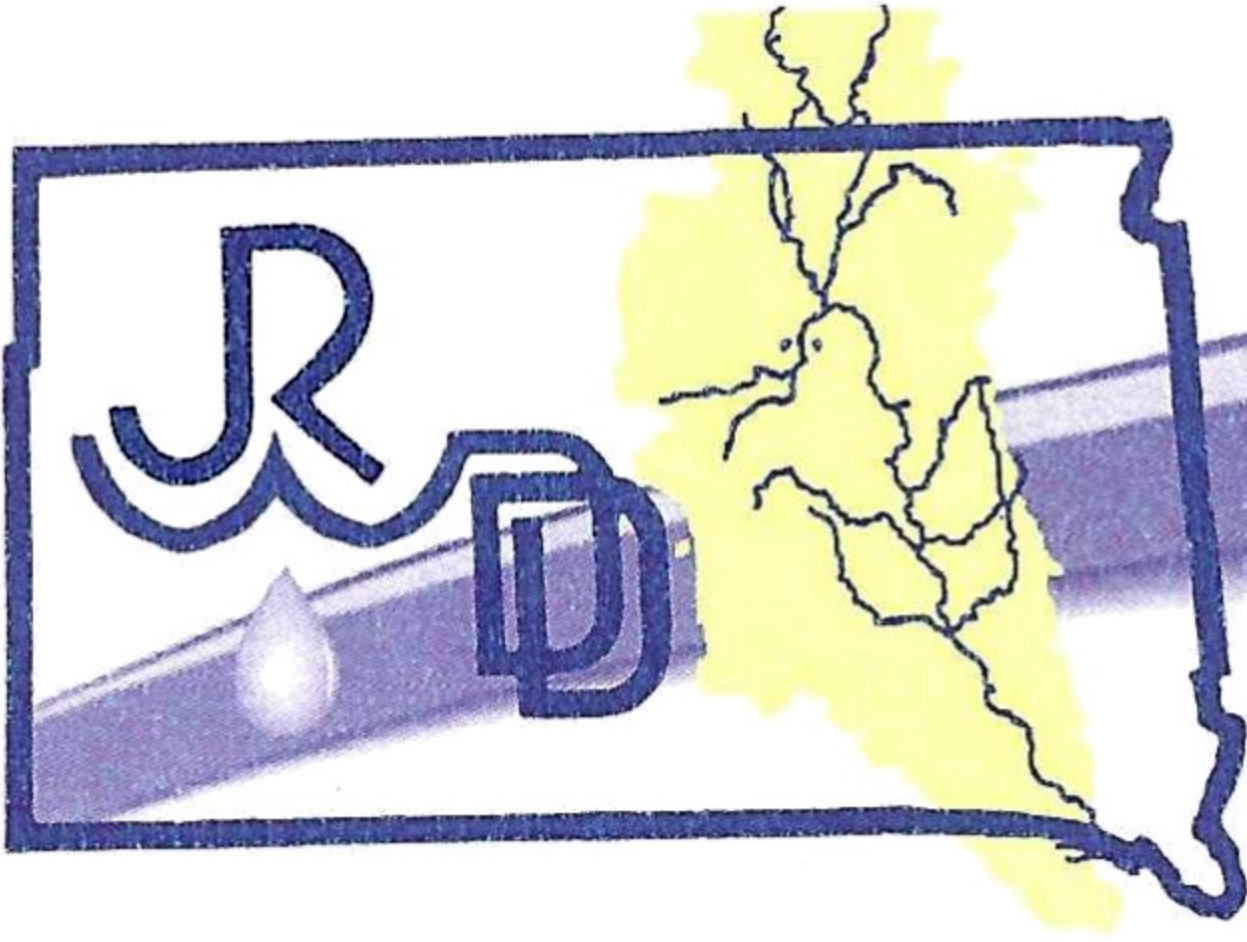


# James River Water Development District



PO Box 849  
Huron SD 57350  
Ph: 605-352-0600  
Fax: 605-352-0606  
TF: 800-99-RIVER

## JAMES RIVER WATER DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES MARCH 18, 2021

The James River Water Development District (JRWD) Board of Directors convened at 9:00 A.M. for its regular meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2021 by way of Zoom.

