



East Dakota Water Development District

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MINUTES
October 20, 2005

The Board of Directors of the East Dakota Water Development District (EDWDD) held a regular meeting on October 20, 2005 at the EDWDD Office, 132B Airport Drive, Brookings. Vice-Chairman Eggers called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The following persons attended:

Directors Present

Dave Bennett
Lois Brown
Curt Eggers
Doug Feten
Vincent Flemming
Royce Hueners
Kay Kassube
John Weidler

Directors Absent

Bill Dempsey

Others Present

Scott Buss, Minnehaha Community Water Corporation
Jarrod Johnson, South Dakota Cattlemen's Association
Mike Schmidt, South Dakota Farm Bureau

Staff Present

Becky Banks
Lisa Bretsch
Jay Gilbertson
Angela Guidry
Pat Hammond
Deb Springman

Administrative Items

Approval of Agenda - The Manager asked to have a request for assistance from the South Dakota Farm Bureau added to the agenda. **Motion** by Hueners, seconded by Flemming to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes - The Board reviewed the Minutes of the September 15, 2005 meeting. **Motion** by Weidler, seconded by Kassube to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Matters - The Board reviewed the September 2005 Financial Report (Attachment A). **Motion** by Hueners, seconded by Brown to accept the September 2005 Financial Report. Motion carried unanimously. Vice-Chairman Eggers then asked that the reports be placed in the District files. The Board then reviewed the Third Quarter financial summary.

Meetings and Conferences - Director Flemming attended the Lake Pelican Water Project District meeting on October 19 in Watertown.

Director Eggers attended the annual meeting of the South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts in Sioux Falls on September 18-20.

Director Weidler attended the National Rural Water Association Annual Meeting in Sacramento, California, on October 9-13.

The Manager briefly commented on the following meetings he attended:

1. **September 19** - Central Big Sioux River watershed. Field trip for EPA Region VIII water quality researchers.
2. **September 21** - Sioux Falls. Minnehaha County States Attorney discussion of feedlot issues.
3. **September 21** - Clear Lake. Tekrony feedlot permit hearing.
4. **September 22** - Pierre. Board of Water and Natural Resources meeting.
5. **October 5** - Aberdeen. James River Water Development District Board of Directors meeting.
6. **October 6** - Brookings. Central Big Sioux River Watershed Project coordination meeting.
7. **October 13** - Sioux Falls. Meyer Lamb Feeders contested case hearing.
8. **October 14** - Brookings. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency interview on water funding.

Upcoming Meetings -

1. **October 27** - Brandon. City of Sioux Falls and South Dakota Geological Survey shallow aquifer mapping project planning.
2. **October 29 - 9:00 a.m.** - Elks Club, Watertown. South Dakota Lakes and Streams Association Annual Meeting.
3. **November 4** - Matthews Training Center, Pierre. South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources.
4. **November 8 - 10:00 a.m.** - Matthews Training Center, Pierre. South Dakota Nonpoint Source Task Force.
5. **November 9-11** - University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI. 25th International Symposium of the North American Lake Management Society.
6. **November 10 - 1:00 p.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. South Dakota Lakes & Streams Association BOD meeting.
7. **November 11 - 8:00 a.m.** - Pierre. South Dakota Conservation Commission.
8. **November 15- 9:30 a.m.** - Lewis and Clark RWS Office, 401 East Eighth Street, Suite 306, Sioux Falls. November EDWDD Board of Directors meeting.
9. **November 16 - 9:00 a.m.** - EDWDD Office, Brookings. Central Big Sioux River Implementation Project Oversight Committee meeting.
10. **November 17-18** - University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN. Minnesota Ground Water Association Fall Conference and Workshop.

Payment Requests - The Manager presented two payment requests from projects that had previously been awarded District support:

Minnehaha Conservation District - In October 2004, the Board committed \$1,900 in District cost-share assistance to the Minnehaha Conservation District (MCD) for support of their efforts at developing and installing interpretive signs at the Dewey C. Gevik Outdoor Conservation Learning Area near Wall Lake. The work has been completed according to the original proposal, and MCD has submitted a request for \$1,890. **Motion** by Brown, seconded by Weidler, to authorize payment of \$1,890 to MCD for expenses related to the development and installation of interpretive signs at the Dewey C. Gevik Outdoor Conservation Learning Area. The Manager noted that this would complete the District's obligation to this activity. Motion carried unanimously, with Director Eggers abstaining.

