



**East Dakota Water Development District**  
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**MINUTES**  
**November 17, 2016**

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on November 17, 2016, at the Water Purification Plant, 2100 North Minnesota Avenue, Sioux Falls. Vice-Chairman Soholt called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. The following persons attended:

**Directors Present**

Mark Anderson  
Lois Brown  
Mary Ellen Connelly  
Gary Duffy  
Kay Kassube  
Jerry Soholt  
Janelle Weatherly

**Staff Present**

Jay Gilbertson

**Others Present**

Deb Callahan, Sioux Empire Water Festival  
John Hult, Argus Leader Media  
Matt Johnson, Big Sioux River Watershed Project  
Dana Loseke, Friends of the Big Sioux River  
Jim Ristau, SD Corn

**Directors Absent**

Martin Jarrett  
John Moes

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**Administrative Items**

**Approval of Agenda** - The Manager asked to have a report on the Sioux Empire Water Festival added to the Agenda.

**Motion** by Weatherly, seconded by Kassube to approve the agenda as so amended. Motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes** - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, meeting.

**Motion** by Anderson, seconded by Connelly to approve the Minutes of the October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, meeting of the East Dakota Water Development District Board of Directors as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Financial Reports** - The Board reviewed the October 2016 Financial Reports.

**Motion** by Kassube, seconded by Duffy to accept the October 2016 Financial Reports. Motion carried unanimously. Vice-Chairman Soholt then asked that the report be placed in the District files.

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Report of Meetings and Conferences - Directors Brown and Weatherly attended the 2016 Eastern South Dakota Water Conference at South Dakota State University (SDSU) in Brookings on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

Director Connelly attended the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Friends of the Big Sioux River in Sioux Falls.

Vice-Chairman Soholt attended the Big Sioux River Basin hydrologic/hydraulic modeling and flood inundation mapping tool project stakeholder meeting in Sioux Falls on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. **October 21** - Watertown. RCAP Outreach and Well Assessment Workshop.
2. **October 26 & 27** - Deadwood. South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS) Managers Group Meeting.
3. **November 2** - Brandon. NRCS PL 566 Watershed Meeting.
4. **November 4** - Sioux Falls. Big Sioux River basin hydrologic/hydraulic modeling and flood inundation mapping tool project stakeholder meeting.
5. **November 9** - Brookings DDN site. SD Board of Water and Natural Resources meeting.
6. **November 10** - Huron. James River Water Development District Board Meeting.
7. **November 12** - Wabasso, MN. Minnesota River Basins - AREA II/Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area Annual Meeting.
8. **November 14** - Brookings. 2017 Big Sioux water festival Steering Committee.
9. **November 15** - Flandreau. US Army Corps of Engineers Flandreau dam discussion.
10. **November 15** - teleconference. West Dakota Water Development District Executive Committee.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **November 22 - 10:00 a.m.** - State Capitol, Pierre. River Basin Natural Resources District Oversight Advisory Task Force.
2. **November 30 & December 1** - Pierre. South Dakota water Management Board.
3. **December 1-3** - Alexandria, MN. Minnesota Association of Watershed District Annual Meeting.
4. **December 12 - 11:30 a.m.** - Sioux Falls. Ag United Annual Luncheon.
5. **December 13 - 9:00 a.m.** - Pierre. Nonpoint Source Task Force.
6. **December 13 - 6:00 p.m. (MST)** - Rapid City. West Dakota Water Development District Board of Directors.
7. **December 15 - 1:00 p.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. EDWDD December Board of Directors Meeting.
8. **January 11, 2017 - 7:00 a.m.** - State Capitol Building, Pierre. WDD Legislative Breakfast.
9. **January 11, 2017 - 10:15 a.m.** - American Legion Cabin, Pierre. EDWDD January Board of Directors Meeting.

The Manager requested formal action to set the date/time/location for the January 2017 Board of Directors meeting for January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at 10:15 a.m. at the American Legion Cabin in Pierre. The meeting will be held in conjunction with that of the James River Water Development District, along with a Legislative Breakfast at the State Capitol.

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**Motion** by Duffy, seconded by Brown to hold the January 2017 Board of Directors meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at 10:15 a.m. at the American Legion Cabin in Pierre. Motion carried unanimously.