ROLL CALL: The following persons were in attendance:

### DIRECTORS PRESENT

Dan Koupal – Mitchell  
Dan Klimisch – Yankton  
Randy Stanley – Groton  
Mike Wiese – Aberdeen  
Frank Amundson – Huron  
Carol Millan – Mitchell  
Robert Braun - Aberdeen  
LeRoy Braun – Mellette  
Clinton Bauer - Freeman

### DIRECTORS ABSENT

### STAFF PRESENT

Judy Smoyer, CFO & Associate Manager  
Dave Bartel, District Manager  
Rocky Knippling, Watershed Coordinator  
Shane Deranleau, Watershed Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT: Erik Kaufman – Mitchell Daily Republic, Roger Rix – Mud Creek Watershed District, Chris Brozik – Representing Davison County Highway Department, Jessica Batterman – US Army Corps of Engineers, - Raymond Wright – Town of Hitchcock

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Director Wiese, seconded by Director Koupal to approve the agenda as printed. **Motion passed on a roll call vote.**

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Chairman Klimisch asked if any Directors had a conflict of interest regarding any agenda item. The following was disclosed at the January 21, 2021 annual meeting and is ongoing until otherwise disclosed:

The following Directors shared the following information:

- Director Robert Braun is currently employed by the City of Aberdeen
- Director Mike Wiese is currently a Brown County Commissioner
- Chairman Dan Klimisch is currently a Yankton County Commissioner

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF January 21, 2021 MINUTES: The following will be added to the January 21, 2021 minutes under ELECTION OF OFFICERS: *Frank Amundson will continue as the District's Treasurer.* Motion by Director Stanley, seconded by Director R. Braun to approve the Minutes as amended. **Motion passed on a roll call vote.**



**UPDATE FROM US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS ON UPSTREAM RESERVOIRS AND 2021 RELEASES:**

Jessica Batterman from US Army Corps of Engineers in Omaha gave an update on the upstream reservoirs and 2021 releases. A low flow year is predicted, as designated in the Water Control Manual for Jamestown and Pipestem reservoirs. The maximum combined releases from Jamestown and Pipestem reservoirs will be at 200 cfs and releases will be adjusted based on spring and summer rainfall.

**2020 TREE PLANTING FUNDS TO HANSON CONSERVATION DISTRICT:** Hanson Conservation District submitted a request for their 2020 tree planting efforts on December 16, 2020 via email in the amount of \$14,136.28. Hanson Conservation District had \$15,000 in available funds which expired on December 31, 2020. The email was inadvertently missed by staff. **Motion** by Director Millan, seconded by Director Wiese to authorize payment in the amount of \$14,136.28 to Hanson Conservation District for their 2020 tree planting efforts. **Motion passed on a roll call vote.**

**CITY OF HURON - 3<sup>rd</sup> STREET DAM FUNDS:** The City of Huron submitted bills in the amount of \$8,960.06 on February 4, 2021 for costs associated with the design and engineering on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street dam project. The City of Huron's grant expired on December 31, 2020 with an amount of \$7,813.84 remaining. **Motion** by Director Wiese, seconded by Director Amundson to authorize payment in the amount of \$4,480.03 (50% of the \$8,960.06) to the City of Huron for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street dam project. **Motion passed on a roll call vote.**

**DAVISON COUNTY – DRAINAGE FABRIC AND RIPRAP INSTALLATION:** Chris Brozik PE, representing Davison County Highway Department, was present to request project assistance funds in the amount of \$28,490 for drainage fabric and riprap installation costs with replacing Structure 18-170-141 that was severely damaged beyond repair during major flooding events in 2019. The installation of drainage fabric and riprap will help mitigate sediment transport from entering the James River, which will reduce water contamination by soil erosion and help protect the structures from future scour and flooding events. **Motion** by Director Koupal, seconded by Director L. Braun to authorize cost-share assistance up to a maximum of \$28,490, not to exceed 50% of the costs to Davison County Highway Department for fabric and riprap installation for Structure 18-170-141. **Motion carried on a roll call vote.** These funds will expire on March 18, 2023.

**DAVISON COUNTY – DRAINAGE FABRIC AND RIPRAP INSTALLATION:** Chris Brozik – PE, representing Davison County Highway Department, was present to request project assistance funds in the amount of \$29,330 for drainage fabric and riprap installation costs with replacing Structure 18-120-153, 18-070-153 and 18-030-144 that were severely damaged beyond repair during major flooding events in 2019. The installation of drainage fabric and riprap will help mitigate sediment transport from entering the James River, which will reduce water contamination by soil erosion and help protect the structures from future scour and flooding events. **Motion** by Director Amundson, seconded by Director R. Braun to authorize cost-share assistance up to a maximum of \$29,330, not to exceed 50% of the costs to Davison County Highway Department for fabric and riprap installation for Structure 18-120-153, Structure 18-070-153 and Structure 18-030-144. **Motion carried on a roll call vote.** These funds will expire on March 18, 2023.

