



East Dakota Water Development District

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MINUTES

November 15, 2005

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on November 15, 2004, at the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System Office, 401 East Eighth Street, Sioux Falls, SD. Chairman Dempsey called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. The following persons attended:

Directors Present

Dave Bennett
Lois Brown
Bill Dempsey
Curt Eggers
Doug Feten
Vincent Flemming
Kay Kassube
John Weidler

Others Present

Scott Buss, Minnehaha Community Water Corporation
Mike Cooper, Sioux Falls Parks Department
Shirley Flemming, Florence
Steve Freeling, Vermillion Basin Water Development District
Troy Larson, Lewis & Clark Rural Water System
Brad Preheim, Vermillion Basin Water Development District
Kevin Smith, Sioux Falls Public Works Department
Dan Simon, Lewis & Clark Rural Water System

Directors Absent

none

Staff Present

Jay Gilbertson
Pat Hammond

The Board and guests observed a moment of silence in memory of Director Royce Hueners, who passed away on October 24th.

Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda - The Manager requested addition of one item, District Memberships, be added under the Administrative Items. **Motion** by Eggers, seconded by Weidler to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the October 20, 2005 meeting. The Manager noted that a maximum limit of \$2,500 to the District's cost-share assistance to the South Dakota Farm Bureau request had been left out. **Motion** by Bennett, seconded by Kassube to approve the Minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the October 2005 Financial Report (Attachment A). **Motion** by Flemming, seconded by Weidler to accept the October 2005 Financial Report. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Dempsey then asked that the report be placed in the District files.

Report of Meetings and Conferences - Director Weidler attended a November 14 meeting in Howard dealing with a proposed oil pipeline that would run from western Canada to Illinois, passing through east-central South Dakota.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. October 27 - Sioux Falls. City of Sioux Falls aquifer mapping by South Dakota Geological Survey, South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems wellhead protection, Central Big Sioux River Implementation easements discussion.
2. November 4 - Pierre. South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources.
3. November 8 - Pierre. South Dakota Non-Point Source Task Force.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **November 16 - 9:00 a.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. CBSR Implementation Project Conservation District Advisory Committee.
2. **November 17-18** - University of Minnesota - St. Paul Campus, MN. Minnesota Ground Water Association Fall Conference and Workshop.
3. **November 17 - 7:00 p.m.** - City Hall, Watertown. November Upper Big Sioux River Watershed Advisory Board.
4. **December 1 - 9:00 a.m.** - Huron. James River WDD Board of Directors.
5. **December 1 - 1:30 p.m.** - City Hall, Sioux Falls. CBSR Implementation easements meeting.
6. **December 8 - 1:00 p.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. SD Lakes and Streams Association Board of Directors.
7. **December 15 - 1:00 p.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. December EDWDD Board of Directors meeting.

Payment Requests - The Manager presented one payment request:

Big Sioux Community Water System - At the September 2005 meeting, the Board agreed to provide \$3,000 in District cost-share assistance to the Big Sioux Community Water System (BSCWS) for the completion of engineering facility plans. BSCWS was looking at upgrades to their plant in Egan, and additional pipeline in the Lake Madison area. The work has been completed, and BSCWS has submitted a payment request for the full amount. **Motion** by Kassube, seconded by Eggers to authorize payment to BSCWS as requested. Motion carried unanimously, with Director Bennett abstaining.

District Membership - The Manager requested Board permission to join the American Water Resources Association, a professional organization that deals with many of the water issues in which the District has an interest. **Motion** by Eggers, seconded by Feten to authorize payment of \$150 for the 2006 dues to the American Water Resources Association. Motion carried unanimously.

Municipal Area 1 Director Vacancy

Chairman Dempsey noted that with the untimely passing of Director Royce Hueners on October 24th, there is a vacancy on the District Board of Directors. Director Hueners represented Municipal Director Area 1, which included all of the incorporated municipalities in Moody, Kingsbury, and Lake Counties, including the extraterritorial jurisdiction of Madison, the portion of Iroquois in Beadle County, the portion of

Arlington in Brookings County, the incorporated municipalities of Canova, Howard, and Vilas in Miner County, Sioux Falls Voting Precincts, 3-12, 2-7, 2-8, and the incorporated communities of Dell Rapids, Colton, Baltic, Sherman, Garretson, Crooks, Humboldt, Hartford, Brandon, and Valley Springs in Minnehaha County, the extraterritorial areas of Brandon and Sioux Falls in Minnehaha County, and the portion of Sioux Falls in Lincoln County.

