



East Dakota Water Development District
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MINUTES
March 19, 2009

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on March 19, 2009 at the EDWDD office in Brookings. Chairman Eggers called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The following persons attended:

Directors Present

Lois Brown
Curt Eggers
Doug Feten
Martin Jarrett
John Johnson
Kay Kassube
Robert Todd
John Weidler

Directors Absent

Vincent Flemming

Others Present

Jerry Adler, City of Howard
Joe Drenth, South Dakota State University
Dave German, SDSU Water Resources Institute
Jim Housiaux, Banner Associates
Dennis Skadsen, Day County Conservation District

Staff Present

Jay Gilbertson
Roger Strom
Kristi Thielen

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Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda - The Manager requested the Agenda be amended to drop the project assistance request from the Town of Oldham and replace it with an assistance request from the City of Howard. **Motion** by Weidler, seconded by Todd to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the February 19, 2009. **Motion** by Brown, seconded by Feten to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the February 2009 financial report. **Motion** by Todd, seconded by Feten to accept the financial report. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Eggers then asked that the report be placed in the District files.

Report of Meetings and Conferences - Directors Jarrett and Todd attended the March 5th meeting of the Interlakes Water Quality Committee in Madison.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. March 5th - Madison. Interlakes Water Quality Committee.
2. March 9th - Milbank. Whetstone River watershed public meeting.
3. March 11th & 12th - Pierre. SD Water Management Board.
4. March 11th - Spearfish. Pick up redwood water pipe from Spearfish hydroelectric plant.

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5. March 12th - Brookings. South Dakota Lakes & Streams Association.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **March 19 - 6:30 p.m.** - American Legion Hall, Hankinson, ND. South Valley Initiative, Red River Basin Commission.
2. **March 19 - 7:00 p.m.** - City Hall, Watertown. Upper Big Sioux River Watershed Advisory Board.
3. **March 20** - Sioux Falls. TMDL Study meetings (Jay - video @ 8:00 a.m., Deb - steering committee @ 10:00 a.m.)
4. **March 20 - 10:35 a.m.** - various DDN sites. Emergency BWNR meeting.
5. **March 24 & 25** - University of Sioux Falls. Sioux Empire Water Festival.
6. **March 27 - 10:00 a.m.** - Matthews Training Center, Pierre. SD Board of Water and Natural Resources
7. **March 30** - State Capitol, Pierre. Final day of the Regular Session of the 84th SD Legislature.
8. **April 7 - 6:30 p.m.** - High School Auditorium, Chester. Big Sioux Community Water System Annual Meeting.
9. **April 7 - 6:30 p.m.** - Clear Lake Community Center, Clear Lake. Brookings-Deuel Rural Water System Annual Meeting.
10. **April 9 - 7:00 p.m.** - Public Library, Madison. Interlakes Water Quality Committee.
11. **April 10 - 1:00 p.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. South Dakota Lakes & Streams Association.
12. **April 13 - 6:30 p.m.** - High School Gymnasium, Arlington. KingBrook Rural Water System Annual Meeting.
13. **April 16 - 10:00 a.m.** - City Council Chamber, City Hall, 116 West Center Street, Madison. April EDWDD Board of Directors Meeting.

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2008 Legislative Session Report

The Manager reviewed the results of the recently completed 2008 South Dakota Legislative Session. He summarized the status of the bills he had been following over the course of the session, highlighting a few of the major issues of concern:

House Bill (HB) 1238, An Act to make appropriations from the water and environment fund, the water pollution control revolving fund subfund, and the drinking water revolving fund subfund for various water and environmental purposes and to declare an emergency. This is the annual omnibus water bill. It passed both chambers, with only a single vote in opposition. It was signed by Governor Rounds (and therefore became effective) on March 5th.

HB 1048, An Act to increase the transfer from the water and environment fund, the solid waste management fee, mining license and permit fees, water right filing and permit application fees, and well driller and pump installer license fees, all of which are deposited in the environment and natural resources fee fund. Early in the session, Governor Rounds identified fee increases across state government that would generate about \$4,900,000 annually. HB 1048 is the bill that deals with increases to fees within DENR Programs. This bill, with a minor amendment, passed both chambers and was signed by the Governor on March 10th.

Senate Bill (SB) 177, An Act to impose a fee on certain pipelines carrying crude oil and to create a crude oil pipeline compensation fund that may be used in the event of a crude oil spill. As spelled out in the title, the bill would have imposed a tax/fee on petroleum products carried by pipelines, and create a funds to help address environmental problems. It was killed deferred to 41st legislative day (killed) by the Senate State

Affairs Committee.

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SB 52, An Act to make an appropriation from the coordinated natural resources conservation fund to the State Conservation Commission. This is the annual appropriations bill for the Conservation Commission grant program. During committee hearings on this bill, concerns were raised about grant-supported conservation districts competing with private sector businesses. The bill passed both chambers and was signed by the Governor on March 11th.

