



East Dakota Water Development District
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MINUTES
October 15, 2009

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on October 15, 2009 at the EDWDD Office, 132B Airport Avenue, Brookings. Chairman Eggers called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The following persons attended:

Directors Present

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

Others Present

none

Staff Present

Jay Gilbertson
Jeremy Hinke
Kristi Thielen

Directors Absent

none

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Administrative Items

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

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the September 17th, 2009 meeting. **Motion** by Johnson, seconded by Brown to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the September 2009 Financial Report. **Motion** by Flemming, seconded by Feten to accept the September 2009 Financial Report. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Eggers then asked that the reports be placed in the District files.

Meetings and Conferences - Chairman Eggers attended the South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts in Spearfish on September 20-22.

Directors Flemming and Johnson attended the September 17 meeting of the Upper Big Sioux River Watershed Advisory Board in Watertown.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended in the past two months:

1. **August 25** - Webster. Day County Commission (zoning ordinance hearing).

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2. **August 26** - Brookings. SD Board of Water and Natural Resources (BWRN) meeting via Digital Dakota Network (DDN).
3. **August 27** - Brookings. BWRN meeting via teleconference.
4. **September 1** - Sioux Falls. Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project easement signing.
5. **September 3** - Sisseton. Northeast South Dakota geologic field tour.
6. **September 4** - Huron. SD Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS) booth at SD State Fair.
7. **September 10** - Aberdeen. Ames River Water Development District Board meeting.
8. **September 10** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. SD Lakes and Streams Association.
9. **September 15** - Pierre. SD Non-Point Source Task Force.
10. **September 17** - Gary. September EDWDD Board Meeting.
11. **September 24** - Brookings. BWRN meeting via teleconference.
12. **September 28 & 29** - North-central SD. Dakota Water Watch field tour and volunteer meetings.
13. **October 5** - Marshall, MN. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency public hearing on 2010 impaired waters listing.
14. **October 6** - Madison, MN. Lac qui Parle/Yellow Bank Watershed District meetings.
15. **October 8** - Pierre. SD Water Management Board (WMB) hearing on Lake Poinsett FC-5 amendments.
16. **October 13** - Lake Cochrane area, Deuel County. Ground-water level measurements.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **October 19 - 6:30 p.m.** - Hankinson, ND. Red River Basin Commission - South Valley Initiative.
2. **October 20** - via teleconference. BWRN meeting.
3. **October 28 & 29** - Spearfish. SDARWS Managers Group Meeting.
4. **November 2 & 3** - SDSU Student Union, Brookings. Eastern South Dakota Water Conference.
5. **November 5 - 9:00 a.m.** - Marshall, MN. AREA II Minnesota River Basin Projects Board of Directors.
6. **November 6 - 1:00 p.m.** - Matthews Training Center, Pierre. South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources.
7. **November 10 - 7:00 p.m.** - Lake County 4-H Exhibit Hall, Madison. Lake County Commission Special Meeting on Clean Water Quality.
8. **November 12 - 10:00 a.m.** - Matthews Training Center, Pierre. SD Conservation Commission.
9. **November 12 - 1:00 p.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. South Dakota Lakes and Streams Association Board of Directors.
10. **November 16 - 9:00 a.m.** - Sibley County Service Center, Gaylord, MN. Minnesota River Board.
11. **November 16 - 7:00 p.m.** - City Hall, Ortonville, MN. Public hearing on draft Wellhead Protection Plan for Ortonville and Big Stone City.
12. **November 17 - 8:00 a.m.** - Room 414, State Capitol Building, Pierre. WMB - continuation of hearing on Lake Poinsett FC-5 amendments.
13. **November 19 - 9:30 a.m.** - City Water Reclamation Plant, 4500 North Sycamore, Sioux Falls. November EDWDD Board of Directors Meeting.

Appointment to SD Conservation Commission - The Manager distributed a press release announcing the appointment of Thomas Glover to the State Conservation Commission as the representative of the water development districts. Mr. Glover is a director on the South-Central Water Development District, and is filling a vacancy created by the recent resignation of Casey Krogman of White River (West River WDD).

