

WEST DAKOTA WATER DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Meeting Minutes - January 19, 2011

Members Present: Gale Holbrook, Lavern E. Koch, Orland Paulsen, Dwight W. Peterson and J. Foster Sawyer

Guests Present: Dr. Alvis Lisenbee, SDSM&T; Mark Anderson and Dan Driscoll, USGS; Janie Holbrook, visitor

Staff Present: Blaise Emerson, Ali DeMersseman and Lola Lincoln

Chairman Holbrook called the regular meeting of the West Dakota Water Development District to order at 2:05 P.M. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared present.

MINUTES

MEMBER PETERSON MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE BOARD'S DECEMBER 22, 2010 MEETING AS PRESENTED; MEMBER PAULSEN SECONDED, AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

Oath of Office - Administrative Manger Emerson advised it was necessary to administer the Oath of Office to the recently elected, returning directors saying, "*...that having been elected as members of the Board of Directors for the West Dakota Water Development District, Rapid City, South Dakota, they did solemnly swear that they would support the Laws and Constitution of the United States and the State of South Dakota and faithfully perform the duties associated with the Water Development District Board of Directors,*" which was done by Messrs. Holbrook, Koch, Paulsen, Peterson and Sawyer, after which they affixed their individual signatures to their Oaths of Office.

Director Area Five Vacancy Petitions - Mr. Emerson said a petition had been received from Sandra D. Beshara for the Director Area Five vacancy and that, after the review as to its accuracy, it was a valid and correct petition.

MEMBER KOCH MOVED FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE DIRECTOR AREA FIVE PETITION FROM SANDRA D. BESHARA AS FILED; MEMBER PETERSON SECONDED, AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Beshara will be formally sworn into office at the Board's March 16th Meeting.

Director Area Two Vacancy - Mr. Emerson reported that Board Member R.J. Inskeep had not filed a petition for Director Area Two and said the position should be declared vacant and advertised as such. Chairman Holbrook asked staff to contact Pennington County for a listing of residents in the area, which would be helpful to Board Members in soliciting potential candidates to fill the vacancy.

MEMBER PETERSON MOVED TO DECLARE DIRECTOR AREA TWO VACANT AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO FOLLOW THE PROPER PROTOCOL IN ADVERTISING THE VACANCY; MEMBER SAWYER SECONDED, AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Continuation of Work on Aquifer Atlas - Mr. Emerson reported that West Dakota had received a proposal from the School of Mines regarding a Precambrian Crystalline Aquifer Study to take place in the Keystone area at a cost of \$17,500.00, but after talking with Dr. Lisenbee, he said he preferred to not do the study this year and wanted instead to focus on completing Phase IV of the Aquifer Atlas Project.

MEMBER PAULSEN MOVED TO DEFER PHASE I OF THE PRECAMBRIAN CRYSTALLINE AQUIFER STUDY AND REDIRECT THE FUNDS (\$17,250.00) TO PHASE IV OF THE AQUIFER ATLAS PROJECT; MEMBER KOCH SECONDED.

Member Sawyer asked if it was advisable for him to abstain from voting given his relationship with the School of Mines. Mr. Emerson said it would clearly illustrate the lack of conflict. Member Paulsen called the question, after which

CHAIRMAN HOLBROOK ASKED FOR A VOTE CONCERNING THE CALLING OF THE QUESTION, AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

CHAIRMAN HOLBROOK ASKED FOR A VOTE ON THE ORIGINAL MOTION TO REDIRECT FUNDS FROM THE PRECAMBRIAN CRYSTALLINE AQUIFER STUDY TO PHASE IV OF THE AQUIFER ATLAS PROJECT, AND THE MOTION PASSED WITH MEMBER SAWYER ABSTAINING.

Extension of Aquifer Vulnerability Study on Piedmont Quadrangle - Due to the unavailability of a qualified graduate student to continue the project during the Spring Semester of 2010, Dr. Lisenbee said the project had been placed on a temporary hold during the Fall Semester after which, he requested a no-cost extension for the project and authorization to utilize the remaining funds (\$9,420.84) as well as being authorized to utilize the remaining funds (\$691.54) for Phase II of the Aquifer Atlas toward other projects going forward.