HB 1093, An Act to revise the boundaries of the James River Water Development District, is the only bill that directly impacts water development districts. It extracts Edmunds County from the James River District. The bill has cleared both chambers and was signed by the Governor on March 3rd.

Project Assistance Requests

Town of Sinai - Jim Housiaux, Banner Associates, presented the Board with a request for cost-share assistance on behalf of the Town Of Sinai. The Town is currently conducting an evaluation of their options for the future of their wastewater system. The current facility is over 30 years old, and may need to be rebuilt, replaced, and possibly relocated. Their current permit allows for discharge into a wetland, but increased water levels over the past dozen years have resulted in the “wetland” becoming a lake. Discharge from a wastewater facility to a lake is not allowed by the State. The Town retained Banner Engineering to complete the study, at a total cost of \$12,000. The State Small Community Planning Grant Program should provide \$6,000, leaving a local cost of \$6,000.

Motion by Kassube, seconded by Weidler to provide District cost-share assistance of fifty percent (50%) of the local costs of the study, up to a maximum amount of \$3,000. Motion carried unanimously.

City of Howard - Jerry Adler, Water/Wastewater Superintendent for the City of Howard, presented the Board with a request for cost-share assistance for the completion of an assessment of the condition of the City’s waste-water collection system. The City is currently conducting a comprehensive evaluation of their wastewater system so that they may plan to better meet current and future needs within the community. They are also evaluating the extent and impact of infiltration and inflow. They also have concerns about the capacity of their treatment facility. The current system is operating at near-peak capacity, and there are several potential new industrial and housing developments in the works. They have engaged an engineering firm to complete the study, at a total cost of \$19,950. The State Small Community Planning Grant Program should provide \$8,000, leaving a local cost of \$11,950.

Motion by Jarrett, seconded by Brown to provide District cost-share assistance of fifty percent (50%) of the local costs of the study, up to a maximum amount of \$5,975. Motion carried unanimously.

SDSU Water Resources Institute

Dave German, South Dakota State University Water Resources Institute (WRI), presented the Board with an update on his programs activities. WRI is currently engaged in evaluating the environmental risk of spreading manure during winter months versus fall application and incorporation. To do this they are collecting and analyzing runoff water samples for bacteria and nutrients from three small watersheds in the Brookings area, as time and resources permit. They had requested a grant from the State 319 Task Force last fall, but were not successful. Winter application of manure is a practice that is either discouraged (State General Permit) or restricted (USDA programs) in most cases. However, for most small (non-permitted)

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producers, this is a common practice that is unlikely to change in the absence of strict regulation.

The WRI is developing a proposal to create an internship training program with the Sisseton Wahpeton College (SWC). This project will link three researchers at SDSU with SWC faculty member Karla Witt through a summer fellowship. Summer internships for SWC students will also be supported through partnerships with other agencies. The project will explore the use of NASA assets such as Landsat imagery to better manage water resources on the Lake Traverse Reservation (LTR). The project will expose SWC students to on-going research at SDSU in the areas of water quality and limnology, remote sensing, spatial analysis, and statistical analysis of hydrologic data.

Update of District Bylaws

The Board reviewed proposed changes to the District Bylaws. This document was last amended in May 1985. The Manager presented a number of amendments, deletions and additions. The Board concurred with most of the adjustments, but questions remained concerning certain sections. The Manager was directed to re-visit the document and present further amendments at the April meeting.

Project Updates

Watershed Assessment/Volunteer Monitoring - The Manager reported on activities in these areas. DENR staff continue to review the draft final report on the Lake Campbell Post-Assessment Project. Deb Springman and Jeremy Hinke attended a meeting of the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks (SDGFP) Aquatic Nuisance Species Oversight Committee in Pierre on March 2nd and gave a presentation on the Dakota Water Watch Program (DWW). SDGFP would like to enlist the DWW volunteers in their efforts to assess nuisance species impacts on the states lakes. EDWDD and SDGFP staff will be holding joint training workshops for interested participants. Data collection sheets are being revised for the 2009 field season.

Big Sioux Water Festival - Preparations continue for the upcoming 2009 Big Sioux Water Festival, to be held on the SDSU campus on May 12th. There are 54 classes, with a total of 1,025 students scheduled to attend. Ms. Springman has received a grant of \$950 for the development of several new exhibit hall activities and to purchase teacher resource room materials. Work continues on the development of three new traveling trunks.

Central Big Sioux River Implementation Project - Roger Strom, Project Coordinator, summarized recent activities. He has prepared new brochures promoting the Conservation Easement and Riparian Area Management (RAM) Programs and distributed them to area conservation districts. There are several conservation easements applications under consideration. Mr. Strom and Northern Prairies land Trust staff are meeting with landowners and developing possible agreements. The draft final report on the bank stabilization research study has been received and is under review. SD DENR is considering a program to apply the results of the investigation to critical segments along the Big Sioux River in Minnehaha County. Meetings to further develop this program are scheduled for early April.

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Adjournment

There being no further District business, Chairman Eggers declared the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Doug Feten, Secretary

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