



East Dakota Water Development District
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MINUTES
June 20, 2013

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on June 20, 2013, at the EDWDD office in Brookings. Chairman Jarrett called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The following persons attended:

Directors Present

Mary Ellen Connelly
Gary Duffy
Martin Jarrett
Kay Kassube
John Moes
Roger Scheibe
Jerry Soholt

Others Present

Roger Hageman, Lake County Commission
Jeppe Kjaersgaard, SDSU Water Resources Institute
Dana Loseke, SD Sierra Club
John Maursetter, Lake County

Staff Present

Kevin Christenson
Jay Gilbertson
Deb Springman
Kristi Thielen

Directors Absent

Mark Anderson
Lois Brown

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Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda - The Manager asked to have one item added to the agenda - a discussion of additional retirement savings options for District staff.

Motion by Moes, seconded by Kassube to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the May 16, 2013, meeting.

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

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the May 2013 financial statements.

Motion by Kassube, seconded by Duffy to approve the May 2013 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 - Director Connelly attended the Annual Meeting of the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System in Tea on May 23rd.

Director Moes reported on his attendance at the Big Sioux Water Festival in Brookings on May 7th.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. **May 20** - Flandreau. Big Sioux County Commissioners Group.
2. **May 21** - Brookings. Brookings County Commission.
3. **May 23** - Madison. Lake County Clean Water Committee.
4. **May 28** - Brookings. Regional Water System Research Consortium.
5. **June 3-5** - Brookings area. WHPA II observation well installation.
6. **June 6** - Colman. Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project Advisory Group.
7. **June 10-13** - Brookings & Moody Counties. WHPA II observation well installation.
8. **June 13 & 14** - Brookings. Professional Soil Scientists Association of South Dakota Annual meeting.
9. **June 17-19** - Lake County. WHPA II observation well installation.
10. **June 18** - Brookings. South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts Big Sioux-Vermillion Area Meeting.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **June 27 - 9:00 a.m.** - Pierre. South Dakota State University College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences Advisory Board.
2. **June 27 & 28** - Pierre. South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources. Changes to ARSD 74:05:05 on the agenda.
3. **July 1 & 2** - Ramkota Inn, Aberdeen. Regional Watershed Advisory Task Force meeting (7/1) and field tour (7/2).
4. **July 2 - 7:00 p.m.** - Brookings. Brookings County Planning Commission. NOVITAS corn oil extraction facility hearing.
5. **July 10 & 11** - Pierre. South Dakota Water Management Board. Lake Thompson outlet elevation determination on the agenda.

Motion by Connelly, seconded by Moes to hold the July Board meeting on July 25th, instead of July 18th. The Manager noted that the majority of the meeting would be dedicated to a review of past and present District activities, along with a discussion of potential future programs. Motion carried unanimously.

6. **July 25 - 9:00 a.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. July EDWDD Board of Directors Meeting.

Payment Requests - *South Dakota State University* - The Manager presented the Board with a payment request from South Dakota State University. In October 2011, the District agreed to provide \$60,438 in cost-share assistance to South Dakota State University (SDSU) for a research project entitled, "Agricultural Subsurface Drainage Impacts on Hydrology in Eastern South Dakota." The request is for project expenses for April and May 2013, totaling \$3,625.74.

Motion by Kassube, seconded by Connelly to authorize payment of \$3,625.74 for the "Agricultural Subsurface Drainage Impacts on Hydrology in Eastern South Dakota" project as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Big Sioux Water Festival - In September 2012, the District agreed to provide \$1,200 in cost-share assistance to Big Sioux Water Festival (BSWF) to help under write travel costs for the 2013 event. The program is referred to as “All Aboard Bucks.” The Manager reported that the BSWF Steering Committee has submitted a reimbursement request for the full amount of All Aboard Bucks for 2013.

Motion by Duffy, seconded by Moes to authorize payment of \$1,200 to the Big Sioux Water Festival Steering Committee as requested. The Manager noted that this action would complete the District’s obligation to this effort. Motion carried unanimously.

Supplemental Retirement Program - Kristi Thielen, Administrative Assistant, reviewed a plan brought forward by the South Dakota Retirement System (SDRS) as an option for supplemental retirement planning. Starting on July 1, participants in SDRS have the option of enrolling in a Roth 457 individual retirement account (IRA). However, Board authorization is required for staff participation. The program provides an opportunity for deferred, tax-free income during retirement.