MEMBER PETERSON MOVED TO GRANT A NO-COST TIME EXTENSION FROM JANUARY 1 THROUGH JUNE 15, 2011, FOR THE COMPLETION OF WORK ON THE AQUIFER VULNERABILITY STUDY ON THE PIEDMONT QUADRANGLE BY DR. LIENBEE AND STAFF AS WELL AS AUTHORIZE UTILIZATION OF THE REMAINING FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,420.84 AND TO AUTHORIZE USE OF FUNDS FROM THE AQUIFER ATLAS PHASE III STUDY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$691.54 TOWARD PROJECTS GOING FORWARD; MEMBER PAULSEN SECONDED, AND THE MOTION PASSED WITH MEMBER SAWYER ABSTAINING.

Spring Creek 319 Program Agreement with the South Dakota Discovery Center - Mr. Emerson recalled for Board Members that West Dakota received a grant in the amount of \$2,789.00 from the South Dakota Discovery Center for use in establishing a volunteer monitoring program for Upper Spring Creek, advising board action was required to authorize Chairman Holbrook to sign the agreement.

MEMBER KOCH MOVED TO AUTHORIZE CHAIRMAN HOLBROOK TO SIGN THE SPRING CREEK 319 PROGRAM AGREEMENT WITH THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISCOVERY CENTER; MEMBER PETERSON SECONDED, AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORTS

Update Concerning Director-at-Large Issue - Mr. Emerson reported that Secretary of State Chris Nelson had been contacted about the merits of this issue, and he said he was uncomfortable with the concept and did not think it would go anywhere with the South Dakota Legislature.

Ground Water Flow Model - This project would be in combination with the microgravity project already underway with the USGS, which addresses storage issues, and would look at how groundwater flows throughout the Black Hills, advised Mr. Emerson. Upon request by Chairman Holbrook, Mr. Anderson briefed Board Members on the microgravity study advising a network of sites had been established for study as a pilot project to see how the technology would work in the bedrock aquifers around the Black Hills. Mr. Anderson said, "*...the technology allowed more measurements to be taken in a lot less time and would cost a lot less than drilling wells.*" Mr. Emerson thought this was a project the Board might want to start looking at relative to putting the necessary funding together.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Memorandum of Understanding with Black Hills Council - Mr. Emerson advised this item was the District's annual agreement with the Black Hills Council for the provision of staff services and office space for Calendar-Year 2011, and it remained the same as the prior year's agreement.

MEMBER SAWYER MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE BLACK HILLS COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR CALENDAR-YEAR 2011 AS PRESENTED; MEMBER PAULSEN SECONDED, AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Authorization for Audit -

MEMBER PAULSEN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE PREPARATION OF WEST DAKOTA'S AUDIT FOR 2010 BY CATHERINE HAVEMAN, CPA; MEMBER PETERSON SECONDED, AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Designation of Official Newspaper -

MEMBER PAULSEN MOVED TO DESIGNATE THE RAPID CITY JOURNAL AS WEST DAKOTA'S OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; MEMBER KOCH SECONDED, AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Election of Officers -

MEMBER KOCH MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2011 SLATE OF OFFICERS (GALE HOLBROOK, CHAIRMAN; J. FOSTER SAWYER, VICE-CHAIRMAN; DWIGHT PETERSON, SECRETARY); MEMBER PAULSEN SECONDED, AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Retention of Treasurer -

MEMBER PETERSON MOVED TO REAPPOINT ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER EMERSON AS WEST DAKOTA'S DESIGNATED TREASURER FOR 2011; MEMBER SAWYER SECONDED, AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

End-of-Year Closeout for 2010 and Transfer of Funds - Mr. Emerson reported that West Dakota had gone \$25,390.01 over budget; consequently, a motion was necessary to transfer that amount from Reserves to the General Fund. He also said another \$25,832.00 remained obligated for the West Berry Trails Fire Project that could be redirected at the Board's next meeting. Member Peterson suggested the monies from West Berry Trails could be redirected to School of Mines' Precambrian Crystalline Aquifer Study. It was the Board's feeling that a balance should be found in managing the reserves, and, in that light, Mr. Emerson will prepare a proposal for the Board's March Meeting concerning the possible establishing of a fund to assist low-income individuals with septic system repairs.

MEMBER PAULSEN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF \$25,390.01 FROM CAPITAL RESERVES INTO THE GENERAL FUND; MEMBER KOCH SECONDED, AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Payment of Bills and Transfer of Funds -

MEMBER PETERSON MOVED TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,522.50 AND AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS NECESSARY FOR PAYMENT; MEMBER SAWYER SECONDED, AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Next Meeting Date - The next meeting date will be March 16, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT

MEMBER PETERSON MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 3:10 P.M.; MEMBER KOCH SECONDED, AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,


Dwight Peterson
Secretary