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JAMES RIVER WATER DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 16, 2023

The James River Water Development District (JRWD) Board of Directors convened at 9:00 A.M. for its regular meeting on Thursday, March 16, 2023 at the District Office in Huron, SD.

ROLL CALL: The following persons were in attendance:

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Dan Koupal – Mitchell (via ZOOM)
Randy Stanley – Groton (via ZOOM)
Mike Wiese – Aberdeen (via ZOOM)
Carol Millan – Mitchell (via ZOOM)
Robert Braun – Aberdeen
Dan Klimisch – Utica (via ZOOM)
Pat Cerny – Yankton (via ZOOM)
Dennis Bennett – Huron

DIRECTORS ABSENT

LeRoy Braun – Mellette

STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Charron – SD Lakes & Streams Association, Janet Gross & Dan Leckner – Lake Byron Development Association

OTHERS PRESENT via ZOOM: Alex Flanigan, P.E. – US Army Corps of Engineers, Dan Loveland, Dave Charron & Deb Soholt – SD Lakes & Streams Association, Jay Gilbertson – EDWDD, Gerry Kaufman – Lake Byron Development Association

OATH OF OFFICE: Carol Millan took the oath of office.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Motion** by Director Koupal, seconded by Director Stanley to approve the agenda as printed. **Motion passed.**

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Chairman Wiese asked if any Directors had a conflict of interest regarding any agenda item. No conflicts on current agenda items. The following is ongoing until otherwise disclosed:

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

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 19, 2023 MINUTES: Motion by Director Klimisch, seconded by Director Stanley to approve the Minutes as printed. **Motion passed.**

DIRECTOR AREA 5 APPOINTMENT: Dennis Bennett turned in a valid petition for office of Director Area 5. **Motion** by Director Klimisch, seconded by Director R. Braun to appoint Dennis Bennett to serve as the Director Area 5 representative through the end of December 2026. **Motion passed.**

OATH OF OFFICE: Dennis Bennett took the oath of office.

APPOINTMENT OF TREASURER: Director Bennett was appointed as the Treasurer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

UPDATE FROM US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS ON UPSTREAM RESERVOIRS AND 2023 RELEASES: Alex Flanigan, P.E. from US Army Corps of Engineers in Omaha gave an update on the upstream reservoirs and 2023 releases. A medium 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 750 cfs and releases will be adjusted based on spring and summer rainfall.

SOUTH DAKOTA LAKES & STREAMS – STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF DREISSENIID MUSSELS: Representatives for the South Dakota Lakes & Streams Association were present to request project assistance funds in the amount of \$20,000 for costs associated with assessing the potential economic impacts of aquatic invasive species, specifically the zebra mussels and quagga mussels. The work will be conducted by faculty from the University of South Dakota and South Dakota State University. The study will be modeled after a similar study conducted in Montana to explore potential impacts as a basis for more aggressive preventative and mitigation efforts. The projected cost of the two-year study is \$72,000. **Motion** by Director Klimisch, seconded by Director Millan to authorize cost-share assistance of \$20,000 to South Dakota Lakes & Streams for costs associated with the study. **Motion passed.** These funds will expire on March 16, 2025.

LAKE BYRON DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION – BANK STABILIZATION AT LAKE BYRON: Representatives for the Lake Byron Development Association were present to request project assistance funds in the amount of \$50,000 for costs associated with additional bank stabilization along the shore of Lake Byron. The District has authorized funds in the past for bank stabilization to landowners at Lake Byron. This request is to continue the bank stabilization efforts and will be for new projects. The District manager will monitor and inspect the projects as they are completed before payment is made. **Motion** by Director Millan, seconded by Director Koupal to authorize cost-share assistance up to a maximum of \$25,000, not to exceed 50% of the costs of bank stabilization. **Motion passed.** These funds will expire on March 16, 2025.

SOUTH CENTRAL WATERSHED AND WATER QUALITY MONITORING UPDATE: Rocky Knippling provided the following updates on the South Central Watershed Project:

- Firesteel Creek is ongoing.
- Water sampling will extend into the northern area. Additional equipment has been purchased and two sampling teams will be collecting data in 2023.
- The District received the First Amendment to the grant agreement between SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources and JRWDD for the South Central Water Quality Monitoring Project. This amendment updates the terms, conditions, and budget of the project. **Motion** by Director R. Braun, seconded by Director Koupal to authorize Chairman Wiese to sign the First Amendment to the South Central Water Quality Monitoring Project. **Motion passed.**

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

- Dennis Bennett will need to be added to the bank accounts as an authorized signer. **Motion** by Director Klimisch, seconded by Director Cerny to add Dennis Bennett to the bank accounts at First National Bank. **Motion carried.**
- SD Legislative Audit has authorized ELO Prof to perform the 2022 audit of the District; ELO has started the 2022 audit.
- The office has received several calls about upcoming projects that will be coming before the board.

TREASURERS REPORT: The Board reviewed the January 2023 financial reports. **Motion** by Director R. Braun, seconded by Director Cerny to approve the January 2023 financials as discussed and printed. **Motion passed.**

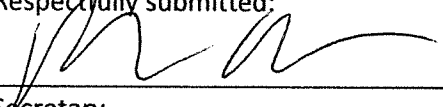
The Board reviewed the February 2023 financial reports. **Motion** by Director Millan, seconded by Director Klimisch to approve the February 2023 financials as discussed and printed. **Motion passed.**

BOARD OF DIRECTOR AND STAFF REIMBURSEMENTS: **Motion** by Director Stanley, seconded by Director R. Braun to approve staff and Director expenses. **Motion passed.**

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held May 11 in Mitchell at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURN: Being no further business, Chairman Wiese declared the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Secretary