



**East Dakota Water Development District**  
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**MINUTES**  
**June 16, 2016**

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on June 16, 2016, at the EDWDD 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  
Janelle Weatherly

**Director(s) Absent**

- none -

**Others Present**

Jeff Barth, Minnehaha County Commission  
Roger Hageman, Lake County Commission  
Dana Loseke, Friends of the Big Sioux River  
Cindie McCutcheon, RESPEC

**Staff Present**

Jay Gilbertson  
Jeremy Hinke  
Deb Springman

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**Administrative Items**

**Approval of Agenda**

**Motion** by Moes, seconded by Brown to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes** - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the May 19, 2016, meeting. The Manager noted the following changes to the Report of Meetings and Conferences (**in bold**):

Directors Brown, **Weatherly**, and Chairman Jarrett attended the 24 th Annual Big Sioux Water Festival in Brookings on May 10th .

**Director Weatherly attended the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe (FSST) Natural Resources meeting Thursday evening, April 21 in Flandreau. The weather station equipment was presented along with how to use the Weather App at: [climate.sdstate.edu/mobile](http://climate.sdstate.edu/mobile). Liz Wakeman, FSST, gave credit to EDWDD for funding.**

**On Friday, April 22nd, Weatherly along with others, spoke to Flandreau middle and high school students about how one can make a difference on water issues at the Earth Day presentation sponsored by FSST (17th year). On April 24 she attended the Bridge Flandreau Forum meeting, where Big Sioux Water quality issues were determined 3rd in priority out of twelve concerns presented.**

**On April 28 Weatherly forwarded Stewardship information to area churches in EDWDD District 3 as requested earlier by Jack Majeres and John Schaefer, MC Conservation District. Church contact information was CC'd to Mr. Schaefer for future use.**

**Motion** by Soholt, seconded by Connelly to approve the Minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the May 2016 financial statements.

**Motion** by Connelly, seconded by Soholt to approve the May 2016 financial statements. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Jarrett directed that the approved financial statements be placed in the District files.

Report of Meetings and Conferences - Directors Brown and Weatherly attended the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System Annual Meeting in Tea on May 26<sup>th</sup>.

Directors Brown and Weatherly attended the June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Big Sioux River Watershed Project Steering Committee in Sioux Falls.

Director Connelly attended a meeting of the Friends of the Big Sioux River on June 2<sup>nd</sup> in Sioux Falls.

Director Moes attended the a meeting of the Lake Pelican Water Project District in Watertown on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Directors Moes and Weatherly attended the Governors Agricultural Summit in Brookings on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. **May 26** - Lamberton, MN. Minnesota Corn Growers Association nitrate water testing event.
2. **June 1** - Brookings. Brookings County Planning & Zoning Sub-Committee.
3. **June 2** - Brookings. Governor's Agricultural Summit.
4. **June 2** - Sioux Falls. Friends of the Big Sioux River.
5. **June 13** - Salem. South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts (SDACD) Big Sioux-Vermillion Area meeting.
6. **June 15** - Sioux Falls. Big Sioux River Watershed Project Steering Committee.
7. **June 15** - Sioux City. Northwest Iowa Group Sierra Club.

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The Manager noted that on June 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> he was interviewed by reporters from Iowa and South Dakota Public Radio, respectively, on surface water quality issues in the ig Sioux River.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **June 20 - 10:00 a.m.** - Pierre. River Basin Natural Resource District Oversight Advisory task Force.
2. **June 22 - 9:00 a.m.** - Day County Courthouse, Webster. SDACD Coteau Area Meeting.
3. **June 23** - Matthews Training Center, Pierre. South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources.
4. **June 30 - 11:00 a.m.** - Lake Area Technical Institute, Watertown. Environmental Technology Advisory Board.
5. **July 6 & 7 - 8:30 a.m.** - Matthews Training Center, Pierre. South Dakota Water Management Board.
6. **July 14 - 9:00 a.m.** - Kelly Inn, Yankton. James River Water Development District Board of Directors.
7. **July 20** - Tea. South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems Managers Group.
8. **July 20 - 7:30 p.m.** - Centerville. Vermillion Basin Water Development District Board of Directors.
9. **July 21 - 9:00 a.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. July EDWDD Board of Directors.

Payment Requests - The Manager presented one payment request on behalf of District-sponsored activities that required Board action. He noted that the request was in order and consistent with provisions set by the Board at the time of award. He requested authority to make payments to South Dakota State University for Nitrogen removal effectiveness of bioreactors (\$84.48).

**Motion** by Duffy, seconded by Kassube to authorize payment totaling \$84.48 as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

**Review of District Policies and Procedures**

The Manager indicated that over the next several months he would requesting that the Board take time to review, and update/amend as necessary, a variety of District policies and procedures. He stated that although he did not necessarily have any specific changes in mind, such a review would be appropriate and timely. As a first step, he distributed a copy of the current District By Laws, last updated in March 2011, and asked that the Board review this document prior to the July 21<sup>st</sup> Board meeting. At that time he would schedule time on the meeting agenda to consider any changes and/or amendments.

He also distributed for review a copy of a resolution passed by the East Dakota Conservancy Sub-District (pre-cursor to the East Dakota Water Development District) back in 1972. He noted that Resolution 72-2, Regarding Sub-District Assistance to Local Water Resource Development Projects, reflects many elements similar to how the District currently functions today. He proposed crafting a similar policy for consideration in the future.

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## Project Updates

Big Sioux River Watershed Project - The Manager noted that in accordance with the agreement signed with the Moody County Conservation District at the May 2016 meeting, the District is now providing staff and administrative support to the Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project. Barry Berg and Matthew Johnson, Project Coordinators, are on the District payroll, and will be based in the United States Department of Agriculture Office in Sioux Falls.

2016 Water Quality Monitoring - The Manager updated the Board on 2016 water quality sampling activities conducted to date. He noted that field staff, primarily summer seasonal hires, are collecting samples in collaboration with the Big Sioux River Watershed Project and the Skunk Creek Water Quality Initiative Monitoring Project, as well as purely District-sponsored activities. He noted that the District is once again collecting weekly samples for nitrate analysis from the headwaters near Summit to the mouth at North Sioux City. He will have a formal presentation on the results thru mid-July at the next meeting, but noted that in general nitrate concentrations in the river are elevated relative to 2015 tests.

On a related note, the Manager requested Board authorization for a no-cost extension to the working agreement with the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources for the Skunk Creek Water Quality Initiative Monitoring Project. The amendment would extend the agreement through June 30, 2018.

**Motion** by Kassube, seconded by Duffy to authorize Chairman Jarrett to execute the Agreement Amendment for the Skunk Creek Water Quality Initiative Monitoring Project as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Tablet Training - Deb Springman distributed tablet computers to the Board and provided training on operation and use. Beginning in July, documents will be distributed to the Board using the tablets, with a commensurate reduction in paper copies. The Manager noted that paper copies of official documents would still be prepared and retained in accordance with State law.

### Adjournment

There being no further District business, Chairman Jarrett declared the meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

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John Moes, Secretary