**CITY OF HITCHCOCK – LIFT STATION RELINING:** Raymond Wright, President of Hitchcock, was present to request project assistance funds in the amount of \$37,925 to install a new fiberglass liner to their lift station, which will prevent wastewater from seeping into the ground water. Total cost of the project is estimated at \$75,850. **Motion** by Director R. Braun, seconded by Director Koupal to authorize cost-



share assistance up to a maximum of \$37,925, not to exceed 50% of the costs to the City of Hitchcock to reline their lift station. **Motion carried on a role call vote.** These funds will expire on March 18, 2023.

**CITY OF MELLETTE – LIFT STATION IMPROVEMENT:** Brian Bauer, Mayor of Mellette, is requesting project assistance funds in the amount of \$50,000 to upgrade their lift station and controls as well as upgrading the current 4-inch line to a 6-inch line so the pumps can run concurrently, preventing issues due to water infiltrating the system. Total cost of the project is estimated at \$353,304.85. **Motion by Director L. Braun, seconded by Director R. Braun to authorize cost-share assistance up to a maximum of \$34,000, not to exceed 50% of the costs to the City of Mellette to upgrade their lift station. Motion carried on a role call vote.** These funds will expire on March 18, 2023.

**BROWN COUNTY: DUSTY SCHLEY:** Dusty Schley, landowner in Brown County, was present to request project assistance funds in the amount of \$22,125 to build a low head dam in Mud Creek at the downstream end of his property. Representatives of Brown County conveyed their opposition with the project. Total cost of the project is estimated at \$29,500. **Motion by Director Wiese, seconded by Director L. Braun to authorize cost-share assistance up to a maximum of \$14,750, not to exceed 50% of the costs to Dusty Schley to build a low head dam in Brown County. Motion failed on a role call vote (Nay: Stanley, Amundson, Koupal, Millan, Klimisch, Bauer).**

**YANKTON COUNTY – JOHN SEES:** John Sees, landowner in Yankton County, is requesting project assistance funds in the amount of \$12,240 to build a dam in Walshtown Township. This silt dam will sit above the main dam to protect it and to filter out debris from coming into the main dam. Total cost to build the dam is \$16,320. **Motion by Director L. Braun, seconded by Director Wiese to authorize cost-share assistance up to a maximum of \$12,240, not to exceed 75% of the total project costs, to John Sees to build a dam in Yankton County. Motion passed on a roll call vote (Nay: Amundson).** These funds will expire on March 18, 2023.

**YANKTON COUNTY – LARRY SEES:** Larry Sees, landowner in Yankton County, is requesting project assistance funds in the amount of \$14,229 to repair a dam in Walshtown Township. This dam sits a mile above the James River and has been severely damaged over the past years due to large amounts of runoff. Total cost to repair the dam is \$18,972. **Motion by Director L. Braun, seconded by Director Wiese to authorize cost-share assistance up to a maximum of \$14,229, not to exceed 75% of the total project costs, to Larry Sees to repair a dam in Yankton County. Motion passed on a roll call vote (Nay: Amundson).** These funds will expire on March 18, 2023.

**SOUTH CENTRAL WATERSHED PROJECT UPDATE:** Rocky Knippling updated the Board on the South Central Watershed Project.

- Continue working with City of Mitchell on the Firesteel Creek project
- Applying for \$2.7 million with RCCP
- Water sampling will continue in 2021 and will increase sampling significantly in 2022 which will require additional help, vehicle, supplies, etc.

**DISTRICT UPDATE:** Staff and Directors reported on the following activities of the District:

- Included in the board packet, by Dave Bartel, was a log of meetings attended, project site visits and other items he has been working on.
- Manager Bartel is working on a cost share program to help with waterlines, tanks, hookups, solar pumps, etc. to help get quality water for livestock.
- The video and audio equipment has been order from Direct Technologies and will be installed when the product becomes available.



- ELO has started the 2020 fiscal year audit
- Policy Committee: Directors Millan (Chair), Amundson and Stanley presented a draft of changes and additions to the by-laws and policy document for the board to review. The revised documents will be presented and approved at the May meeting.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** The Board reviewed the January 2021 financial reports. **Motion** by Director Wiese, seconded by Director Amundson to approve the January 2021 financials as printed. **Motion passed on a roll call vote.**

**BOARD OF DIRECTOR AND STAFF REIMBURSEMENTS:** **Motion** by Director Koupal, seconded by Director Wiese to approve staff and Director expenses. **Motion passed on a roll call vote.**

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held May 13 by video or audio at 9:00 am.

**ADJOURN:** Being no further business, Chairman Klimisch declared the meeting adjourned at 10:50 am.

Respectfully submitted:



Secretary