



**East Dakota Water Development District**  
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Brookings, SD 57006

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**MINUTES**  
**March 16, 2017**

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on March 16, 2017, at the EDWDD office in Brookings. Chairman Jarrett called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. The following persons attended:

**Directors Present**

Mark Anderson  
Lois Brown  
Gary Duffy  
Martin Jarrett  
Kay Kassube  
Dana Loseke  
John Moes  
Janelle Weatherly

**Directors Absent**

Mary Ellen Connelly

**Others Present**

Scott Anderson, Minnehaha County  
Tim Cowman, SD DENR Geological Survey Program  
Laura Edwards, SDSU Extension  
Luke Holland, City of Lake Preston  
Gregg Jorgenson, Banner Associates

**Staff Present**

Kevin Christenson  
Jay Gilbertson  
Jeremy Hinke  
Deb Springman

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**Administrative Items**

**Approval of Agenda -**

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

**Minutes -** The Board reviewed the Minutes of the February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Board meeting.

**Motion** by Duffy, seconded by Weatherly to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Financial Reports -** The Board reviewed the February 2017 financial reports.

**Motion** by Weatherly, seconded by Kassube to accept the February 2017 financial report. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Jarrett then asked that the report be placed in the District files.

Report of Meetings and Conferences - Directors Brown and Weatherly attended the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Sioux Empire Water Festival at the University of Sioux Falls in Sioux Falls on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Director Loseke was a presenter at the event on March 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

Directors Loseke and Weatherly attended the meeting of the Friends of the Big Sioux River in Sioux Falls on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

Director Moes attended a meeting of the Upper Big Sioux River Watershed Project on March 15<sup>th</sup> in Watertown.

Chairman Jarrett attended the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental & Ground Water Quality Conference in Pierre on March 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. **February 17** - Brookings. Brookings Municipal Utilities source water protection discussion.
2. **February 21** - Pierre. House Local Government Committee testimony.
3. **February 22** - Grant County. Field tour with SD DENR Geological Survey Program staff.
4. **February 28** - Baltic. Ag PhD Tiling Clinic.
5. **March 8 & 9** - Pierre. 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental & Ground Water Quality Conference.
6. **March 10** - Sioux Falls. Concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFO) regulations discussion.
7. **March 16** - Brookings. Eastern South Dakota Water Conference Steering Committee.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **March 22 - 1:00 p.m.** - Ortonville, MN. Minnesota River Headwaters Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) meeting.
2. **March 30 & 31** - Pierre. South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources.
3. **April 3-5** - Keystone. 2017 US Drought Monitor Forum.
4. **April 4 - 6:30 p.m.** - Flandreau. Big Sioux Community Water System Annual Meeting.
5. **April 4 - 6:30 p.m.** - Clear Lake. Brookings-Deuel Rural Water System Annual Meeting.
6. **April 6 & 7** - Rapid City. 2017 Western South Dakota Hydrology Conference.

**Motion** by Brown, seconded by Weatherly to hold the April Board of Directors meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:30 a.m., to be held at the Miner County Courthouse in Howard. The Manager noted that the meeting was currently scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup> at the same time and location. Motion carried unanimously.

7. **April 13 - 9:30 a.m.** - Miner County Courthouse, Howard. EDWDD April Board of Directors Meeting.
8. **April 18-20** - Polson, MT. US Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 Tribal Nonpoint Source Workshop.
9. **April 19 & 20** - Pierre. South Dakota Water & Wastewater Association 2017 Annual Wastewater Seminar.

