



East Dakota Water Development District
132B Airport Drive
Brookings, SD 57006

605-688-6741

605-688-6744 Fax

MINUTES
November 19, 2010

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on November 19, 2010, at the Water Reclamation Plant, 4500 North Sycamore, Sioux Falls, SD. Chairman Eggers called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. The following persons attended:

Directors Present

Lois Brown
Curt Eggers
Doug Feten
Vincent Flemming
Martin Jarrett
John Johnson
Kay Kassube
John Weidler

Others Present

Paul East, CPA, East, Vander Woude, Grant and Associates
Shirley Flemming, Florence
Janice Shaeffer, CPA, East, Vander Woude, Grant and Associates
Jerry Soholt, Sioux Falls
Tim Stefanich, City of Sioux Falls
Todd Trooien, South Dakota State University

Directors Absent

Robert Todd

Staff Present

Jay Gilbertson
Kristi Thielen

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Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda - **Motion** by Weidler, seconded by Jarrett to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the October 21, 2010, meeting. **Motion** by Flemming, seconded by Feten to approve the October 2010 Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the October 2010 Financial Report. **Motion** by Brown, seconded by Kassube to accept the October 2010 Financial Report. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Eggers then asked that the report be placed in the District files.

The Board requested that staff prepare break downs of purchases made with District credit cards and petty cash. They also requested a review of the process by which the cleaning services are handled. The Manager indicated that staff would have this material for the December Board meeting.

Report of Meetings and Conferences - Directors Flemming and Johnson attended the meeting of the Upper Big Sioux Watershed Advisory Board in Watertown on October 21.

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Director Johnson attended the October 25 meeting of the Watertown Flood Mitigation Working Group in Watertown.

Director Jarrett attended the October 29 meeting of the Lake County Clean Water Committee in Madison.

Director Flemming attended the Lake Pelican Water Project District meeting in Watertown on November 17.

Directors Feten, Jarrett and Weidler attended the South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS) Leadership Training Workshop in Chamberlain on November 17 and 18.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. **October 25** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. 2011 Big Sioux Water Festival Steering Committee.
2. **October 26** - Sioux Falls. Minnehaha County Commission drainage ordinance hearing.
3. **October 27 & 28** - Deadwood. SD Association of Rural Water Systems Managers Organization.
4. **October 29** - Madison. Lake County Clean Water Committee.
5. **November 3** - Sioux Falls. Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project planning meeting.
6. **November 4** - Webster. Day County Commission 201 general election vote canvas.
7. **November 5** - Brookings. SD Board of Water and Natural Resources teleconference.
8. **November 8** - Pierre. Ag Land Assessment Implementation and Oversight Advisory Task Force.
9. **November 9 & 10** - Brookings. Eastern South Dakota Water Conference.
10. **November 15** - DeSmet. Sioux Valley Commissioners Association quarterly meeting.
11. **November 16** - DeSmet. Drainage issue discussions with Kingsbury County commissioners.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **November 22 - 5:30 p.m.** - Main Public Library, 200 North Dakota Avenue, Sioux Falls. Public meeting on the Big Sioux River TMDL Study.
2. **November 23** - Owatonna, MN. 11th Annual Minnesota/Iowa Drainage Research Forum.
3. **November 30 - 9:00 a.m.** - Kingsbury County Courthouse, DeSmet. Discussion of drainage issues.
4. **November 30 - 1:00 p.m.** - DDN sites in Pierre, Watertown, Sioux Falls and Rapid City. South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources.
5. **December 9 - 9:00 a.m.** - Matthews Training Center, Pierre. SD Non-Point Source Task Force.
6. **December 9 - 1:00 p.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. SD Lakes & Streams Association.
7. **December 11 - 10:00 a.m.** - Jackpot Junction Convention Center, Morton, MN. AREA II Minnesota River Basin Projects/Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area Legislative Breakfast.
8. **December 14 - 9:00 a.m.** - Huron. James River WDD Board meeting.
9. **December 16 - 1:00 p.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. December EDWDD Board of Directors Meeting.

Payment Requests - The Manager presented two payment request:

City of Watertown - At the September 2010 meeting, the Board agreed to provide District cost-share assistance of up to \$25,000 as cost-share for the purchase of land that is part of the well head protection area for a portion of the City of Watertown's Rauville well field. District support was limited to no more than fifty percent (50%) of the purchase cost, with a cap of \$25,000. The City has completed the purchase of the land, and has submitted a payment request for \$25,000. The purchase price was in excess of \$50,000, so the City qualified for the full amount of the support. **Motion** by Jarrett, seconded by Weidler to authorize

payment of \$25,000 as requested. The Manager noted that this payment would complete the District obligation under this agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

