling costs will be passed along to Grant County. Second, the Districts efforts are to be limited to data collection, interpretation and presentation, but will not include any direct involvement in any regulatory or enforcement actions. Motion carried unanimously.

District Projects Updates

2015 Nitrate Monitoring Project - The Manager reviewed results to date of the District's nitrate testing program. The effort involves weekly water quality sampling and analyses from numerous collection sites in the Big Sioux River and Minnesota River watersheds. He offered the following general observations:

1. Through early July, most samples collected from the Big Sioux River above the City of Sioux Falls contained low concentrations of nitrate (less than 2.0 mg/L);
2. Nitrate levels immediately below the waste water treatment plant outlets for Cities of Watertown and Sioux Falls were elevated, but below the 10.0 mg/L maximum contaminant level (MCL);
3. Nitrate levels in samples collected below the City of Canton have persistently had concentrations in the 2.0 to 7.0 mg/L range, perhaps reflecting loading coming from Iowa and Minnesota by way of the Rock River; and
4. Concentrations rose following a significant precipitation event in early July, but returned to "normal" in the following sample round.

Adjournment

There being no additional District business, Chairman Jarrett declared the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

John Moes, Secretary

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