Motion by Duffy, seconded by Kassube to authorize participation by District employees in the SDRS Roth 457 IRA program. Motion carried unanimously.

Compensatory Time Off Policy

The Manager noted that compensatory time off (comp time) is time off with pay in lieu of overtime pay for irregular or occasional overtime work. As a public/government entity, this is an option open to the District for dealing with the occasional instances when hourly staff end up working more than 40 hours in a pay period. He stated that when developing annual budgets, he did not typically include very much overtime pay. Few District projects are time sensitive, and it was his preference that staff manage their time accordingly. According to the District Policy Manual, overtime requires prior approval by the Manager.

It was the consensus of the Board that a formal compensatory time off policy was unneeded, and that if situations were to develop that truly required staff to work more than 40 hours in a pay period, over time pay would be appropriate compensation.

District Program Updates

District Education and Outreach Activities - Deb Springman provided an overview of a variety of District programs directed at public education in an ongoing effort to raise awareness of the importance of sound water management throughout the District. District outreach efforts are conducted primarily through face-to-face encounters and meetings, but materials are also provided as written (hard-copy) documents and through District-supported web sites. Ms. Springman cited several District efforts, including:

- ◆ more than 20 years of organization and sponsorship of the two largest children's water festivals in the state - Big Sioux Water Festival and the Sioux Empire Water Festival;
- ◆ water resource-theme educational trunks for use by formal and informal educators on topics such as Water History, Wetland, Lakes & Streams, Weather, and Watersheds
- ◆ providing mini-water festivals to Hutterite Colonies in our District;
- ◆ conducting workshops to train volunteer citizen monitors through our Dakota Water Watch program;
- ◆ District staff work with other programs such as Project WET, Project Aquatic WILD, and the Izaak Walton League's Creek Freaks to train the trainers on water education;
- ◆ organize field demonstrations and field tours highlighting district watershed projects;

- ◆ District staff are involved with community events such as the Outdoor Expo, SD Envirothon, Water Camps at the Children's Museum of SD, Earth Day activities, Farm Shows, the Eastern SD Water Conference, and others;
- ◆ provide speakers on water topics and issues at conferences, workshops, public schools, universities, lake associations, environmental organizations, and other meetings
- ◆ develop and distribute brochures, newspaper and magazine articles, and posters on various water topics;
- ◆ maintenance of a resource library for use by the public - includes DVDs, VHS tapes, water related reports; and
- ◆ staff maintain a District website (<http://eastdakota.org>) and sub-domain web sites for Dakota Water Watch, the Big Sioux River Watershed, and the Big Sioux River Water Festival.

Updating /Implementation of Comprehensive Local Groundwater Protection for Shallow Aquifers in Eastern South Dakota (WHPA II) - The Manager reviewed recent field work in support of the *Updating /Implementation of Comprehensive Local Groundwater Protection for Shallow Aquifers in Eastern South Dakota (WHPA II) Project*. A SD Geological Survey drilling rig arrived on June 3rd, with work beginning in the Brookings area. Through June 19th, drilling had occurred at the well fields for the communities of Brookings, Volga, Estelline, Chester and Madison, along with Brookings-Deuel, Kingbrook and Big Sioux rural water systems. Work in the last week of June will be in Kingsbury County (Town of DeSmet and KingBrook RWS).

Regional Watershed Advisory Task Force - The Manager previewed the upcoming meeting of the Regional watershed Advisory task Force scheduled for Aberdeen on July 1 & 2. He and the managers from James River and Vermillion Basin will be reviewing previous legislation aimed at water resource management at the watershed scale. The foundation would be legislation first considered in 1998 following an earlier (1997) legislative summer study of drainage matters.

Proposed Changes to Administrative Rules of South Dakota 74:05:05 (Director areas in water development districts) - The Manager reviewed proposed changes to the Administrative Rules of South Dakota (ARSD) 74:05:05, Director areas in water development districts, that will be considered by the SD Board of Water and Natural Resources at their June 27th meeting. The changes to the East Dakota director area descriptions make no actual change to the areas involved, but rather reflect changes to the designations of voting precincts in Minnehaha County.

Adjournment

There being no further District business, Chairman Jarrett declared the meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Roger Scheibe, Secretary

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