Payment Request(s) - The Manager presented the Board with a payment request from the sponsor of a District-supported activity. He noted that the request was in order, and consistent with provisions set by the Board at the time of award. He requested authorization to pay the following:

<u>Grant Recipient/Activity</u>	<u>Requested Amount</u>
US Geological Survey/2016 Real-time nitrate monitoring	\$ 3,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,000.00</b>

**Motion** by Kassube, seconded by Loseke to authorize payment totaling \$3,000.00 as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Travel Authorization - The Manager requested Board authorization to attend the United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 Tribal Nonpoint Source Workshop to be held in Polson, MT, on April 18<sup>th</sup>- 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion** by Weatherly, seconded by Kassube to authorize the Manager’s attendance of the event as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Equipment Purchase Authorizations - The Manager requested Board authorization to purchase a portable spectrophotometer for use in conducting field water quality analyses. Estimated cost of the device and a carrying case was \$3,600. This unit would replace a comparable unit acquired in 2003 which is now out of production. He also requested authorization to purchase a submersible pump controller for use in collecting ground-water samples from the State-Wide Ground Water Quality Monitoring Network wells. Estimated costs for the device is \$2,500.

**Motion** by Duffy, seconded by Brown to authorize the purchase of the spectrophotometer and pump controller as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

**Project Assistance Requests**

City of Lake Preston Wastewater Facility Plan - Luke Holland, Water Superintendent for the City of Lake Preston, and Gregg Jorgenson, Banner Associates, presented a request on behalf of the City of Lake Preston for District cost-share assistance to complete a facility plan of their drinking water distribution system. The focus of the effort will be to assess the current state of the system, and to assess the capability of the system to withstand the addition of increased demand/usage as the result of a proposed new industry. The City has entered into an agreement with Banner Engineering to complete the work, at a projected total cost of \$15,200. A Small Communities Planning Grant from the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has been requested for \$8,000. Their request is for fifty percent of the balance of the costs (\$7,200), which would be \$3,600.

**Motion** by Brown, seconded by Duffy to provide District cost-share assistance to the City of Lake Preston covering fifty percent (50%) of the local costs of the proposed study, up to a maximum of \$3,600. Motion carried unanimously.

Office of the State Climatologist - Laura Edwards, State Climatologist, presented a request for District cost-share assistance to provide sponsorship for the US Drought Monitor Forum to be held on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> in Keystone. The USDM Forum is held every 2 years, and moves around the country. It is mostly focused on drought monitoring and how the US Drought Monitor map process works. They are expecting 80 to 100 participants from around the country to attend, in addition to most of the authors of the US Drought Monitor products. This year, there will also be a heavier focus on agriculture than usual, reflecting local (South Dakota) priorities. She noted that any support from the District would be applied to offsetting meeting space and meal expenses.

**Motion** by Duffy, seconded by Moes to provide \$2,000.00 in District cost-share assistance to the Office of the State Climatologist to sponsor the US Drought Monitor Forum on April 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017, and to authorize the expenditure of the support. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Big Sioux River Basin Flood Model**

Tim Cowman, SD DENR Geological Survey Program, provided an overview and progress report of the State's ongoing effort to upgrade the hydrologic and hydraulic models available to improve flood prediction within the Big Sioux River basin. He noted that in early June of 2014, a series of intense rain events in southeastern South Dakota and northwest Iowa resulted in very high flows in the Big Sioux River and local tributaries. Record stage and discharge levels were measured, and preparation began to deal with the expected flooding in the lower river basin. This included closure of Interstate 29 in the area around McCook Lake for a short period of time, rerouting traffic and causing considerable disruption. In the end, although there was some serious flooding, the actual flood impacts were not what had been predicted. In the aftermath of the event, it was determined that the predictive flood model needed to be seriously improved/updated.

Mr. Cowman noted that SD DENR has requested and received funding through the 2016 and 2017 omnibus water bills to cover the costs of creating a new flood prediction model. A national search was conducted, and a group led by RESPEC of Rapid City has been selected for the effort ([www.respec.com/project/big-sioux-river-flood-inundation-system/](http://www.respec.com/project/big-sioux-river-flood-inundation-system/)). Meetings have been held with communities and other stakeholders in the basin seeking input on particular issues of concern, with more meetings planned for later this year.

