



Approved Minutes for **May 10, 2016**

*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 West River Electric, 3250 SD Hwy. 44 Rapid City, SD. Chairperson Mueller called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm by leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Director Deurloo gave an opening prayer. Directors present: Dan Richer (District 2), Mike Mueller (District 3), Lavern Koch (District 4), Robert Akers (District 5), Ken Steinken (District 7), Sandra Beshara (District 8), Jeannette Deurloo (District 9).

Directors absent: Kenn Moss (District 1), Tim Rogers (District 6). A quorum was declared.

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

Others in attendance: Bill Eldridge (Citizen), Linda DeVeaux (SDSMT), Kelsey Murray (SDSMT), Alvis Lisenbee (SDSMT), Galen Hoogestraat (USGS), Joanne Noyes (SD Geological Survey), Dan Driscoll (USGS), Chuck Jasper (Citizen)

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Moved by Richer and seconded by Deurloo to approve the agenda with item 7 & 13 removed. Motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES** – Moved by Richer and seconded by Akers to approve minutes from the previous meeting on March 8, 2016. Motion passed.

### **TREASURERS REPORT**

**Routine Bills** – Richer acting on behalf of Treasurer Rogers presented bills paid.

**Approval of payment of bills** - Moved by Deurloo and seconded by Akers to approve bills as presented. Motion passed.

**Tax Levy Approval for 2017** - Moved by Beshara and seconded by Koch to accept the proposed 100% levy estimate of \$221,509. Motion passed.

### **UPDATE ON RAPID CREEK WATER QUALITY**

Administrative Manager Martinez reported that the WDWDD proposal for an EPA grant was declined. Martinez has scheduled a conference call with the EPA on Wed. May 17, 2016 to get feedback on the grant applications strengths and weaknesses. She will provide participant call in codes for directors wishing to join in the call.

USGS hydrologist Galen Hoogestraat reported on joint meetings with USGS, City of Rapid City, WDWDD, SDSMT, SDDENR and Pennington County to collaborate and attempt to avoid overlap on Rapid Creek water quality studies.

### **SD GEOLOGICAL SURVEY REQUEST FOR FUNDING**

Joanne Noyes of the SD Geological Survey, Department of Environment and Natural Resources requested \$2,000 to sponsor the John T. Loucks Distinguished Lecture at the Western Hydrology Conference in April, 2017 be included in the WDWDD 2017 proposed budget.

### **WESTERN HYDROLOGY CONFERENCE**

WDWDD directors Akers, Deurloo and Steinken and Administrative Manager Martinez reported on their experiences at the Western Hydrology Conference. Director Koch offered his positive reflections of attending previous conferences.

### **USE OF COMPOST AS A SOIL AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR FUNDING**

Jerry Wright speaking on behalf of himself (not representing City of Rapid City) presented information on a proposed study on the use of compost as a soil amendment which benefits of water conservation and water availability in irrigation districts. A request for funding will likely be presented at a future meeting.

### **HISEGA MEADOWS WATER PROJECT**

Nobody present to give a report at this time.

### **CONCERNED CITIZENS OF THE VALLEY**

Tina Mullaly reported that Pennington County Commissioners formed a task force to study the flooding and soil saturation problems related to the Hawthorne Ditch that affects 15 families in Rapid Valley.

Moved by Deurloo and seconded by Richer for WDWDD to write a letter based on a brief outline from Concerned Citizens acknowledging the problems and in keeping with the WDWDD mission and present the letter to the County Commissioners.

Richer offered a friendly amendment that the letter be sent to the Water Quality Coordinator (instead of all the commissioners) with copies sent to Commissioners Peterson and Ferebee. Deurloo accepted the friendly amendment.

Amendment passed 6-1; Akers opposed. Amended motion passed 5-2; Koch and Akers opposed.

### **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

Chairperson Mueller offered a summary of Executive Committee Meeting held on April 12. Topics included: a) discussion of current vacancy in District 6 due to Rogers moving out of district and upcoming vacancy effective January 1 in District 8 due to no petitions received for the upcoming elections; b) a historic review of policy and by-laws conducted by Leon Ewert; c) discussion concerning a possible WDWDD audit in 2017.

### **ITEMS FROM DIRECTORS**

Mueller reported that the Croell Construction Permit for expanded quarry on Highway 16 has been denied by the County Commissioners and that Croell is appealing the decision. Water rights permit will be heard in July.

Richer reported that Parliamentarian Ewert will distribute the compiled policies and by-laws and that directors should direct comments to Leon by June 7 for review at WDWDD Executive Committee Meeting.

Richer noted that with more studies being conducted that WDWDD should consider meeting on a monthly, instead of the current bi-monthly, basis to stay updated on progress. He proposes including an increase in the 2017 budget to cover additional director per diems. Ewert noted that moving to monthly meeting would require a by-law change.

### **ITEMS FROM ADMINISTRATION**

Martinez reported WDWDD received a signed copy of legal services agreement from Sarah Frankenstein. Attorney Chuck Jasper noted that a copy of the Legal Services Agreement needs to be submitted to the Attorney General to be filed.

Martinez reported that she will place a District 6 Vacancy Notice in the designated newspapers.

**ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC** – The floor was opened to the public. No public comment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,