Payment Requests - The Manager presented a payment request from a District-sponsored activity. He noted that the request was in order and consistent with provisions set by the Board at the time of award. He requested Board authorization to make the following payment:

<u>Grant Recipient/Activity</u>	<u>Requested Amount</u>
SDSU/Stormwater treatment (Hua)	\$ 1,757.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,757.33</b>

**Motion** by Brown, seconded by Kassube to authorize payment of \$1,757.33 as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Area 7 Vacancy - The Manager requested authorization to re-initiate the process of filling the pending vacancy in Director Area 7. The vacancy had been advertised in advance of the 2016 general election cycle, and no nominating petitions had been filed. He proposed setting a deadline of February 3, 2017, for nominating petitions to be filed at the District office, with Board action to fill the vacancy at the February 16, 2017, meeting in Brookings. He noted that the term for the appointed director would last until December 31, 2018. Director Soholt, who currently represents Director Area 7, may continue to serve until a replacement has been selected.

**Motion** by Connelly, seconded by Duffy 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 5:00 p.m. on February 3, 2017; and to set the February 16, 2017, Board meeting as the time to consider all valid petitions and to appoint a new Director for Area 7. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of a District Policy on University In-Direct Cost Rates - The Manager noted that universities often require that their faculty research proposals identify two types of costs when seeking external funding. Direct costs are those expenses involved in the specific activities being conducted, such as supplies and material, travel, analytical costs, etc.. Indirect costs are those expenses involved in providing the basic infrastructure at the university, such as office and laboratory space, utilities, support staff, secretarial staff and administration. It has long been recognized that both are legitimate expenses. In that the federal government is the single largest source of external grant funds, the federally-approved indirect cost rate is most often applied across the board. Each university calculates it's own indirect cost rate, most often expressed as a percentage of the total of the direct costs. Rates in South Dakota range between 35 and 45 percent.

He stated that in the early 1990s, the South Dakota Board of Regents adopted a policy on how indirect costs, what they call Facilities & Administration, would be recovered from state agencies. In recognition that the State of South Dakota already provides substantial general support to it's post-secondary institutions, the Regents adopted a policy (5:2.4) that grant requests may ask for no more than 60% of the institutions federally-approved rate when requesting funds from the state. The balance of the unrecovered indirect costs can be count as match, if matching funds are required.

The Manager stated that a DRAFT District policy would be similar to that of the Regents, i.e., the District would consider no more than 60% of the institutions federally-approved rate when reviewing requests for grant support. He will develop and distribute a formal policy statement for consideration and action at the December Board meeting.

### **Water Resource Issues in the Newspaper**

John Hult, reporter with the Sioux Falls Argus Leader, spoke on how stories are generated and the factors that influence the level of coverage a particular issue/story may receive. He noted that the Argus Leader website tracks individual site/story views, developing metrics which can dictate how a story is presented or promoted. Stories on water issues often get high marks.

### **Local Water Resource Projects**

SD Corn Growers Water Quality Initiatives - Jim Ristau, Sustainability Director for South Dakota Corn (SD Corn Council and SD Corn Growers Association) spoke on a cooperative effort with the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service to promote sound resource management, with an emphasis on soil health.

Friends of the Big Sioux River - Dana Loseke, President of the Friend of the Big Sioux River, spoke with the Board about his organizations efforts and activities.

Big Sioux River Watershed Project - Matt Johnson, Project Coordinator for the Big Sioux River Watershed Project, briefed the Board on Project activities.

Sioux Empire Water Festival - Deb Callahan, with the Sioux Empire Water Festival Steering Committee, briefed the Board on past event activities and the upcoming festival. The 2017 Sioux Empire Water Festival will be the 24<sup>th</sup> event, and will be on the campus of the University of Sioux Falls on March 14 & 15, 2017. Approximately 2,400 fourth grade students are expected to attend, from schools across southeastern South Dakota. She noted that all of the schools in Minnehaha County are invited, and most have been regular attendees for many years.

### **District Updates**

2016 Water Quality Monitoring - The Manager reviewed the preliminary results of the District's 2016 water quality sampling efforts in the Big Sioux River and Minnesota River watersheds. He also discussed potential additions to the sampling program in 2017.

### **Adjournment**

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

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John Moes, Secretary