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South Dakota State University Project Assistance Request

The Manager reviewed a draft proposal from Van Kelly, Director of the South Dakota State University (SDSU) Water Resources Institute (WRI), for the District to contribute toward the support of water resource faculty at the University. The Manager noted that there are shrinking academic resources available on water issues from state universities. For example, the recent decision by SDSU to fill the position of Cooperative Extension Service Water Resource Specialist with a specialist in air quality issues. Dave German, WRI, who has been one of the leading sources of lake information and research in the state, will be retiring within the next 15 months. These two positions have often served as the point of contact between those interested in water resource protection and management and the academic community.

The draft proposal would involve the District making a modest pledge of assistance/support for a water resource specialist, which Dr. Kelly believes might well sway the balance for decision makers at SDSU. The material provided to date was a position description/announcement. The Manager noted that it is largely a description for an agricultural engineering position, with only passing mention of water issues. He indicated that before promoting District involvement, the description would need to be markedly altered. He would visit with Dr. Kelly and request alteration before further Board consideration.

2010 Water Development District Director Area Revisions

The Manager reviewed the proposed revisions to the Administrative Rules of South Dakota (ARSD) 74:05:05:20, which contain the descriptions of the District director areas. The revisions are the result of legislation passed during the 2008 session, and will redefine director areas in terms of population, rather than rural and municipal areas. The initial revisions, adopted in June of this year, have been found to be practically impossible to implement in Minnehaha and Lincoln Counties due to post-2000 changes in voting precincts. The issues have been addressed and alternate descriptions, which the County Auditors and the Secretary of State accept, have been developed. A public hearing on the revised rules will be held by the SD Board of Water and natural resources in Pierre on November 6th.

EDWDD Conservation Assistance Program

The Manager reviewed the recommendations developed by an ad hoc committee consisting of Chairman Eggers and Directors Flemming and Johnson for District support of area conservation districts. The District Board of Directors has included in the 2010 operating budget a block of funds which they intend to direct toward support of area conservation districts (\$100,000 total, to be allocated at the rate of \$10,000 per county). These funds are not intended to be a one-time allocation, but rather a long-term commitment of support.

The Committee has proposed to target the assistance toward covering administrative expenses of the conservation districts. Every conservation district has an Office Manager they need to pay, supplies and materials they need for day-to-day operations, and so forth. By helping to offset these basic costs, the conservation districts would be able to direct their other fiscal resources toward projects and activities. A memorandum of understanding (MOU) will be developed between the District and each conservation district. The Manager indicated he would have a draft MOU available for Board consideration at the December meeting.

Project Updates

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Public Outreach & Water Quality Monitoring - Jeremy Hinke gave the updates on the Districts Big Sioux Water Festival and Dakota Water Watch. The traveling trunks are now in wide distribution, including the new second Lakes & Streams Trunk set. Registrations for the 2010 event are due November 1st. To date, fourth grade classes from over 15 schools have signed on. Mr. Hinke and Deb Springman were presenters at the Northern prairie Water Fest in Aberdeen in September.

Support for the Dakota Water Watch program is to be included in the next Statewide Nonpoint Source Information and Education Program. Budget figures, activities and milestones have been developed and submitted for inclusion in the grant request. Ms. Springman is looking into holding a state-wide volunteer monitoring workshop or conference this winter. A new monitor was trained to gather information in and around Lake Hendricks. Work has begun on the year-end report.

Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project - The Manager presented a report on the activities of the Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project. Project Manager Roger Strom continues to work with several landowners to finalize conservation easements in Hamlin, Moody and Minnehaha Counties. An easement signing is scheduled for October 22nd in Watertown for property in northern Hamlin County. Formal offers have been sent to three other landowners, with a fourth pending the completion of a cultural resource assessment. A riparian area management (RAM) contracts have been executed in Hamlin and Moody Counties. Work proceeds on the Jared Hanisch animal waste management system near Humboldt. Dirt work is completed, but gravel and concrete work is on hold pending drier conditions. The final water quality sampling on the Big Sioux River will take place on October 20th. The Third Quarter project reimbursement request was submitted in early October.

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Adjournment

There being no further District business, Chairman Eggers declared the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Doug Feten, Secretary

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