



East Dakota Water Development District

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**MINUTES**  
**May 23, 2006**

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on May 23, 2006 at the District office in Brookings. Chairman Dempsey called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The following persons attended:

**Directors Present**

Dave Bennett

Lois Brown

Bill Dempsey

Curt Eggers

Doug Feten

Vincent Flemming

Martin Jarrett

Kay Kassube

John Weidler

**Others Present**

Shirley Flemming, Florence

Kerry Netzke, AREA II Minnesota River Basin Projects

Russell Persyn, SDSU Cooperative Extension Service

**Staff Present**

Lisa Bretsch

Jay Gilbertson

Angela Guidry

Pat Hammond

Deb Springman

**Administrative Items**

Approval of Agenda - The Manager asked to add District Membership under Administrative Items. **Motion** by Weidler, seconded by Flemming to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the April 20, 2006 meeting. **Motion** by Eggers, seconded by Kassube to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports - The Board reviewed the April 2006 Financial Report (Attachment A). **Motion** by Bennett, seconded by Flemming to accept the April 2006 Financial Report. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Dempsey then asked that the report be placed in the District files.

Report of Meetings and Conferences - Director Brown attended the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Big Sioux Water Festival at South Dakota State University in Brookings on May 18.

Directors Flemming attended the Upper Big Sioux River Watershed Advisory Board meeting in Watertown on April 20.

Chairman Dempsey attended the South Dakota Conservation Commission meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup> in Pierre. The Commission awarded numerous grants for conservation activities.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. **April 20** - Milbank. Clean Up the River Environment (CURE) tour of the Whetstone River watershed.
2. **April 24** - Watertown. Lake Kampeska Water Project District Annual Meeting.
3. **April 25** - Dell Rapids. Minnehaha Community Water Corporation Board of Directors.
4. **April 26** - Sioux Falls. Minnehaha Water Coalition.
5. **May 2** - Lake Poinsett. Lake Poinsett Water Project District (LPWPD) Board of Directors.
6. **May 8** - Watertown. Codington County Conservation District Board of Supervisors.
7. **May 9** - Huron. James River Water Festival.
8. **May 11** - Brookings. South Dakota Lakes and Streams Association Board of Directors.
9. **May 12** - Lake Poinsett. LPWPD Water Level Workgroup.
10. **May 18** - Brookings. Big Sioux Water Festival.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **June 1 - 6:00 p.m.** - C. J. Callaways, Sioux Falls - Lewis and Clark Rural Water System annual meeting.
2. **June 5 - 6:30 p.m.** - Lake Poinsett. LPWPD Water Level Work Group.
3. **June 8 - 1:00 p.m.** - EDWDD office, Brookings. SDLSA Board meeting.
4. **June 15 - 9:00 a.m.** - EDWDD office, Brookings. June EDWDD Board meeting.

Payment Request - The Manager stated that at the December 2004 meeting, Howard Paul, Executive Director of the Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition (MSAC), gave a presentation on the mission and activities of his organization. At the January 2005 meeting, the Board committed \$2,000 as a one-time donation. MSAC has requested payment and he asked for authorization to make the payment. **Motion** by Kassube, seconded by Brown to authorize payment of \$2,000 to MSAC as requested. The Manager noted that this payment would complete the District obligation under the January 2005 action. Motion carried unanimously.

District Membership - **Motion** by Brown, seconded by Weidler to authorize payment of \$55 to the North American Lake Management Society for the Districts 2006/2007 membership dues. Motion carried unanimously.

### **2006 Big Sioux Water Festival Wrap-Up**

Lisa Bretsch, Big Sioux Water Festival Project Coordinator, gave a summary of the recently completed (May 18<sup>th</sup>) activity. Highlights of the event included several new items in the Teacher's Resource Room and the new facilities in the remodeled Student Center.

Ms. Bretsch requested Board approval to expend funds previously committed for Water Festival-related activities. In November 2005, the Board set aside \$2,500 to offset transportation costs for schools attending the 2006 event. Each school would be given \$2 per student attending the festival. At the same time, the Board committed \$2,000 toward the development of a Pollution Prevention Project Guide. The document was developed in conjunction with the South Dakota Discovery Center, with additional grant funds coming from the State NPS Information and Education Program. The Guide has been completed and copies distributed to teachers at the festival. **Motion** by Eggers, seconded by Weidler to authorize expenditure of the funds as requested. The Manager noted that any unexpended funds would be reverted at the end of the calendar year. Motion carried unanimously.

## **AREA II Minnesota River Basin Projects**

Kerry Netzke, Coordinator of the AREA II Minnesota River Basin Projects (AREA II), presented a summary of their activities. AREA II is a nine-county joint powers entity that has been providing technical and financial assistance to local units of government in southwest Minnesota since 1978. Implementing flood control and prevention is the primary mission of the organization. She reviewed the various water retention projects they have completed across the member counties, as well as a couple of projects in South Dakota.

## **SDSU Cooperative Extension Service Watershed Publication**

Dr. Russell Persyn, Water Resource Specialist for the SDSU Cooperative Extension Service, and the Manager presented the Board with a request for assistance in the development of a general publication dealing with watershed management. He and the Manager have reviewed a document developed for the Texas Extension Service, and they would like to modify it for distribution in South Dakota. The publication would provide a general background in the importance of addressing water resource issues at the watershed level, using examples from the Big Sioux River basin. The Manager noted that such a publication would be particularly useful in the District's Central Big Sioux River Watershed Implementation Project. The Manager noted that the Extension Service will provide Dr. Persyn's time to modify and update the document, and he would like the District to cover publication costs. **Motion** by Eggers, seconded by Kassube to allocate up to \$3,500 in District cost-share assistance funds for the printing of up to 5,000 copies of the document. Motion carried unanimously.

## **2006 Eastern South Dakota Water Conference**

The Manager and Dr. Persyn discussed a water resource conference that is being planned for eastern South Dakota in the fall. The conference, modeled after a similar event held in Rapid City each spring (Western South Dakota Hydrology Conference), is intended to bring together government and university scientists, public officials, and members of the general public to discuss topical water issues. The theme for the coming event is "Sustainability and Economic Development." The event is scheduled for November 1 and 2, 2006, and will be held at the Swiftel Center in Brookings. A steering committee with representatives from SDSU, USGS and EDWDD is assembling the program.

Registration fees are expected to cover most conference costs. However, the Manager, requested that the District provide funds to underwrite start-up costs. The West Dakota Water Development District provided similar support for the Rapid City event. **Motion** by Brown, seconded by Kassube to provide \$5,000 in District project assistance funds for the development of the Eastern South Dakota Water Conference. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Project Updates/Status Reports**

District Watershed Assessment Activities - Deb Springman reviewed developments with the District's watershed assessment projects. DENR and EPA staff continue to review the Final Reports and total maximum daily load (TMDL) reports for the Central Big Sioux River and School/Bullhead projects. Revisions of the North-Central Big Sioux River/East Oakwood Lake Watershed Assessment Final Reports and TMDLs are also underway.

Central Big Sioux River Implementation - Angela Guidry reviewed her activities on the Central Big Sioux River Implementation Project. Two summer seasonals have been hired, and will work on data collection for this and other projects. The public opinion survey of Big Sioux River residents has been completed, and the results are expected in early June. They will be presented at the June Board meeting. Several applications for assistance with animal waste management systems have been received and are under consideration. Memorandums of understanding have been signed with all area conservation districts, except for Codington County. She is scheduled to speak to the Minnehaha County Farm Bureau about the project at their next meeting.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further District business or issues for consideration, Chairman Dempsey declared the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

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Doug Feten, Secretary