



Draft Minutes for meeting on **October 10, 2017**

An audio recording for this meeting is available at westdakotawater.com.

CALL TO ORDER: The West Dakota Water Development District convened for its regular board meeting at West River Electric, 3250 SD Hwy. 44 Rapid City, SD. Chairperson Mueller called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm by leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Director Moss gave an opening prayer. Directors present: Kenn Moss (District 1), Dan Bjerke (District 2), Mike Mueller (District 3), Nathan Gjovik (District 4), Robert Akers (District 5), Ken Steinken (District 7), James Bialota (District 8).

Director(s) absent: Williams, Deurloo. A quorum was declared.

Administration present: Emily Martinez (Administrative Manager), Leon Ewert (Parliamentarian).

Others in attendance: Barry Muxen (Clean Water Alliance / Dakota Rural Action), David Bender (US Geological Survey), Joyce Williamson (USGS), Trudy Severson (citizen), Bill Eldridge (USGS), Eric Gronlund (SD DENR), Jay Gilbertson (East Dakota Water Development District), Joanne Noyes (SD Geological Survey), David Hanna (citizen), Rich Morrison (citizen), Tracy Downs (citizen), Ritchie Nordstrom (City of Rapid City), Jason Phillips (SD School of Mines & Technology), Alvis Lisenbee (SDSMT), Tim Bjork (Black Hills Fly Fishers), Michael Goodroad (citizen), Gena Parkhurst (citizen), Jay Davis (citizen), Jeff Olson (Black Hills Sportsmens Club).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Moved by Bjerke and seconded by Bialota to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES – Moved by Bialota and seconded by Moss to approve minutes from the August 8, 2017 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURERS REPORT

Treasurer Akers presented the Treasurer's Report. Moved by Bialota and seconded by Bjerke to approve treasurer's Report.

- Director Deurloo arrived at 6:14 pm

Akers and Ewert presented a request from SDSMT for payment of \$15,878.00 for a bill from 2009 for Agreement #08-04 which covered costs for aquifer mapping of the north half of the Hill City Quadrangle. Ewert reported that due to changes in administration, banks and bookkeeping systems WDWD records were insufficient to determine whether the bill had been paid. SDSMT professor Lisenbee was unaware of the request but offered to look further into the

matter. Moved by Bjerke and seconded by Deurloo to continue the matter until next meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

FINANCE POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

Akers reported that the group had not met because no one had called a meeting. He suggested the need for a subcommittee chair. Bialota offered to chair the subcommittee and set up a meeting before the next WDWDD meeting in December.

SD DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES PRESENTATION – FUTURE USE WATER PERMIT

At the invitation of the WDWDD board Eric Gronlund of the SD DENR Water Rights Program gave a presentation regarding what it means to have a future use permit and how the permit that WDWDD voted to renew at its January 10, 2017 meeting could be used.

USGS STREAMFLOW GAGING STATIONS FUNDING (Second Vote) – Renewed Motion

Gjovik stated he was opposed to funding the gages and gave reasons for his position. Several other directors expressed their opinions for or against the funding. Chair Mueller asked Martinez to share the stream gage funding summary she was asked to do by the WDWDD Executive Committee (see [10/10/2017 Meeting Packet](#)). Members of the public in attendance including Lisenbee, Olson, Muxen, Parkhurst, Hanna, Bjork, David Miller and Denise Livingston spoke in favor of funding the gages. Parkhurst presented a letter signed by 58 people asking WDWDD to continue funding the gages.

Moved by Bjerke and seconded by Deurloo to fund Rhoads Fork and Castle Creek gages. Chair Mueller requested a roll call vote. Motion failed 4-4. Moss, Mueller, Gjovik and Bialota opposed.

Parliamentarian Ewert ruled that the tie vote meant that funding would not continue due to the fact that motion made was a new motion, not a renewed motion.

ITEMS FROM DIRECTORS

Bialota expressed concern about plans to inject wastewater from the proposed Dewey Burdock uranium mine into the aquifer. He suggested WDWDD submit a letter in opposition to the mine permit. The board requested that a letter be drafted and be sent to the directors for review prior to the December meeting.

Steinken wanted to ensure that all WDWDD directors and the public had an accurate understanding of his involvement with Trinity Eco Prayer Park and WDWDD. Steinken stated that as the park director he requested and received funding for Trinity Eco Prayer Park prior to being on the WDWDD board. He said that the \$25,000 was to assist with the construction of a drainfield under the park lawn that increased the stormwater runoff holding capacity of the park, which filters tainted runoff and prevents it from flowing untreated into Rapid Creek. He emphasized that the money was given to a non-profit foundation, not a church, and that it was

less than 5 percent of the total project construction cost. He noted that engineers, architects, city planners and others tour the park to observe its innovative water stewardship features.

ITEMS FROM ADMINISTRATION

Ewert reported that the SD Department of Agriculture was looking for names to submit to the governor for a representative to be appointed from the area served by WDWDD to sit on the state water conservation commission.

Moved by Bialota and seconded by Moss to nominate Deurloo. Moved by Gjovik and seconded by Bialota to amend the motion to submit two names and include Williams. Amended motion passed.

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

The floor was opened to the public.

Dr. Lisa Kunza announced that a technical working group addressing concerns with Rapid Creek will be meeting Wednesday, Nov. 1 from 8 a.m. to noon at the Outdoor Campus West. The topic will be “Managing Rapid creek for extreme weather events.”

Muxen wanted to make sure the board was aware that Mineral Mountain Resources is requesting a permit for 1.8 million gallons of water for exploratory drilling near Rochford to determine whether or not gold mining is viable in that area.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Mueller cancelled the executive session that was listed on the agenda. He announced that H2E has given a “soft resignation” as administrators for WDWDD. He reported that H2E has offered to continue until another mode of administration is in place. Mueller asked for volunteers to look at how to replace H2E and offered to be on the committee. Deurloo, Gjovik and Bjerke also volunteered. Gilbertson of East Dakota WDD offered to be of assistance.

Meeting adjourned at 9:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ken Steinken, Secretary