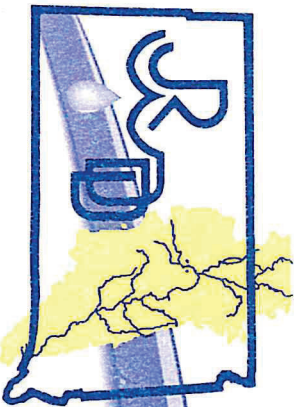


James River Water Development District



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JAMES RIVER WATER DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES MAY 8, 2025

The James River Water Development District (JRWD) Board of Directors convened at 9:00 A.M. for its regular meeting on Thursday, May 8, 2025 at the Davison County North Offices in Mitchell, SD.

ROLL CALL: The following people were in attendance:

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Mike Wiese - Aberdeen
LeRoy Braun – Mellette
Dennis Bennett – Huron
John Rubendall – Mitchell
Randy Stanley – Groton
Dan Klimisch – Utica
Pat Cerny – Yankton
Carol Millan – Mitchell

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Robert Braun – Aberdeen

STAFF PRESENT

Judy McDonald, CFO & Associate Manager
Dave Bartel, District Manager
Matt Cavenee, Watershed Coordinator
Shane Deranleau, Watershed Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT: Sign-In Sheet attached

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Director Klimisch, seconded by Director Stanley, to approve the agenda with the following addition: *an update from the Silver Lake Association to follow the update on Lake Mitchell.* **Motion carried.**

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

- Director Mike Wiese is currently a Brown County Commissioner
- Director Dan Klimisch is currently a Yankton County Commissioner
- Director Dennis Bennett is currently employed by the City of Huron

APPROVAL OF MARCH 13, 2025 MINUTES: Motion by Director Klimisch, seconded by Director L. Braun to approve the Minutes as printed. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

UPDATE ON LAKE MITCHELL: Joe Schroeder, Public Works Director/City Engineer from the City of Mitchell gave an update on the Proposed Lake Mitchell Restoration Project.

- The project is expected to start Spring/Summer 2026
- There is approximately two million cubic yards of sediment in the lake and the project will focus on removing approximately one million cubic yards of sediment

- The sediment removed during the project will be placed in a designated holding site at Firesteel Park. The site will include 20-foot-tall berms to contain the material. Future use of the area is yet to be determined but may include enhancements such as tree planting, bike trails, a sledding hill, etc.

UPDATE ON SILVER LAKE: Several members of the Silver Lake Association gave an update on the Silver Lake Association. They are dedicated to preserving, protecting and enhancing the natural beauty and ecological health of Silver Lake in Hutchinson County. They will be coming to the Board to ask for funding assistance to complete an improvements study and master plan to prioritize projects and initiatives.

US FISH & WILDLIFE – RANGELAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES: Chuck Pyle, State Coordinator SD Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program was present to request project assistance funds in the amount of \$75,000 to promote rangeland management practices within the District. The District participated in this program in 2022. The goal of the project is to promote grassland management which is beneficial for wildlife production, erosion reduction, and improved water quality in the James River. Participating landowners will provide 50% of the costs of their project and US Fish & Wildlife and JRWDD will each contribute up to 25%. **Motion** by Director Millan, seconded by Director Bennett to authorize cost-share assistance up to a maximum of \$50,000, not to exceed 25% of the total project costs, to US Fish and Wildlife for rangeland management practices within the District. **Motion carried.** These funds will expire on May 8, 2027.

DAVISON COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: STRUCTURE 18-070-198: Chris Brozik, VP with Civil Design, Inc was present to request project assistance funds in the amount of \$14,748.15 for costs associated with drainage fabric and riprap installation, and engineering associated with the riprap/scour design at Structure 18-070-198 in Davison County. This project will help reduce water contamination by soil erosion and help protect the structure from future scour and flooding events. The total cost of the project is \$770,098. **Motion** by Director Klimisch, seconded by Director Cerny to authorize cost-share assistance up to a maximum of \$14,748.15, not to exceed 50% of the total costs, to Davison County for the drainage fabric and riprap installation, and engineering. **Motion carried.** These funds will expire on May 8, 2027.

DAVISON COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: STRUCTURE 18-050-143: Chris Brozik, VP with Civil Design, Inc was present to request project assistance funds in the amount of \$42,927.50 for costs associated with drainage fabric and riprap installation, and engineering associated with the riprap/scour design at Structure 18-050-143 in Davison County. This project will help reduce water contamination by soil erosion and help protect the structure from future scour and flooding events. The total cost of the project is \$980,440. **Motion** by Director Klimisch, seconded by Director Bennett to authorize cost-share assistance up to a maximum of \$42,927.50 not to exceed 50% of the total costs, to Davison County for the drainage fabric and riprap installation, and engineering. **Motion carried.** These funds will expire on May 8, 2027.

GREEN ACRES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION: Susan Stewart, representing the Green Acres Homeowners Association, was present to request additional funding in the amount of \$10,549. In 2021, the Association was awarded \$34,626.50; however, due to increased costs related to COVID-19, the total project cost rose from \$69,253 to \$90,351.05. The project has been completed, and the Association is seeking supplemental funding of up to \$10,549 to cover the extra costs. The Board expressed sympathy for the situation but declined the request, citing concerns about setting a precedent for future funding requests related to cost overruns.

TOWN OF VOLIN : The Board reviewed a request from the Town of Volin for water tower and pump house repairs. There was no representation present to address the Board's questions.

Motion by Director Cerny, seconded by Director Klimisch, to table the request until the July meeting and request that a representative be present at that time. **Motion carried.**

YANKTON COUNTY – LYLE HAUGER: Lyle Hauger, landowner in Yankton County, is requesting project assistance funds in the amount of \$14,608.44 to build a dam in Mayfield Township. This dam will be built above an old dam, that is beyond repair. The dam will keep debris and sediment from reaching Lake Marindahl. The total cost to build the dam is \$19,477.92. **Motion** by Director Klimisch, seconded by Director Cerny to authorize cost-share assistance up to a maximum of \$14,608.44, not to exceed 75% of the total project costs, to Lyle Hauger to build a dam in Yankton County. **Motion carried.** These funds will expire on May 8, 2027.

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

- Funding for current programs remains secure
- Progress on the Mitchell SRF program (Firesteel Creek) was discussed
- Water sampling is planned to start next week

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
- 2024 audit in progress

TREASURERS REPORT: The Board reviewed the February 2025 financial reports. **Motion** by Director L. Braun, seconded by Director Bennett to approve the January 2025 financials as discussed and printed. **Motion carried.** The Board reviewed the March 2025 financial reports. **Motion** by Director Klimisch, seconded by Director Bennett to approve the March 2025 financials as discussed and printed. **Motion carried.**

BOARD OF DIRECTOR AND STAFF REIMBURSEMENTS: **Motion** by Director Klimisch, seconded by Director Cerny to approve Staff and Director expenses. **Motion carried.**

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held July 10 in Yankton at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURN: Being no further business, Chairman Wiese declared the meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Secretary