

Serving the Vermillion River Watershed

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR: Robin Dykstra - Area 5, Marion
VICE-CHAIR: Bob Iverson - Area 1, Vermillion
SECRETARY: Sarah Chadima - Area 2, Vermillion
Michael Crist - Area 3 Wakonda
Wayne Davey - Area 4, Hurley
Fred Butzke - Area 6, Salem
Anthony Halverson - Area 7, DeSmet

STAFF: Brad Preheim- Manager/Treasurer

**MINUTES
VERMILLION BASIN WATER DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
MARCH 19, 2025**

The Vermillion Basin Water Development District (VBWDD) convened at 6:00 p.m. for a regular meeting in the Automatic Irrigation building in Centerville, South Dakota, and via Zoom videoconference on Wednesday, March 19, 2025.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Robin Dykstra, Area 5
Sarah Chadima, Area 2
Wayne Davey, Area 4
Bob Iverson, Area 1
Fred Butzke - Area 6
Anthony Halverson - Area 7*

DIRECTORS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Brad Preheim - Staff
Michael Crist - Wakonda
Richard Vasgaard - TLC WPD
Alan Wittmuss - SDDANR
Kris Dozark - SDDANR*
Mike Sotak - Houston Engineering*
Rachel Olm - Houston Engineering*
Jay Jorgensen - TM Rural Water
Jay Gilbertson - East Dakota WDD*

*participated via Zoom Videoconference

Chairman Dykstra called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board reviewed the agenda for the meeting. There being no changes, Director Iverson moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Director Chadima. Motion passed unanimously.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chairman Dykstra asked if any Directors had a conflict of

interest regarding any agenda item. No conflicts were noted.

DIRECTOR VACANCY

Director Arden Abild has moved out of Director Area 3 and resigned from the Board at the January meeting. One qualified nominating petition has been submitted to fill the vacancy.

Following discussion, Director Chadima moved to accept the petition from Michael Crist of Wakonda and appoint him to fill the vacant Director Area 3 Board seat. Seconded by Fred Butzke. Motion passed unanimously. Crist assumed the Director seat upon his appointment.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Dykstra asked for any additions or corrections pertaining to the Board of Directors meeting minutes from January 22, 2025. There being none, Director Davey moved to approve those minutes. Seconded by Director Iverson. Motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Outstanding bills include: Tim & Kim Eide \$350.00 - February rent & utilities, Tim & Kim Eide \$350.00 - March rent & utilities, Century Business Products \$50.00 - February copier lease, Century Business Products \$50.00 - March copier lease, Fort Randall Telephone \$91.83 - February phone, internet, Fort Randall Telephone \$91.55 - March phone, internet, RFD Newspapers \$50.41 - publishing, New Century Press \$71.22 - publishing, Broadcaster Press \$50.81 - publishing, Kingsbury Journal \$68.46 - publishing, SDARWS \$550.00 - 2025 membership dues, MarshMcLennan \$2,427.00 - E & O insurance, Dakota Mainstem \$10,000.00 - grant, Brad Preheim \$1,076.27 - February wages, travel, phone, Brad Preheim \$1,027.94 - March wages, travel, phone, Thomson Agency \$100.00 - bond, Visa \$508.03 - supplies, travel, fees, US Treasury \$1,164.10 - payroll taxes.

The quarterly budget information and a list of grants payable were reviewed. No changes were made.

Following discussion, motion made by Director Iverson, seconded by Director Halverson to approve the financial report and pay the bills. Motion passed unanimously. The report was placed in the district files.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLANNING DISCUSSION

With the recent expansion of the District to include a large portion of the Vermillion River watershed, the Board is

exploring the possibility of some sort of watershed management planning. Rachel Olm and Mike Sotak from Houston Engineering were invited to attend the meeting and discuss this subject.

The engineers discussed a variety of topics involved in each unique watershed as well as the typical procedures that are involved with developing and implementing a plan.

The Board discussed the topic and agreed that it is a very complicated subject and deciding on a plan to move forward will take some time.

PROJECT ASSISTANCE REQUEST - CITY OF VIBORG

The Board reviewed a request for financial assistance from the City of Viborg. The City has contracted with Banner Associates Inc. to prepare a Water System Facilities Plan (WSFP). A plan was last completed in 2004 and since that time several amendments have been written to address funding requests for specific projects. The proposed new WSFP will address various projects and give guidance to the City of Viborg for years to come.

The contract with Banner for professional services will include fees of \$25,000.00 and the City is seeking financial assistance with these costs.

Following discussion, Director Iverson moved to grant the City of Viborg up to \$12,500.00 for the completion of their Water System Facilities Plan by Banner & Associates. Seconded by Director Chadima. Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Legislative Update - East Dakota Water Development District Manager Jay Gilbertson updated the Board on legislative items of interest from the 2025 session.
2. Sioux Empire Water Festival - The Manager updated the Board on this recent education and outreach event held on the campus of the University of Sioux Falls.
3. Project Updates - Ongoing projects of interest to the district were briefly discussed.
4. Correspondence - Various items from the past month were shared with the Board.

5. April Meeting - Due to the lack of timely business, Director Iverson moved to cancel the April meeting. Seconded by Director Davey. Motion passed unanimously.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

1. Dakota Mainstem Annual Meeting - March 21, Sioux Falls
2. Board of Water & Natural Resources - March 27-28, Pierre
3. VBWDD Regular Meeting - May 15, TBD Vermillion
4. VBWDD Regular Meeting - July 16, 3:00 p.m. Salem

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Director Crist moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. Seconded by Director Butzke. Motion passed unanimously.

ROBIN DYKSTA
CHAIRMAN