The Manager reviewed the process for filling the open position. The first step is to have the Board declare a vacancy. Then a Notice of Vacancy is placed in the appropriate District newspapers (De Smet News, Miner County Pioneer, Madison Daily Leader, Moody County Enterprise and Sioux Falls Argus Leader). The notice includes a description of Municipal Director Area 1, procedures for obtaining a nominating petition, a time line for submitting the petition, and the selection process. Interested individuals must collect 25 valid signatures on the petitions. Once submitted, the Manager verifies that petitions are complete and accurate. The Board selects a replacement from those who submit valid petitions. The appointed person serves through the end of 2006. He suggested that this process could be completed in time for the January 19, 2006, Board meeting.

Motion by Weidler, seconded by Bennett to declare a vacancy in Municipal Director Area 1, to authorize publication of the Notice of Vacancy, to require that all applicants for the vacancy submit their petitions to the EDWDD office no later than January 12, 2006, and to set the January 19, 2006, Board meeting as the time to appoint a new Director for Municipal Area 1 from those that submit valid petitions. Motion carried unanimously

Vermillion River Updates

Turner-Lincoln-Clay Water Project District - Brad Preheim, Manager of the Turner-Lincoln-Clay Water Project District (TLC), gave an overview of their recent activities. TLC has long sought to construct one or more large flood-control dams along the Vermillion River. They continue to see a need for such structures, but lacks financial support. They have been working with local diking associations to maintain structures along the river and certain tributaries. They also work with local landowners to repair and maintain small dams and embankment ponds. Finally, they are seeking funds to study the feasibility of a major clean up along the river, comparable to the tree removal projects completed along the James River several years ago.

Vermillion Basin Water Development District - Brad Preheim, Manager of the Vermillion Basin Water Development District (VBWDD), gave an overview of their recent activities. Most of VBWDD's resources are currently focused on an assessment study of the Vermillion River watershed. They continue to work with local groups (including TLC) to address water resource issues, but the requests for this type of assistance has been weak in the past few years.

Steve Freeling, VBWDD Watershed Project Coordinator, reviewed watershed assessment actions. They have completed their first year of water quality samples at various river and tributary sites. Working with EDWDD staff, they have also started biological and physical habitat surveys of the monitoring sites. Both these activities will be continued next season. Land-use modeling for the project has been contracted out to RESPEC, a consulting firm in Rapid City. Staff are currently reviewing the first year of data and gathering information on the animal feeding operations in the area. Mr. Preheim reiterated VBWDD's

appreciation of the financial and technical assistance being provided by EDWDD for the watershed assessment project.

Local Water Resource Activity Updates

Lewis and Clark Rural Water System - Troy Larson, Executive Director of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System, reviewed recent construction activities and other plans. Installation of the raw water pipeline has been completed to the location of the water treatment plant north of Vermillion. He showed several images of the installation process and development of the well field. A segment of pipe in the area between Tea and western Sioux Falls (12th Street) is also in the ground. Bidding is underway to extend this segment north to Benson Road and south to the Lennox area.

The system has also expanded its planned future capacity by 65% in response to increased demands from the City of Sioux Falls. This will include increasing the water treatment plant capacity to 45 million gallons per day (MGD) and up-sizing segments of the delivery pipeline. All of the additional costs will be born by the City, and the system will retain the ability to expand by 15 MGD in the future.

The State of Iowa has now fully paid its financial obligation to the project, and South Dakota and Minnesota are each accelerating their payment schedule. Federal funding, however, has been lagging significantly behind. The result is a dramatic increase in the overall projected costs of the project, as each delay leads to inflationary cost increases.

Dan Simon, Lewis & Clark Rural Water System Easement Coordinator, summarized the process by which the system gains access to public and private real estate for installation of the pipeline, valves and other structures.

City of Sioux Falls Public Works Department - Kevin Smith, Public Works Director for the City of Sioux Falls, updated the Board on two major Public Works Department projects. The City has begun work on the Eastside Sanitary Sewer System, which received initial Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) support from the SD Board of Water and Natural Resources (BWNR) in January 2005. This project will provide the basic sanitary sewer infrastructure for roughly 17 square miles of territory, from the east edge of the City to the Big Sioux River. The area is set for major commercial and residential development, and construction of the sewer system will help insure that this development does not create environmental problems.

