

DEVILS LAKE BASIN JOINT WATER RESOURCE BOARD

Minutes of the regular monthly meeting held Thursday, December 7th, 2023, in the Sheyenne Meeting Room of the Bismarck Hotel and Conference Center, Bismarck, ND.

Chairman Dave Sateren called the meeting to order at 12 noon. Roll call of the counties was taken, Pierce and Towner County Representatives were absent, all other representatives were in attendance.

Cavalier County	Van Howatt
Eddy County	Mike Tweed
Nelson County	Dave Sateren
Pierce County	Absent
Ramsey County	Duaine Ash
Towner County	Absent
Walsh County	Albin Jallo

Chairman Sateren asked if anyone had any additional items for today's agenda. **Tweed made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Jallo, motion passed unanimously.**

VISITORS & INTRODUCTIONS:

Chairman Sateren, instructed the board members and those in the audience to introduce themselves and where they are from or the organization they represent. A list of attendees will accompany the official minutes.

Chairman Sateren stated that the November 8th board meeting minutes had been sent out. He asked if everyone had an opportunity to read the minutes and if there were any corrections or additions. **Ash moved to approve the minutes of the November 8th, 2023 meeting, seconded by Howatt, motion passed unanimously.**

The financial report for the month was presented:

Jallo moved to approve the financial report, seconded by Howatt, and the motion passed unanimously.

December, 2023 Bills

The following list of bills was presented for payment:

December 2023 Bills		Amount	Ck #
	ND Irrigation Association - 2024 Membership	\$100.00	4973
	ND Water Users Association - 2024 Membership	\$300.00	4974
	ND Water Coalition - 2024 Membership	\$1,000.00	4975
	New Rockford Transcript - Annual Subscription	\$40.00	4976
	Ramsey County Auditor - Wages & Withholding Taxes	\$5,882.09	4977
	Ramsey County Water Resource District (Copier Rent)	\$125.00	4978
	Ramsey County Water Resource District (Admin. Assistance)	\$300.00	4978
	Ramsey County Auditor: Rent	\$190.00	4979
	Ramsey County Auditor - Postage	\$20.00	4979
	Ramsey County Auditor: Telephone	\$55.49	4979
	NDTC - Website Hosting	\$21.83	4980
	Ramsey County Auditor - Health Insurance	\$2,062.94	4981
	Leevers - November Meeting Expenses	\$16.88	4982
	Jeff Frith - Cell Phone Expense	\$101.25	4983
	Dick Johnson - Water Stewardship Award Travel	\$317.66	4985
	Gerrells Sports Center - Award Plaque	\$61.24	4986
	Intuit QuickBooks Online Monthly	\$45.00	ACH
	Ramsey County Fair Foundation - Project Cost Share Request	\$15,000.00	4984
	Total Admin	\$10,539.38	
	Total General Project	\$15,000.00	

Total**\$25,539.38**

Tweed moved to pay the bills as listed, seconded by Ash, and the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

2024 MEETING & WATER TOUR DATES

The 2024 meeting dates were presented for final approval. Frith stated that he kept the dates on the the 2nd Wednesday of each month, the annual Devils Lake Area Water Tour for the 3rd Thursday in June and the December meeting in Bismarck once again in conjunction with the Annual Convention.

2024 MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY, January 10th ...9a.m.	Historical Meeting Room, Ramsey County Courthouse (Devils Lake)
WEDNESDAY, February. 14th9 a.m.	Historical Meeting Room, Ramsey County Courthouse (Devils Lake)
WEDNESDAY, March 13th9 a.m.	Historical Meeting Room, Ramsey County Courthouse (Devils Lake)
WEDNESDAY, April 10th.....9 a.m.	Historical Meeting Room, Ramsey County Courthouse (Devils Lake)
WEDNESDAY, May 8th....8a.m.	Historical Meeting Room, Ramsey County Courthouse (Devils Lake)
WEDNESDAY, June 12th....8 a.m.	Historical Meeting Room, Ramsey County Courthouse (Devils Lake)
THURSDAY, June 20th.....All Day	20th Annual Joint Board & ND Water Education Foundation Tour
WEDNESDAY, July 10th...8 a.m.	Historical Meeting Room, Ramsey County Courthouse (Devils Lake)
WEDNESDAY, August 14th...8 a.m.	Historical Meeting Room, Ramsey County Courthouse (Devils Lake)
WEDNESDAY, September 11th....8 a.m.	Historical Meeting Room, Ramsey County Courthouse (Devils Lake)
WEDNESDAY, October 9th....8 a.m.	Historical Meeting Room, Ramsey County Courthouse (Devils Lake)
WEDNESDAY, November 13th ...9 a.m.	Historical Meeting Room, Ramsey County Courthouse (Devils Lake)
THURSDAY, December 12th12:00 p.m.	Bismarck Hotel – Bismarck ND, State Convention