Vermillion Basin Water Development District - In December 2003, the Board committed \$15,000 in District cost-share assistance to the Vermillion Basin Water Development District (VBWDD) for support of their efforts at completing a watershed assessment study of the Vermillion River. Work on the assessment study began in October 2004, and is ongoing. An initial payment of \$5,000 was made in November 2004, and VBWDD has submitted a second request for the same amount (\$5,000). **Motion** by Hueners, seconded by Flemming, to authorize payment of \$5,000 to VBWDD for the Vermillion River Watershed Assessment. The Manager noted that with this payment, the District's remaining obligation would be \$5,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Travel Authorization - The Manager requested Board authorization to attend the Minnesota Ground Water Association Conference and Workshop in St. Paul, Minnesota, on November 17 & 18. Registration for the 2-day event would be \$260, and there would be travel, meals and lodging expenses. **Motion** by Bennett, seconded by Kassube to authorize the Manager's attendance at the Minnesota Ground Water Association Conference and Workshop. Motion carried unanimously.

South Dakota Farm Bureau Assistance Request

Mike Schmidt, representing the South Dakota Farm Bureau (SDFB), and Jarrod Johnson, South Dakota Cattlemen's Association (SDCA), presented the Board with a request for cost-share assistance. Their request was on behalf of a project being undertaken by South Dakota State University (SDSU) entitled "Manure Management BMPs Based on Soil Phosphorus: Evaluating Additional Soil/Runoff P Relationships." The study looks at the relationship between the amount of phosphorus (P) in selected soil types and the amount of P in runoff from these soils. Previous studies have looked at five soil types prevalent in northeastern South Dakota. The new study would examine the six remaining major soil types east of the Missouri River, along with two major west river soils.

The ultimate goal of these studies is to determine a level of soil P above which there is an unacceptable amount of P in runoff. Further, the studies will help determine if this threshold level varies with soil type. Currently, State regulations covering concentrated animal feeding operations limit P application (through the use of manure as a soil amendment) when soil P exceeds a set amount. This level is constant, regardless of soil type.

The current study has a budget of \$181,177, \$97,032 of which is coming from EPA Section 319 funds provided by DENR, with SDSU is providing \$50,562 in cash and in-kind services. This leaves a balance of \$33,583 from other non-federal sources. SDFB and SDCA are seeking to raise the balance of the funds from a variety of stakeholder groups, such as water development districts, the SD Department of Agriculture and commodity groups.

Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Johnson answered several questions about the proposal and potential sources of support.

Motion by Bennett, seconded by Hueners to provide District cost-share assistance for the project at a rate of \$1 for every \$10 provided by the cattle industry (SDCA, South Dakota Stock Growers, or similar groups). Several Board members expressed concern that the stakeholder group most likely to derive benefit from this research was the cattle industry, and yet they had contributed little to the effort. They felt

that the condition imposed with the proposed District support would address this issue. Motion carried unanimously.

Big Sioux Water Festival

Lisa Bretsch, Project Coordinator for the Big Sioux Water Festival, presented the Board with a summary of the 2005 event, held on May 13th on the campus of South Dakota State University, and briefed the Board on plans for the upcoming festival (May 18, 2006).

Ms. Bretsch noted that over the past few years, concerns have been expressed by local school districts about the costs of attending the annual water festival in Brookings. The teachers all say it is a worthwhile experience, but the school administrations are looking at the costs of a bus trip. With the recent steep increase in fuel costs, the Steering Committee is anticipating more talk along these lines. She proposed to offer a stipend of \$2 per student to the schools to help offset transportation costs of attending the 2006 event, and requested that the Board set aside \$2,500 toward this effort. These funds would be in addition to the annual financial assistance request to the District, which will be presented in early 2006. **Motion** by Flemming, seconded by Feten to award \$2,500 in District project assistance funds to the 2006 Big Sioux Water Festival to offer a \$2 per student travel stipend. Motion carried unanimously.

