



East Dakota Water Development District
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MINUTES
June 21, 2012

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on June 21, 2012 at the EDWDD office in Brookings. Chairman Jarrett called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following persons attended:

Directors Present

Mary Ellen Connelly
Vincent Flemming
Martin Jarrett
Kay Kassube
Roger Scheibe
Jerry Soholt
John Weidler

Others Present

Roger Hageman, Lake County Commission
Jesse Johnson, South Dakota Corn
Todd Kays, First District Association of Local Governments
Jeppe Kjaersgaard, SDSU Water Resources Institute
Kerwin Miller, Expert Company
Ryan Thompson, United States Geological Survey
William Tooley, Expert Company

Directors Absent

Lois Brown

Staff Present

Jay Gilbertson
Kristi Thielen

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Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda - The Manager asked to have two items added to the agenda, a discussion of proposed research by Dr. Kjaersgaard of SDSU Water Resources Institute and an update on the Lake Madison sediment reduction project.

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

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the May 17, 2012, meeting.

Motion by Soholt, seconded by Scheibe to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the May 2012 financial statements.

Motion by Scheibe, seconded by Flemming to approve the May 2012 financial statements. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Jarrett directed that the approved financial statements be placed in the District files.

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Report of Meetings and Conferences - Directors Connelly, Kassube and Weidler attended the Annual Meeting of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System in Tea on May 24th.

Director Jarrett attended a meeting of the Steering Committee for the Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project - Segment II in Colman on June 5.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. **May 23** - Webster. SD Game, Fish and Parks Department Northeast Regional Advisory Panel .
2. **May 30** - Brookings. 2012 Big Sioux Water Festival wrap up meeting.
3. **June 4** - Madison, MN. Lac qui Parle and Yellow Bank Rivers DRAFT Total maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Report information meeting
4. **June 5** - Colman. Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project II Steering Committee.
5. **June 8** - Keystone. South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems Board of Directors.
6. **June 12** - Webster. South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts (SDACD) Coteau Area Meeting.
7. **June 18** - Parker. SDACD Vermillion-Big Sioux Area Meeting.
8. **June 19** - Clark. Clark County Commission.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **June 27** - Brookings. SDSU Open World Program.
2. **June 27** - Pierre. 2012 Governor's Ag Development Summit.
3. **June 28 & 29** - Pierre. South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources (BWNR).
4. **June 10** - 9:00 a.m. - Yankton. James River Water Development District Board of Directors.
5. **July 11** - 8:30 a.m. - Ortonville, MN. Friendship Tour of Whetstone River and Yellow Banks River Watersheds.
6. **July 11 & 12** - Pierre. South Dakota Water Management Board.
7. **July 19** - 9:00 a.m. - EDWDD Office, Brookings. July EDWDD Board of Directors Meeting.

Payment Requests

Town of Revillo - At the March 2012 meeting, the Board agreed to provide District cost-share assistance to the Town of Revillo for the completion of engineering studies and plan development to address storm water management in the community. The projected overall costs for these services was \$5,870. The request from the Town was for District cost-share assistance for one-half of the projected costs, which could amount to \$2,935. The Board pledged District cost-share assistance of fifty percent (50%) of the costs of the engineering and design work, up to a maximum amount of \$2,935.

The Manager presented the Board with a request for payment from the Town for District cost-share. The final cost of the work was \$5,283.00, so the District share would be \$2,614.50. The paperwork was in order, and he recommended payment.

Motion by Connelly, seconded by Weidler to authorize payment of \$2,614.50 as requested. The Manager noted that this payment would complete the District obligation under this agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

Northern Prairies Land Trust - At the April 2012 meeting, the Board agreed to provide District cost-share assistance of up to \$160,820 in support of the East Dakota Riparian Area Restoration and Protection Project

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(Project). The Project is intended to restore and protect the beneficial uses of impaired water bodies within the Minnesota, Big Sioux, and Vermillion River basins in the East Dakota Water Development District by promoting and implementing riparian conservation easements to reduce sediment loading and prevent bacterial contamination. Although initiated by the District, Project management is now handled by the Northern Prairies Land Trust (NPLT), which has been the District's primary partner in riparian easement projects.

Patrick Anderson, NPLT Executive Director, has submitted a request for reimbursement for Project expenses totaling \$4,502.70. The paperwork is in order, and the Manager recommended payment of the request.

Motion by Flemming, seconded by Kassube to authorize payment of \$4,502.70 as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Analysis of conservation practice effectiveness and stakeholder adoption behavior in the Skunk Creek watershed, SD

Dr. Jeppe Kjaersgaard, SDSU Water Resources Institute, briefed the Board on a proposal under development for submission to the United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture National Integrated Water Quality Program (NIWQP), entitled, "Analysis of conservation practice effectiveness and stakeholder adoption behavior in the Skunk Creek watershed, SD."