2010 EDWDD Conservation District Support Grants Program - At the January 2010 meeting, the Board agreed to fund the 2010 EDWDD Conservation District Support Grants Program. A total of \$100,000 was set aside, to be allocated at the rate of \$10,000 per whole county, with the assistance is to be applied toward covering administrative expenses of the conservation districts. The Manager reported that the first round of payments had been made in June. He noted that most of the participating conservation districts had submitted the second and final reimbursement request. He requested Board authority to distribute the second half of the funding, totaling \$50,000, to those CDs that have, and will, file the requisite paperwork. **Motion** by Flemming, seconded by Kassube to authorize payments totaling \$50,000 as requested by the conservation districts for the 2010 EDWDD Conservation District Support Grants Program. The Manager noted that these payments would complete the District's obligations under the individual agreements. Motion carried unanimously.

Out-of-State Travel Authorization - The Manager requested Board authorization for out-of-state travel. He asked to attend the Minnesota/Iowa Drainage Research Forum to be held on November 23rd at Cabela's in Owatonna, Minnesota. **Motion** by Jarrett, seconded by Feten to authorize the Manager's attendance at the meeting as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Equipment Purchase - The Manager requested Board authorization to purchase an electronic projector for use in public presentations. He indicated that the purchase would involve an expenditure of about \$900 from the District's equipment budget. **Motion** by Brown, seconded by Jarrett to authorize purchase of the projector as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

2009 Fiscal Audit Report

Paul East, CPA, and Janice Shaeffer, CPA, with East Vander Woude, Grant and Company, reviewed the Final Audit Report of the District finances during 2009. Copies of the final audit report were distributed to Board members in October. In general, there were no substantial accounting errors or significant problems. However, Mr. East did note that there were instances where certain procedural shortcomings were found. He recommended that the Board consider having staff attend training seminars in advanced accounting techniques and reporting requirements for federal grants. He reiterated that neither he nor Ms. Schaeffer believed that there were any real problems. These suggestions were intended to simply make a good system function even better. The report had been submitted to the State Department of Legislative Audit and had been accepted.

Motion by Jarrett, seconded by Weidler to accept and approve the 2009 fiscal audit report. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Weidler, seconded by Jarrett to authorize staff attendance at any appropriate training as deemed necessary to meet the recommendations of the auditors. Motion carried unanimously.

2010 General Election Results

Director Elections for Areas 1, 2, and 3

The Manager reported the following election results:

Area 1 - Eastern Day County and most of Codington County. Director Johnson received 4,001 votes to 3,750 votes for Director Flemming.

Area 2 - eastern edge of Codington County, all of Grant, Deuel, Hamlin, Kingsbury Counties, eastern Miner and western Lake Counties. Director Weidler received 3,795 votes to 3,484 for Director Feten.

Area 3 - Brookings County. Roger Scheibe received 3,920 votes to 2,191 votes for Luanne Napton.

These three individuals will join Directors Brown (9), Eggers (5), Jarrett (4) and Kassube (6), along with Jerry Soholt (7), who were unopposed for their respective director positions. Director Area 8 remains vacant. Directors elected in odd-numbered Areas will serve 4-year terms, while those in even-numbered areas will serve 2-year terms.

Eastern Day County Withdrawal

The Manager reported that a total of 1,691 voters in eastern Day County registered their opinion on the question on November 2nd. In the end, 850 voted to leave the District, and 841 voted to stay. These votes were canvassed by the Day County Commission two days later, and the numbers did not change. Consequently, as of November 4th, eastern Day County withdrew from the District.

He noted that the withdrawal of Day County will have a small impact on the 2011 District budget. The total tax levy adopted developed this summer is \$576,900, of which eastern Day County was assessed \$7,674. The Department of Revenue and Regulation has suggested that the District might be able to re-adjust the levy requests to the remaining counties so as to receive the full amount. The Manager indicated that as this option has yet to be fully sanctioned, and if followed would result in significant adverse publicity, he recommends that the District simply move forward without these funds. The amount is relatively small, and the loss of the territory should result in lessened demand for aid. It was the consensus of the Board to follow this recommendation.

Area Water Resource Activities

City of Sioux Falls Water Conservation Plan - Tim Stefanich, Environmental Engineer with the Sioux Falls Public Works Department, gave a presentation on the City's water conservation plan and its effect on current water usage. He noted that the City has been experiencing growth in population of over 2.2 percent per year over the past two decades. This population growth has led to increased total yearly water usage and peak day water usage. In 2002, the peak daily demand nearly reached the production capacity of the water treatment plant. To reverse this trend in increasing water usage, the City instituted several methods to conserve water, including rebates on water-conserving plumbing fixtures, public education, water conservation kits, lawn watering restrictions and increasing water rates. His presentation summarized past water usage in the City, each of the water conservation programs, and what affect they have had on water usage in the City.

