



Approved Minutes for **October 13, 2015**

*An audio recording was not made for this meeting.*

**CALL TO ORDER:** The West Dakota Water Development District convened for its regular board meeting at The Garage, on 402 Saint Joseph Street, Rapid City, SD. Chairperson Deurloo called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm by leading the Pledge of Allegiance and giving an opening invocation. Directors present: Kenn Moss (District 1), Dan Richer (District 2), Mike Mueller (District 3), Lavern Koch (District 4), Robert Akers (District 5), Tim Rogers (District 6), Ken Steinken (District 7), Sandra Beshara (District 8), Jeannette Deurloo (District 9).

A quorum was declared.

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

Others in attendance: Paul Squillace, George Ferebee, Dan Driscoll (USGS), Bill Eldridge (USGS), Alvis Lisenbee (SDSMT), and Joanne Noyes (SD Geol. Survey).

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Moved by Rogers and seconded by Beshara to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES** – Moved by Mueller and seconded by Rogers to approve minutes from the previous meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

- September 24, 2015

### **TREASURERS REPORT**

Moved by Richer and seconded by Rogers to accept proposal from South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance Insurance to add bonding for all directors at a cost of \$25 per year to WDWDD insurance policy. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved by Richer and seconded by Moss to acknowledge payment of routine bills as listed in the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved by Richer and seconded by Mueller to approve 'Bills Requiring a Vote.' Moved by Richer and seconded by Moss to amend the motion to not include the USGS Groundwater Flow Model payment with 'Bills Requiring a Vote.' Amendment passed unanimously. Motion as amended passed unanimously.

### **DISCUSSION ON LEVERAGING WDWDD FUNDS (Paul Squillace)**

Retired hydrologist Paul Squillace introduced himself and gave a presentation about the potential to leverage WDWDD funds by identifying other agencies that have a shared interest in the type of projects that WDWDD pursues. He stated that these agencies offer matching funds to share the cost of projects. According to Squillace such collaborative efforts allow WDWDD to gather

more information and accomplish more than could be done by just using WDWDD resources. Squillace has offered to volunteer to assist WDWDD to locate and apply for these types of funding opportunities.

Martinez gave an overview of the EPA Urban Waters Small Grant for DNA Testing and suggested WDWDD apply for to assist with its efforts to test Rapid Creek. She explained the requirements and responsibilities related to the grant.

Moved by Rogers and seconded by Akers to move forward with application for the EPA Urban Waters Small Grant for DNA Testing with the option to decline money if the board discovers at a later date that fulfillment of the grant includes conditions that the board determines to be undesirable. Motion passed unanimously

### **USGS PRESENTATION**

USGS staff Daniel Driscoll gave an overview of the stream flow gauging program in South Dakota. WDWDD has a funding agreement with USGS for two gauges in the district. Driscoll informed the board that the data from the Castle Creek gauge (which is one that WDWDD funds) goes back to 1948. Data from gauges can be found at [sd.water.usgs.gov](http://sd.water.usgs.gov).

Moved by Rogers and seconded by Koch to approve budgeted item for gaging station and for chair to sign agreement for 2016. Motion passed unanimously.

Driscoll reported on the purpose for and progress on the development of the Black Hills Groundwater Flow Model. WDWDD is one of the partners in funding the project. Other partners include the City of Rapid City, National Park Service and United States Forest Service. This tool simulates groundwater flow conditions for the Madison and Minnelusa aquifers, the two most important sources of drinking water in the Black Hills. The model will provide useful information in predicting the impact on the availability of groundwater as affected by 1) future climatic conditions, especially drought; and 2) increased demand as new wells are drilled. All information generated by the study is available to the public.

### **ATTORNEY RECOMMENDATION**

Chair Deurloo and Director Rogers gave a report from the committee that reviewed the three proposals for legal services that the board received. One proposal (David Ganje) that requested a retainer was eliminated due to the condition in the Request for Proposal that payment only be made for services rendered. Moved by Rogers and seconded by Mueller to proceed with a vote by written ballot on two remaining candidates (Sara Frankenstein and Chuck Jasper). Martinez counted ballots and announced that board selected Frankenstein's proposal by a 5-4 vote.

Richer recommend the board send out thank you notes to those who submitted proposals.

### **ITEMS FROM DIRECTORS**

Mueller presented a packet of information on the Legislative Act to Establish River Basin Natural Resource Districts. Discussion followed.

Rogers suggested the board contact Northwater to request an update on the progress of the project for which WDWDD provided a \$5,000 grant.

Rogers requested that establishing the terms and length of a contract for legal services be included in the next meeting agenda.

Rogers informed the board that retired School of Mines professor Dr. Lisenbee has offered to provide a presentation at a future meeting on water and how it works in the Black Hills.

Moss requested that Hisega Meadows Water grant be included on the next meeting agenda. Mueller volunteered to meet with Moss and Hisega board.

Mueller encouraged all directors to watch for legislative items related to water that may appear on the docket for the upcoming state legislative session.

#### **ITEMS FROM ADMINISTRATION**

Administrator Martinez reported that she would buy a phone next week and the WDWDD office phone number will be functional again. She also reported that a scanner / copier / printer had been donated to WDWDD.

Martinez reported on different options available to provide uniform email addresses that would be assigned to a director based on the area the director represents. The email address would not change when a new director is elected. Moved by Mueller and seconded by Rogers to set up email under 'vanity system' which shields personal email address. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved by Mueller and seconded by Beshara to buy a recorder. Motion failed. Akers will donate a recorder.

#### **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

George Ferebee questioned the integrity and value of the Black Hills Groundwater Flow Model. He objected to the directors voting by written ballot to select an attorney for legal services. The board requested that Leon check to see if it was okay to conduct the vote in the manner in which they did. Mr. Ewert agreed to research it.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,