The City is also in the middle of a major renovation of its storm sewer system. The upgrade was prompted by a series of heavy precipitation events in June 2004 which exposed weaknesses in the present system. Funding for this effort is also coming from CWSRF loans from the State. Work on this project is progressing quite rapidly, and the \$30,000,000 project is expected to be completed in 2006.

Finally, Mr. Smith noted that with both CWSRF loans, the City has received additional funds (NPS Incentive Rate CWSRF) for watershed protection and improvement activities. The funds are being made available by BWNR in an effort to augment available resources to address critical water quality impairments. The City is working with EDWDD, DENR and Northern Prairies Land Trust to develop a program to purchase easements along the Big Sioux River and tributaries.

City of Sioux Falls Planning Department - Mike Cooper, Director of the Sioux Falls Planning Department, reviewed his agencies activities and programs. New construction in the City was adding 1,200 to 1,500 new dwelling units each year, and in 2004 there had been a record \$410,000,000 of construction. 2005 construction has already exceeded \$424,000,000.

The expected City population by 2006 will 146,000, and by 2025, it was expected that greater Sioux Falls would have a population around 250,000. To manage and develop reasonable growth, the Sioux Falls Planning Department has to interact with a wide range of individuals, agencies and local governments, such as eight different school districts located wholly or partially with City boundaries.

There is an emphasis on cleaning up the Big Sioux River corridor, especially around Falls Park and downtown. Efforts are underway to move the railroad switching yards from downtown to an area east of town. This would open up the area for further commercial and residential development, and alleviate significant traffic problems. There is also continued interest in cleaning out (dredging?) the river bottom behind the power station diversion in Falls Park.

Project Updates

Watershed Projects - The Manager reviewed recent activities on the District's watershed projects:

Central Big Sioux River Watershed Assessment Project - The Final Report and associated total maximum daily load (TMDL) reports were sent to DENR for review on August 17th, and we are still awaiting final comments.

School-Bullhead Lakes Watershed Assessment Project - The Final Report and associated TMDL reports are currently under review by DENR. The expectation is that they will be returned shortly, and that this project can be closed out at the end of the year.

North-Central Big Sioux River Watershed Assessment Project - All elements of this report are completed in draft form, except for the AnnAGNPS analysis, management recommendations and the East Oakwood Lake sections. Staff efforts are focused on these elements.

Central Big Sioux River Watershed Implementation Project - Regular meetings are being held with representatives of area conservation districts to develop templates for project-supported best management practices. Similar meetings are being held with representatives of the City of Sioux Falls, DENR and the Northern Prairies Land Trust to develop the easement programs. Potential feedlot cooperators have been identified by Barry Berg and Dean Colling, SDACD, and screening and ranking matrices are being developed.

Southern Redbelly Dace Paper - Deb Springman and Becky Banks received word last week their paper on the first occurrence of the Southern Redbelly dace in South Dakota was accepted for publication by the Prairie Naturalist, and will be printed in the Fall 2006 Issue. Galley proofs will be in Brookings next week.

Groundwater Activities - Pat Hammond reported on a new effort by the South Dakota Geological Survey

(SDGS) to develop aquifer first occurrence maps for the City of Sioux Falls. The maps would be at a scale of 1:24,000. At this scale they would provide a high degree of utility to the City in their efforts at source water protection. The efforts will involve several weeks of field work by SDGS (test hole drilling) so that they can update and fill in areas of limited data. The final products are expected to be available by late spring 2006. SDGS plans to develop similar efforts for other Class A communities in South Dakota in the future.

Potential New Projects - The Manager reported that staff was developing a proposal for the District to complete the Wall Lake Re-Assessment Project (Project). The Project involved gathering water quality and other data to assess the impact of the watershed restoration efforts undertaken several years ago, with an eye toward evaluating the effectiveness of the best management practices employed. Field data has been collected by the Minnehaha Conservation District. He estimates that the effort would take about six months of staff time.

Other potential projects under consideration include assessment projects in the Lake Campbell/Battle Creek (Brookings and Lake Counties) and Covell Lake watersheds, a study of possible dissolved oxygen problems in the Big Sioux River above Watertown, and long-term water quality monitoring on the Big Sioux River and major tributaries.

Adjournment

There being no further District business, Chairman Dempsey declared the meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Doug Feten, Secretary