He noted that the Big Sioux River is a major aquatic resource for much of eastern South Dakota, and serves as a primary source of drinking water for the City of Sioux Falls, the largest community in the state. Unfortunately, the river also has a long history of failing to meet the applicable water quality standards established for many of the designated beneficial uses. Skunk Creek, a main tributary that enters the river at the City of Sioux Falls, is a major contributor of bacterial and sediment loadings to the river. As such, it is imperative that efforts to address pollutant sources, primarily agricultural land uses, target best management practices (BMPs) that are both effective and readily accepted by area landowners. The proposed activity would both provide much needed information about the effectiveness of the BMPs under consideration, as well as an indication of the likely long-term adoption of these necessary practices. Dr. Kjaersgaard stated that while he was not requesting cost-share assistance for this effort from the District, a letter of support would be helpful and greatly appreciated.

Motion by Scheibe, seconded by Kassube to support Dr. Kjaersgaard's proposal and to direct the Manager to submit a letter of support to the appropriate authorities. Motion carried unanimously.

Harbor Bay (Lake Madison) Sediment Reduction Demonstration Project

Kerwin Miller and William Tooley, with the Expert Company, provided the Board with an update on a pilot project to assess the ability of artificial lake circulation devices to reduce biologic sediment and manage algae production in the lake. In April 2011, at the request of the Lake Madison Development Association (LMDA), the District awarded \$5,000 in cost-share assistance to this effort. They explained that various technical issues prevented the full deployment of the circulator until earlier this year, and as a result, what had been a one-year project will now run until late spring of 2013. Three solar-powered circulators have been installed in Harbor Bay and are operational. Baseline information was been collected to establish pre-test conditions, and provide a basis against which test results can be compared. The projected total cost of the investigation remains at \$12,000, with the Expert Company covering any costs related to the delayed

start. The Lake County Commission and LMDA have committed \$3,500 each to the effort, with the District covering the balance (\$5,000).

United States Geological Survey StreamStats Program

Ryan Thompson, with the USGS South Dakota Water Resource Center, presented a summary of the StreamStats Program. StreamStats is a Web-based Geographic Information System (GIS) that provides users with access to an assortment of analytical tools that are useful for water-resources planning and management, and for engineering design applications, such as the design of bridges. StreamStats allows users to easily obtain stream flow statistics, drainage-basin characteristics, and other information for user-selected sites on streams. StreamStats users can choose locations of interest from an interactive map and obtain information for these locations. Separate applications have been established for each State that has implemented StreamStats, such as South Dakota. A link to StreamStats can be found at: <http://sd.water.usgs.gov/>.

First District Association of Local Governments

Todd Kays, Executive Director for the First District Association of Local Governments, briefed the Board on his organizations history and activities.

First District serves 11 counties and 75 communities within the counties of Brookings, Clark, Codington, Deuel, Grant, Hamlin, Kingsbury, Lake, Miner, Moody, and Roberts. Over the years, First District has been involved in numerous projects from planning, zoning, and community project development to housing development, geographic information systems, and direct loans for businesses. As the needs of First District's counties and communities change, so does the work direction of the organization. First District's professional staff is available to assist local officials and concerned citizens explore ways to make their communities and counties a better place to live, through professional development, planning, and management services.

Although the First District is a public body, it has no legal authority to tax, issue bonds, or require local governments to comply with or implement policies. Thus, each of the eleven counties voluntarily joins First District on an annual basis. First District is funded by annual memberships from its member communities and counties, state and federal contracts, and fees for service activities from public and private sources.

First District Association of Local Governments is governed by a board, known as the Governing Body. The Governing Body discusses issues of regional concern and directs the activities of staff. It is comprised of designated, elected, and appointed members from the following entities: one county commissioner from each respective county board, one elected municipal representative from each county, one at-large member from each county, the Chairman of the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe and the Chairman of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe. The Manager noted that he is currently the At-Large Representative from Brookings County.

2012 Public Opinion Survey on Big Sioux River Water Quality

Motion by Kassube, seconded by Connelly to re-open consideration of a proposal to conduct a public opinion survey on water quality issues in the Big Sioux River basin, discussion of which had been tabled at the May 2012 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

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The Manager reviewed the history of the survey. As part of the first segment of the Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project - Segment I, a survey of public attitudes regarding water quality issues in the Big Sioux River watershed was conducted in the spring of 2006. The effort was conducted by a Sioux Falls-based firm (AMR), with input from District staff and a public relations firm, Paulsen Marketing. Paulsen Marketing has presented three options for the execution of a similar survey in 2012, depending on the total number of completed interviews. The questionnaire will be similar to the 2006 benchmark study, but it's likely that some of the questions may change or an additional question or two may be added. The survey will take approximately 6-8 weeks to complete the project, once final approval is given to proceed. At the May meeting, the Board questioned the relative impact of the number of responses to the overall accuracy of the survey results. They deferred action on the proposal pending clarification from Paulsen Marketing.

The Manager presented information on confidence intervals provided by Greg Guse of Paulsen Marketing. Mr. Guse noted that 300 completed interviews (Option B) will yield a confidence level of +/- 5.77%, while 400 completed (Option C) interviews yields a +/- 5.0% confidence level. He noted that to achieve a confidence level of +/- 3%, 800 completed interviews would be required, at a significant cost increase.

Motion by Scheibe, seconded by Flemming to award District project assistance funds to complete Option C as presented, up to a maximum amount of \$17,332, with the provision that the Board review the form and content of the survey prior to distribution. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

There being no further District business, Chairman Jarrett declared the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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Roger Scheibe, Secretary

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