



East Dakota Water Development District
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MINUTES
November 19, 2015

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on November 19, 2015, at the Water Reclamation Plant, 4500 North Sycamore Avenue, Sioux Falls. Chairman Jarrett called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. The following persons attended:

Directors Present

Lois Brown
Mary Ellen Connelly
Gary Duffy
Martin Johnson
Kay Kassube
John Moes
Janelle Weatherly

Directors Absent

Mark Anderson
Jerry Soholt

Staff Present

Jay Gilbertson

Others Present

Barry Berg, Big Sioux River Watershed Project
Catherine Carter, Brookings
Eowyn Corral, Dakota Rural Action
Ryan Fods, City of Colton
Derric Iles, SD DENR Geological Survey
Jesse Johnson, SD Corn
Matt Johnson, Big Sioux River Watershed Project
Todd Kays, First District Association of Local Governments
Paul Kostboth, SD Department of Agriculture
Dana Loseke, Friends of the Big Sioux River
John Maursetter, Lake County
Tim Spade, Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe
Rich Uckert, Banner Associates

Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda -

Motion by Weatherly, seconded by Connelly to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the October 15th, 2015, meeting.

Motion by Connelly, seconded by Weatherly to approve the Minutes of the October 15th, 2015, meeting of the East Dakota Water Development District Board of Directors as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the October 2015 Financial Reports.

Motion by Duffy, seconded by Moes to accept the October 2015 Financial Reports. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Jarrett then asked that the report be placed in the District files.

Report of Meetings and Conferences - Director Moes attended the November 18th meeting of the Lake Pelican Water Project District in Watertown.

Chairman Jarrett reported on the South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS) Leadership Seminar in Pierre on November 17th.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. **October 22** - Madison. SDARWS Quality On Tap Editorial Board.
2. **October 26** - Brookings. Brookings Lion's Club.
3. **October 27** - Brookings. Big Sioux Water Festival Steering Committee.
4. **October 28 & 29** - Pierre. South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS) Managers Group Meeting.
5. **November 2** - Sioux Falls. Friends of the Big Sioux River.
6. **November 4** - Mankato, MN. Freshwater Society presentation on "Protecting Surface Waters in Agricultural Watersheds"
7. **November 5** - Brookings DDN site. SD Board of Water and Natural Resources meeting.
8. **November 12** - Huron. James River Water Development District Board Meeting.
9. **November 14** - Tracy, MN. Minnesota River Basins - AREA II/Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area Annual Meeting.
10. **November 18** - Sioux Falls. Sioux Empire Chapter - South Dakota Walleyes Unlimited.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **November 24 - 10:00 a.m.** - Public Library, Ortonville, MN. Minnesota River Headwaters Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) Steering Committee.
2. **November 30 - 1:00 p.m.** - County Annex Building, Madison, MN. Lac qui Parle River WRAPS Steering Committee.
3. **December 1 - 9:00 a.m.** - Grant County Courthouse, Milbank. Water quality report to the Grant County Commission.
4. **December 3-5** - Arrowwood Conference Center, Alexandria, MN. Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) 2015 Annual Meeting.
5. **December 8 - 9:00 a.m.** - Foss Training Center, Pierre. South Dakota Non-Point Source Task Force.
6. **December 9 - 9:00 a.m.** - City Environmental Building, Sioux Falls. Big Sioux River Watershed Project Steering Committee.
7. **December 11 - 10:00 a.m.** - State Capitol Building, Pierre. River Basin Natural Resource Districts Oversight Advisory Task Force.
8. **December 15 - 12 noon** - Sioux Falls. Ag United Annual Luncheon.
9. **December 17 - 1:00 p.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. December EDWDD Board of Directors.

Payment Requests - The Manager presented two payment requests:

SDSU (I) - In March 2011, the Board agreed to provide up to \$18,750.00 in cost-share assistance to Dr. Jeppe Kjaersgaard, Water Resources Institute at South Dakota State University (SDSU), for a project entitled, "Demonstration of nitrogen removal effectiveness of bioreactors for drainage water management." SDSU has submitted a reimbursement request of **\$428.44** for this project covering expenses incurred between August 1 and October 31, 2015.

SDSU (II) - In October 2014, the Board agreed to provide up to \$6,000.00 in cost-share assistance to Dr. Kyungnan Min, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at SDSU, for a project entitled, "Controlling Harmful Algal Blooms in Eutrophic Lakes by Combined Phosphorus Precipitation and Sediment Capping." SDSU has submitted a reimbursement request of **\$778.45** for this project covering expenses incurred during the month of September and October 2015.

The Manager indicated that both payment requests were in order, and consistent with the Board's awards of support, and requested authorization to make payments totaling **\$1,206.89**.

