

Serving the counties of Turner, Clay & McCook

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR: Arden Abild - Area 3, Wakonda
VICE-CHAIR: Robin Dykstra - Area 5, Marion
SECRETARY: Bob Iverson - Area 1, Vermillion
Sarah Chadima - Area 2, Vermillion
Wayne Davey - Area 4, Hurley
Steve Gordon - McCook County

STAFF: Brad Preheim- Manager/Treasurer

**MINUTES
VERMILLION BASIN WATER DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
MAY 17, 2023**

The Board of Directors of the Vermillion Basin Water Development District (VBWDD) convened at 6:30 p.m. for a regular meeting in the district office on Wednesday, May 17, 2023.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Arden Abild, Area 3
Sarah Chadima, Area 2
Wayne Davey, Area 4
Robin Dykstra, Area 5
Bob Iverson, Area 1
Steve Gordon, McCook County

DIRECTORS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Brad Preheim - Manager
Alan Wittmuss - DANR
Kent Austin - Centerville

Chairman Abild called the meeting to order at 6:30 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 Dykstra. Motion passed unanimously.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chairman Abild asked if any Directors had a conflict of interest regarding any agenda item. No conflicts were noted.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made.

APPROVAL OF MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Abild asked for any additions or corrections pertaining

to the Board of Directors meeting from minutes from March 15, 2023. There being no changes, Director Dykstra moved to approve those minutes. Seconded by Director Iverson. Motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Outstanding bills include: Tim & Kim Eide \$325.00 – April rent & utilities, Tim & Kim Eide \$325.00 – May rent & utilities, Century Business Products \$50.00 – copier lease, Century Business Products \$50.00 – copier lease, Fort Randall Telephone \$83.11 – phone, internet, Fort Randall Telephone \$83.11 – phone, internet, Marsh & McClennan \$2,093.00 – E&O Insurance, Visa \$1,049.00 – meeting owl
Visa \$147.89 – \$4.48 publishing, \$143.41 travel, Internal Revenue \$795.50 – payroll taxes, SDUI \$21.67 – unemployment taxes, Rural Water Center \$10,000.00 – Dakota Mainstem Grant, Jordan Merrigan \$120.00 – web maintenance, Brad Preheim \$679.92 – April wages, phone
Brad Preheim \$689.92 – May wages, phone, SD Lakes & Streams \$2,500.00 – partial grant funding, Clay County Auditor \$21,240.00 – refund. Board of Director Compensation & Mileage: Sarah Chadima \$263.30 – 1st quarter 2023, Robin Dykstra \$275.09 – 1st quarter 2023, Bob Iverson \$244.96 – 1st quarter 2023, Wayne Davey \$234.48 – 1st quarter 2023, Arden Abild \$218.76 – 1st quarter 2023, Steve Gordon \$684.46 – 1st quarter 2023.

The Board reviewed the 2023 budget and grants payable. No changes were made.

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

CITY OF CENTERVILLE

1. Grant #05-21 – The VBWDD previously granted \$9,000.00 towards a drainage project involving a sewer inlet. \$5,800.00 of the grant was funded for engineering but the actual project has not moved forward. The City has more pressing needs at this time and there is some uncertainty as to how to fix the problem. The city would like to have the grant rescinded and used for another project.

Following discussion, Director Chadima moved to rescind the remaining \$5,800.00 of grant #05-21. Seconded by Director Iverson. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Project Assistance Request – Centerville Mayor Kent Austin attended the meeting to discuss the city's water tower project. The existing standpipe was constructed in 1895 and is in need of significant maintenance and repairs to meet OSHA regulations, AWWA standards and Department of Health regulations. The standpipe has exceeded its useful lifespan and needs to be replaced.

There are community discussions planned on possibly repairing the existing stand pipe and/or just restoring it enough to remain as a landmark. The engineering firm ISG has also put together an Opinion of Probable Cost for the design and construction of a new water tower. The total cost is just under 1.4 million dollars.

Included in the costs is an estimate of \$12,500.00 for preliminary engineering and \$42,500.00 for project engineering. The city is requesting financial assistance for the preliminary engineering costs.

Following discussion, Director Chadima moved to grant the City of Centerville up to \$7,500.00 for preliminary engineering costs on their water tower project. Seconded by Director Iverson. Motion passed unanimously.

DANR UPDATE

Senior Environmental Engineer Alan Wittmuss from the Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources attended the meeting to update the Board on their activities.

The last study in the Vermillion Watershed for their Watershed Protection Program was around 2005 and was sponsored by the McCook County Conservation District and assisted by the VBWDD.

They are now beginning to implement a Rotating Basins program for nine watersheds in South Dakota and the plan is to study each of them every ten years. The tentative plan is to revisit the Vermillion Watershed in 2025-2026. They will be approaching the District for assistance as the time frame draws closer.

PROJECT UPDATES

The Board discussed the following projects of interest to the VBWDD.

1. South Dakota Lakes & Streams – The VBWDD previously awarded a grant of up to \$5,000.00 for their "SD Economic Impact Study –

Dreissenid Mussels". The funding package has been finalized and the study will begin soon. They have requested one half of the amount at this time.

2. Dakota Mainstem – The VBWDD previously granted this entity \$10,000.00 to aid them in their efforts in identify future water resources for Eastern South Dakota. They are working on Articles of Incorporation & By Laws and have hired an attorney.

3. Swan Lake Association – The Association had originally planned on attending the meeting to discuss a project. However, they are still working out details with DGR Engineering and will attend a future meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. July Meeting – The July Board meeting will be held in Salem. We will reach out to entities in McCook County that may want to attend.

2. Short Term Investments – With rising interest rates, Manager Preheim inquired about short term CD options. Following discussion Director Iverson moved to give the Manager and Chairman authority to pursue Certificates of Deposit at their discretion. Seconded by Director Chadima. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Copier Lease – Motion made by Iverson, seconded by Chadima to renew the copier lease shared with the TLC Water Project District. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Correspondence & Literature – Various items from the past month were shared with the Board.

5. Cancel June Meeting – Due to the lack of timely business, Director Davey moved to cancel the June meeting. Seconded by Director Dykstra. Motion passed unanimously.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

1. Board of Water & Natural Resources – June 29-30, Pierre
2. VBWDD Board of Directors – July 19, 3:00 p.m., Salem
3. VBWDD Board of Directors – August 23, 6:30 p.m., Centerville
4. River Appreciation Day – September 12, Clay County Park
5. Eastern SD Water Conference – October 11, Brookings

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Director Iverson moved to

adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. Seconded by Director Dykstra.
Motion passed unanimously.

**RECORDED BY BRAD PREHEIM
MANAGER**

**ATTEST: ARDEN ABILD
CHAIRMAN**