SDSU Lawn Irrigation Research - Dr. Todd Trooien, with the Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering at South Dakota State University, presented the results of research he and others are conducting on lawn irrigation management in the City of Sioux Falls. He noted that the latest generation of landscape irrigation controls are capable of irrigating based on the actual water requirements of the turf, known as evapotranspiration (ET). Standard practice has been to apply water to lawns on a set time schedule. ET-based controllers were installed to control lawn irrigation for 30 volunteer homeowners in Sioux Falls.

Other homeowner's lawns were used as a control, using conventional, time-based application. In addition to measuring water use, all homeowners were asked to subjectively assess the condition of their lawns using as the result of whichever irrigation scheme was in place.

Water use during the cooler-than-normal years of 2009 and 2010 was less than the 5-year average. The water use trend was for the ET-based irrigation controls, set to replace 70% of ET, to use slightly less water than the time-based control, but the difference was not statistically significant. ET-based control to replace 100% of ET used slightly more than time-based control. In all cases, homeowners were generally happy with the appearance of the lawns.

Dr. Trooien noted that for the purposes of research, conducting this study during a period of relatively high precipitation was not ideal, but he was reluctant to hope for the alternative (drought conditions) for obvious reasons. The research group would continue to evaluate the controllers in 2011.

Project Updates

Public Outreach - The water education traveling trunks are in full distribution. They are delivered and then collected from those teachers who requested them at the 2010 Big Sioux Water Festival on or about the first of each month. The 2011 Big Sioux Water Festival will be held at South Dakota State University on Tuesday, May 10th. The Steering Committee has selected a theme of "Keep It Clean, We All Live Downstream." Watershed Tour kits will be going out in the coming weeks to the schools participating in the quiz bowl. Registration for the 2011 event closed on November 1st, with 32 schools registering 54 separate classes (999 total students).

District staff, in cooperation with Anne Lewis with the South Dakota Discovery Center, held a mini-festival at the Rolland Hutterite Colony in eastern Brookings County earlier in the month. Students ranging from Kindergarten to 8th Grade participated in the event. Deb Springman reported that there are at least 12 colonies within the District, and she expects to be invited to at least half to present similar events.

Dakota Water Watch - At the end of October the 2010 sampling season came to a close. Citizen volunteers have turned over all of the field data to Jeremy Hinke, Project Coordinator. Mr. Hinke is working on the Final Report and reimbursement request for the 319 grant that provided partial program support between October 2008 and September 2010. 2010 data is being collated and entered into the District files in advance of the development of the year-end summary booklet.

Mr. Hinke is also preparing reimbursement requests for the 2010-2012 DWW grant and the Upper Minnesota River Watershed Project.

Stream and River Discharge - The Manager reported that the 2010 field season is essentially over, although there might still be the occasional water sample collected. He noted that Kevin Christenson, District Water Resource Technician, and District seasonal staff had conducted the following activities :

1. Collected 123 discrete discharge measurements at 14 separate sites for the Upper Minnesota River (UMR) Watershed Project;
2. Collected 269 discharge measurements at 27 sites for the East Dakota Water Quality Monitoring (WQM) Project;
3. Assisted SD DENR staff with the installation or repair of 12 stage recorders and downloading of stage records for the UMR and WQM Projects;

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4. Collected 143 discharge measurements at 10 sites monitoring water movement in the Lake Poinsett area; and
5. Collected water quality samples for the Central Big Sioux Watershed Project, along with various investigations that came up during the season.

The Manager noted that Mr. Christenson will be assisting District staff on various projects during the coming months.

County Drainage Ordinance Reviews - The Manager reviewed several efforts in which he is involved regarding drainage issues and county drainage ordinances. The agreement with Dr. Hubbard, SDSU, to update his 2005 report on the impacts of subsurface drainage has been finalized and is under review by the University. He has completed detailed reviews of individual county ordinances for five counties (Minnehaha, Grant, Codington (draft), Roberts and Moody) to date, and hopes to complete the remaining reviews by mid-December. He has approached both the US Army Corps of Engineers and a local engineering firm about ideas for a model to assess the issue of stream capacity. A common element in all ordinances is the statement “drainage into receiving water courses which do not have sufficient capacity to handle the additional flow and quantity of water shall be considered to have an adverse effect.” Unfortunately, there is no clear method by which this determination is actually made.

Earlier in the month, the Manager was asked by the Chairman of the Kingsbury County Commission to assist the Commission in addressing site-specific and county-wide drainage concerns. An possible option to be pursued would be an inventory of potential impediments to drainage, such as blocked channels, ditch maintenance, sequential sizing of culverts and other road crossings, by county and townships. With this information, the Commission might be better positioned to evaluate potential impacts of proposed drainage works, as well as direct efforts that might address problem areas.

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Adjournment

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

Doug Feten, Secretary

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