Motion by Brown, seconded by Weatherly to authorize payments totaling \$1,206.89 as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Out-of-State Travel Authorization - The Manager requested authorization to attend two out-of-state meetings. The first was the 2015 Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) Annual Meeting, which will be held in Alexandria, MN, on December 3-5. The second is the 33rd Annual Red River Basin Land & Water International Summit Conference in Grand Forks, North Dakota, on January 19-21, 2016.

Motion by Duffy, seconded by Kassube to authorize the Manager's attendance at the two events as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Project Assistance Requests

City of Colton - Ryan Fods, Mayor of the City of Colton, and Rich Uckert, Banner Associates, presented the Board with a request for cost-share assistance. Specifically, the City is requesting \$12,900 to offset a percentage of the costs of comprehensive assessments (facility plans) of their drinking water, waste water and storm water facilities. The estimated total cost of this effort is \$53,800. They are requesting State assistance through the Small Community Planning Grants Program, which will cover up to \$28,000 of the costs, leaving a balance of \$25,800. Their request of the District is for half of the local costs of the effort (\$12,900.00).

Motion by Duffy, seconded by Moes to award District cost-share assistance to the City of Madison as requested in the amount of fifty percent (50%) of the local costs of the facility plans, not to exceed a total of \$12,900.00. Motion carried unanimously.

SD Department of Agriculture County Site Analysis Program

Paul Kostboth, Director of the South Dakota Department of Agriculture (SDDA) Division of Ag Development, and Todd Kays, Executive Director of the First District Association of Local Governments, First District Executive Director, presented an overview and explanation of the SDDA County Site Analysis Program.

Mr. Kays stated that several years back, the District provided support to First District for a pilot project that looked at identifying locations with Brookings and Moody Counties that met all of the relevant local and state setback requirements for large concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs). Further, the effort sought to identify those areas that also had access to adequate water, power and transportation.

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The SDDA County Site Analysis Program looks at comparable issues, seeking to determine locations that would accommodate CAFO development or agriculturally-related commercial/industrial development. Sites are evaluated with respect to the proximity to three-phase electrical power, proximity to (and capacity of) rural/regional water suppliers, position relative to shallow aquifers, proximity relative to county/state hard surface roads, local zoning setbacks site/lot size (40 acre minimum). Sites to be considered for CAFO development must meet applicable county and state requirements. Industrial sites are also evaluated relative to rail access. Sites are rated as good, better or best based on set criteria.

Program evaluations are conducted by staff of the First District Association of Local Governments, with technical and financial support from SDDA. Mr. Kostboth noted that the county analyses are conducted only at the invitation of the county commissioners. The effort began in 2014, with 15 east river counties requesting the work. Another 15 eastern counties are being assessed in 2015, with 13 counties signed up for 2016. Next years effort will include several west river counties. Nine counties have been tentatively identified for work in 2017.

Chairman Jarrett expressed serious objections to the notion that sites could receive a positive evaluation when located over shallow aquifers. He noted that almost every resident of the Big Sioux River basin depends on such resources as the primary water supply, which has led fourteen counties to pass comprehensive aquifer protection ordinances. These ordinances expressly prohibit development of large CAFOs, and most major industrial development, over these critical resources. He suggested that the SDDA should support similar water resource protection strategies state-wide, or at least acknowledge that there may be additional factors that should be considered. Mr. Kays noted that the Program evaluation process reflected the regulations/requirements currently in place, and if a county did not have an aquifer protection ordinance, they did not apply this criteria in assessing site viability. Mr. Kostboth concurred with Mr. Kays, but acknowledged that development of facilities with the potential to adversely impact vulnerable water resources was counterintuitive. He indicated a willingness to consider how this issue might be addressed in the future.

Isotopic Assessment of Selected Aquifers in Eastern South Dakota

Derric Iles, State Geologist with the SD DENR Geological Survey Program, provided an overview of a project entitled, "Isotopic Assessment of Selected Aquifers in Eastern South Dakota." The study will look at isotopes of oxygen, hydrogen and carbon in water from selected buried glacial aquifers in an effort to determine the age of the water. Oxygen isotope ratios in water can be used to ascertain the temperature at the time the water entered the aquifers. Concentrations of the carbon-14 isotope can be used to determine the age of the water. The presence and concentration of tritium, a hydrogen isotope, indicates water that fell during the 1950s and 1960s during testing of atomic bombs.

One goal of the effort is to determine the degree of mixing between connate glacial meltwater with more recently derived meteoric water in these aquifers. Testing will be done in east-central South Dakota in aquifers described as part of the Grand, Bad-Cheyenne and Tulare aquifers. Samples will also be collected from the Parker-Centerville and Vermillion-Missouri aquifers in the southeastern part of the state. A second goal is to draw inferences as to recharge sources, flow directions and discharge destinations of ground water in these two areas.

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District Updates

2015 Water Quality Monitoring - The Manager reviewed the preliminary results of the District's 2015 water quality sampling efforts in the Big Sioux River and Minnesota River watersheds. He also discussed potential additions to the sampling program in 2016.

Adjournment

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

John Moes, Secretary

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