



Draft minutes for regular board meeting on May 12, 2026, 3 PM

An audio recording for this meeting is available at www.westdakotawater.com

CALL TO ORDER: The West Dakota Water Development District (WDWDD) convened at 3:00 PM (Mountain Time).

AGENDA ITEM 1. Pledge of Allegiance. (Chair) 3:00 PM

AGENDA ITEM 2. Roll Call of Members. (Admin) 3:01 PM

Directors present: Ron Koth (Area 1), Roy Boschee (Area 2), Dan Driscoll (Area 3), Scott McGregor (Area 4), Dan Mulally (Area 5), Thomas Mack (Area 7), Mark Kline, (Area 8), Craig Kjar (Area 9)

Directors absent:, William Young (Area 6)

A quorum was declared.

Administration present: Larry Stetler (Program Administrator)

Others in attendance (as per sign-in sheet): Barry Muxen (CWA, BHEC, Sierra Club), Lori Brown (BH Watershed Collaborative), Hans Stephanson (BH Watershed Collaborative), Jay Gilbertson (East Dakota Water Development District), Chris Stover (BH Watershed Collaborative), Chuck Mordhorst (SD GFP), Jim Jones (Western Dakota Regional Water Systems), Frank Henderson (Green Valley Sanitation)

AGENDA ITEM 3. Approval of Agenda (The board cannot take official action on any item not on the agenda) (Chair)

Motion 1 by Driscoll seconded by McGregor to approve agenda (with the following addition):

Changes: reorder items 15 and 16.

Motion 1: carries unanimously on a voice vote 3:03 PM

AGENDA ITEM 4. Conflict of interest disclosure. (chair)

0 conflicts stated:

AGENDA ITEM 5. Approval of minutes from March 10, 2026 meeting. (chair)

Motion 2 by Driscoll second by Kline to approve minutes from March 10, 2026 meeting with the following change(s): item 19: 'read' changes to 'rear'

Motion 2 carries unanimously on a voice vote. 3:05 PM

AGENDA ITEM 6. Treasurers Report (Stetler)

Motion 3 by McGregor seconded by Boschee to accept the treasurers report (with alterations listed below).

Motion 3 carries unanimously on a voice vote. 3:12 PM

AGENDA ITEM 7. Funding request: Resilient Headwaters and Holistic Riverscape Restoration Planning. \$75,000. Black Hills Watershed Collaborative. Presentation slides posted on website. Discussion highlighted a current lack of scope and detailed budget.

Motion 4 by McGregor seconded by Boschee to defer action until the July 14 regular meeting when additional requested clarification on budget and scope are brought forward by BH Watershed Collaborative.

Motion 4 carries Mulally opposed 4:05 PM

AGENDA ITEM 8. Authorization: Purchase name tags for Directors to use at public functions.

Motion 5 by Kline seconded by McGregor to purchase name tags for directors.

Motion 5 carries

AGENDA ITEM 9. Rescind Green Valley Sanitation District funding from 2020. \$125,000.

Motion 6 by McGregor (with no second) to rescind Green Valley Sanitation funding from 2020 in the amount of \$125,000.

Frank Henderson, Green Valley Sanitation Board President (Feb. 2026), detailed the history of this grant and updated the WD Board on current progress by Green Valley to assess the viability of project continuation. He requested this grant not be rescinded and he will return and present the newest information at the July 14 2026 regular meeting.

Motion 6 withdrawn by McGregor. 4:25 PM

AGENDA ITEM 10. Information: Update on Western Dakota Regional Water Systems by Jim Jones, engineer (AE2S). Presentation is posted on the website.

AGENDA ITEM 11. Information: Deerfield/Pactola reservoir modeling stakeholder meeting, Apr. 17, 2026. Details listed in the meeting packet.

AGENDA ITEM 12. Funding change order: \$27,000 for Barr Engineering.

Discussion was based on information outlined in Item 11. New information on reservoir operations at the Apr 17 meeting has resulted in additional efforts by Barr Engineering, estimated at \$27,000, to provide a final project report that will allow the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to proceed with an Operational Investigation for the Deerfield/Pactola reservoir system.

Motion 7 by Koth seconded by Kjar to approve \$25,000 additional funding to Barr Engineering to finalize the modelling project to a condition that will allow the BOR to forward the project into an operational investigation.

Motion 7 carries McGregor opposed 5:26 PM

AGENDA ITEM 13. Information: Earth Day report

AGENDA ITEM 14. Information: Erosion Control Committee projects report.

AGENDA ITEM 15: Discussion: review of request for Attorney General opinion.

Review of the letter sent to SD Attorney General for clarification on Water Development District projects, locations, and activities on private/public lands was reviewed. Comments were made by Jay Gilbertson (EDWDD) as to how they and other water districts in SD have and are functioning. He suggested that WDWDD directors write a District Priorities document stating the current beliefs of the directors and what does and what does not meet funding requirements of the district. This document will allow future boards a reference point for future district activities. Mr. Gilbertson said he would be willing to facilitate the process.

AGENDA ITEM 16: Discussion: Potential future project/funding opportunities for West Dakota.

Concerns were expressed by Driscoll about the current surplus in WD funds. Koth noted that the results of the current 319 project will identify areas where funds required to conduct stream work will easily drawdown this surplus. Additional discussion on WD tax levy requests will be explored in more detail at the 2027 preliminary budget presentation during the July 14, 2026 regular meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 17: Discussion: 2026 Director elections, petitions, and open positions.

Directors from areas 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9 expire Dec. 31, 2026. At the close of filing with the State a notification to run for office, areas 1, 3, and 5 had received notifications to run. Currently, areas 7 and 9 are vacant.

AGENDA ITEM 17: Chair's comments. Receiving phone calls on tax levy from public.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Items from directors. Koth requested Mulally to circulate 'prioritization' documents to others.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Items from admin. None

AGENDA ITEM 19: Items from public. Mr. Muxen noted hearings on Scenic Corp request to explore for uranium. Hearing begin in Hot Springs Monday, May 18 9AM and last 5 days.

AGENDA ITEM 20: Adjournment by Chairman Mack 6:39 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Larry D Stetler, Program Administrator

Craig Kjar, Secretary