Data generated from the model will allow more accurate predictions of river stages during a flood event. The model will also consider such things as how natural landscape changes impact flows during a flood event and how variable flows in the Missouri River impact flood events in the lower Big Sioux River basin. The project will produce a user-friendly website that authorities can use to more accurately predict areas that will be inundated during a flood. The data, model and website generated from this study will predict impacted areas for a range of flood scenarios.

The proposed models will rely on data generated from stream gaging stations in the basin that provide real-time stage and discharge information on the river and tributaries. The United States Geological Survey (USGS) maintains, with various cooperators, a network of 30 such stations within the basin. Three of these stations were added in the lower basin after the 2014 event.

SD DENR is proposing to further augment the gaging station network by adding 21 additional sites. Some of these are existing stage monitoring stations that will be upgraded to allow for real-time data collection, while others are completely new sites chosen to address project-specific concerns or data gaps.

The Manager noted that the 2017 District budget includes funds to support the acquisition of the necessary hardware for the supplemental sites within the District. At present, SD DENR staff estimate that the necessary equipment will cost \$125,000 for all sites, about eighty percent of which will be within the District. SD DENR has identified alternate funds to cover costs associated with those locations outside of the District. The final station locations are being finalized, and the Manager anticipated bringing a formal agreement to the Board at the April meeting. The plan at this point is for the District to acquire the necessary equipment, install it in collaboration with SD DENR staff, and gather stage-discharge data necessary to calibrate the various sites.

Several directors expressed concern that the costs of the needed equipment for the supplemental gaging stations were being provided by a local entity (the District) for much of the basin, while support for the lower basin stations was being provided by the State.

Chairman Jarrett left the meeting at 11:45 a.m., turning the gavel over to Vice-Chairman Anderson.

### District Updates

2017 Legislative Session Review - The Manager reviewed the status of numerous bills he is tracking as the District lobbyist during the ongoing 92<sup>nd</sup> Session of the South Dakota Legislature.

**House Bill (HB) 1006**, An Act to revise certain requirements for a public notice of a public meeting. Signed by the Governor.

**HB 1181**, An Act to prohibit hydraulic fracturing. Deferred to the 41st legislative day by House Local Government Committee.

**Senate Bill (SB) 9**, An Act to revise the river basin natural resource district boundaries, to establish subdistricts for each district, and to establish a procedure to adjust district boundaries. Deferred to the 41st legislative day by Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee.

**SB 10**, An Act to provide for an election in the Red River and Minnesota River Basin Natural Resource District in 2018, to remove certain areas from the East Dakota Water Development District that are contained in that river basin natural resource district, and to provide for elections in the other river basin natural resource districts at a later date. Deferred to the 41st legislative day by Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee.

**SB 46**, An Act to revise certain provisions regarding the state geologist. Signed by the Governor.

**SB 64**, An Act to define the term of a vacancy appointment for water development district directors. Signed by the Governor.

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**SB 66**, An Act to specifically classify certain agricultural land as riparian buffer strips, to establish the criteria for the riparian buffer strip classification, and to provide for the taxation thereof. Signed by the Governor.

**SB 70**, An Act to make appropriations from the water and environment fund and its revolving fund subfunds for various water and environmental purposes, to increase the transfer from the water and environment fund to the environment and natural resources fee fund, and to declare an emergency. Signed by the Governor.

**SB 78**, An Act to revise provisions regarding election petitions for conservation district supervisors. Passed both chambers, awaiting action by the Governor.

2017 Field Activities - The Manager reviewed plans for work during the 2017 field season. Surface water quality samples would be collected in support of the Big Sioux River Watershed Project, the Skunk Creek NWQI Project and the Eastern SD Lakes Assessment. Samples will be collected from both surface water and ground water sources as part of ongoing assessment of nitrates in critical District waters. Staff will also collect samples in support of a Brookings County assessment of possible impacts of a large-scale dairy.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further District business, Vice-Chairman Anderson declared the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

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John Moes, Secretary