Pollution Prevention Projects Guide

Lisa Bretsch presented the Board with an overview of a document entitled Pollution Prevention Project Guide. The Guide was developed by the Watershed Resources Youth Stewardship Project, with financial support from several Minnesota environmental interests. It presents basic information on a variety of pollution prevention activities, including storm drain stenciling, water quality monitoring and soil testing. Much of the activity information is fairly generic, but the document provides substantial information on local and state resources (in Minnesota).

Ms. Bretsch has put together a proposal to develop a South Dakota version of the document, at a cost of approximately \$8,000. She is developing a grant request to the State NPS Information and Education Program (\$2,500), and will be asking the Brookings Conservation District for \$850. The balance would be provided by EDWDD. **Motion** by Brown, second by Weidler to provide \$2,000 in District cost-share assistance for the development of a Pollution Prevention Project Guide for South Dakota and to authorize expenditure of the funds as needed. Motion carried unanimously.

2006-2007 State Water Plan Applications Hearing and Decisions

The Manager presented the Board with a summary of the applications submitted by entities with the District for placement on the State Water Plan (SWP) for 2006/2007. Manager briefly reviewed the role of the District in the process. The South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources (BWNR) requests that any SWP application be reviewed by the local water development district. Historically, the District requested that SWP applicants make a formal presentation to the District Board. However, recent changes in the process by which SWP applications are vetted by the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) have resulted in nearly 100% of the applications being accepted. As consequence, the Manager will not be requesting applicant attendance until they are seeking actual funding.

This will keep the applicants from having to make two trips to Brookings, and put the emphasis on the funding round, which is when real competition will take place.

The following SWP applications have been submitted:

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Project</u>
Big Sioux Community Water System	Storage and Distribution Improvements
City of Castlewood	Wastewater Treatment Improvements
Deuel Conservation District	School, Bullhead, Round, Wigdale Lakes
Deuel Conservation District	Clear Lake Watershed Restoration
Town of Humboldt	Supply and Distribution Improvements
Kingbrook Rural Water System	Water System Expansion
Kingbrook Rural Water System	Winfred Water System Improvements
Lake Poinsett Sanitary District	Wastewater Expansion Phase I
City of Milbank	Wastewater System Improvements
City of Sioux Falls	Water and Wastewater Improvements
City of Watertown	Storm Sewer Project

The Manager indicated that he would support the SWP requests at the November 4th BWNR meeting in Pierre.

Project Updates

Watershed Assessment Projects - Deb Springman reported on the status of the District's watershed assessment projects. *Central Big Sioux River* - The Final Report, TMDLs and responses to EPA comments were submitted to DENR on August 17th, and we are awaiting a response. *North-Central Big Sioux River/East Oakwood Lake* - AnnAGNOS modeling is underway and the final report is in preparation. *School/Bullhead Lakes* - The first draft of the final report was submitted to DENR in August, and they sent back comments in early September. These comments were addressed, and the report sent back to DENR (along with the TMDLs) on September 30th. Staff is awaiting a response.

Central Big Sioux River Watershed Implementation Project - The Manager reviewed the second request submitted to DENR for 319 funds (October 3rd, 2005). It will be considered by the NonPoint Source Task Force at their November 8th meeting Pierre. The funds requested (\$1,317,077) are targeted primarily at improvements to animal feeding operations, with additional funds for water quality monitoring and promotion of alternative livestock watering. The new proposal also expands the coverage area to include the watershed north of Brookings to Watertown. Angela Guidry organized a meeting with area conservation districts (held at EDWDD on October 6) to coordinate watershed protection efforts, and she and the Manager will be meeting with representatives of the City of Sioux Falls, DENR, SECOG and the Northern Prairies Land Trust to discuss easements later in the month.

The Manager requested that the Board provide \$2,500 in District cost-share assistance to the project to cover water quality sampling costs and other initial efforts. **Motion** by Kassube, seconded by Feten to award \$2,500 in District cost-share assistance funds as requested and to authorize expenditure as needed. Motion carried unanimously.

Nitrate Testing Project - The Manager reported that a second testing unit (HACH Spectrophotometer) had been obtained to support future efforts. The project formally ended on September 30th, and he was in the process of preparing a final report and reimbursement request. He also noted that letters had been sent to all conservation districts with EDWDD offering the use of the testing equipment for farm shows and other activities.

Adjournment

There being no further District business, Vice-Chairman Eggers declared the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Doug Feten, Secretary