Howatt made a motion to approve the 2024 meeting dates and the date of the 2024 water tour; Jallo seconded the motion, and the motion unanimously passed.

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES:

Director Andrea Travnicek, Devils Lake Project Engineer Yaping Chi, and Regulatory Chief Aaron Carranza were all present and gave updates from the ND Department of Water Resources. Director Travnicek discussed the State of Water she presented to the conference yesterday and the Capital Improvement Plan that Barlett & West Engineering is working on for the West Devils Lake Outlet. Yaping gave a synopsis of the Outlet Operations for the year that they were able to remove about 88,000-acre-feet between the two structures, and they were shut down for the season on October 24th. Aaron mentioned the Floodplain Administration meeting that he and staff members will attend in Devils Lake next week. Frith stated that he had asked DWR staff and FEMA representatives to present information regarding the Floodplain Administration and the Nation Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The meeting will take place in Devils Lake, Tuesday December 12th at 10 AM.

NADAWN SITES AND ALL-SEASON ADDITION:

Daryl Ritchison attended and discussed the NDAWN (North Dakota Agriculture Weather Network) system and gages within the Devils Lake Basin. Daryl mentioned that he would have funds to install two all-season gages in the Devils Lake Basin, and he is flexible as to where they are placed and would like to work with the Joint Board to see where we would like to have them placed. The only thing that Daryl mentioned would be the site location to ensure that there would be no limitations to snow wind. He mentioned that the Webster and Brocket sites would be good locations. Daryl said that he will be installing all-season gages with funding from the Red River Joint Board throughout the Red River Basin, and two of those will be close to the Devils Lake Basin in Pekin and Baker NDAWN sites.

USGS – Dan Thomas:

Dan Thomas, Supervisory Hydrologist, and Field Office Chief with the US Geological Survey Dakota Water Science Center in Grand Forks was in attendance and presented the information gathered through the Real-time gages within the Devils Lake Basin, the rise of lakes in the basin and discussed some changes coming in 2024. Dan went through the 2023 inflows into Devils Lake that USGS monitored and stated there were no significant inflows. Chairman Sateren, Frith, and board members thanked Mr. Thomas for his presentation.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

ELECTION of 2024 OFFICERS:

Chairman Sateren stated that his time as chairman has run its course, and it was time to elect officers for 2024 for new Officers to be seated at the January meeting. It was noted that Howatt is the current vice-chairman, and it is standard that the current vice-chairman be elected chairman. Ash made a motion to nominate Howatt as Chairman and that nominations cease, and a unanimous ballot be cast, seconded by Tweed. Howatt was elected as the 2024 Chairman. Frith pulled up a listing of previous officers so members could see who has served most recently. Sateren opened the floor for nominations for the 2024 Vice-Chairman. Jallo made a motion to nominate Mike Tweed as 2024 Vice-Chairman, that nominations cease, and a unanimous ballot is cast, second by Ash, and the motion passed. Sateren congratulated the new officers. Board members and those present gave Sateren a round of applause, and Frith thanked Sateren for his leadership throughout this past year.

Frith reminded everyone that the next Joint Board meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 10th, in the Ramsey County Courthouse at 9 A.M.

Date approved: **January 10th, 2024**



Van Howatt, Chairman



Jeff W. Frith, Manager