

**Western Area Water Supply Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
WAWSA Office July 27, 2023**

Attendees

Members Present: Doug Anderson, Kent Bickler, Raoul Brandt, Ellis Haake, also voting for Robert Harms, Ward Koeser, Larry Novak, also voting for Matt Beard, Gary Rust, and Chris Brostuen.

Members Absent: Matt Beard and Robert Harms

Others Present: Tami Madsen (WAWSA), Char Imsland (WAWSA), Cheryl McNeil (WAWSA), Jacob Monson (WAWSA), Dave Bell (WAWSA), Weston McGruder (AE2S), Cory Chorne (AE2S), Del DeBoer (AE2S), Dustin Schultz (AE2S), Josh Feil (Moore Engineering), Justin Smith (City of Watford City), Craig Haskins (R&T), Julius Wakam (MCWRD), Ashlee Imsland (Williston High School), Bethany Cichonsky (Brady Martz) via video, MacKenzie Hertz (Vogel) via video, and Tami Norgard (Vogel) via video.

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman Brostuen called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Approval of the Agenda

Brostuen presented the agenda for approval. **Anderson moved to approve the agenda as presented, Haake seconded.**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

The board acknowledged Jacob Monson's 10-year employment anniversary.

Presentation of the 2022 WAWSA Financial Audit Report

Bethany Cichonsky with Brady Martz presented the 2022 WAWSA financial audit to the board. She reported that WAWSA had another clean opinion on the audit for 2022. **Novak moved to accept the 2022 audit, Koeser seconded.**

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Haake, Koeser, Novak, Rust and Brostuen

Nay: 0

Carried: 8-0

Madsen gave a short overview of the topics that will be discussed in the Executive Session.

Novak left the meeting at 9:50 am.

Haake moved to enter into executive session for attorney consultation to discuss ongoing litigation regarding Castle Oilfield Services and a potential Williston Water Treatment Plant claim.

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Haake, Koeser, Rust and Brostuen

Nay: 0

Carried: 7-0

Left regular session and entered into executive session at 10:02 am.

Haake moved to exit the executive session, Rust seconded.

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Haake, Koeser, Rust and Brostuen

Nay: 0

Carried: 7-0

Exited the executive session and entered back into regular session at 11:05 am.

Koeser moved to send a notice of claim to AE2S, JMS, and AGC to negotiate a tolling agreement and to authorize Tami Madsen to hire a third-party engineering firm to review the Williston WTP problems and to identify what is wrong, Rust seconded.

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Haake, Koeser, Rust and Brostuen

Nay: 0

Carried: 7-0

Approval of the Minutes

Minutes of the June 15, 2023, board meeting were presented for approval. **Rust moved to approve the minutes as presented, Anderson seconded.**

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Haake, Koeser, Rust and Brostuen

Nay: 0

Carried: 7-0

Financial Reports

The June Domestic and Industrial financial reports were presented to the board for their consideration and discussion.

Madsen presented the Industrial debt refunding documents for the new loans. The monthly loan payment decreased from \$475,000 to \$157,000.

Anderson moved to accept and file the financial reports as presented and to authorize the chairman to sign the industrial debt refunding documents, Haake seconded.

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Haake, Koeser, Rust and Brostuen

Nay: 0

Carried: 7-0

Madsen presented the board with the June capital account report.

Executive Director Report

Madsen gave a monthly update on water usage and WAWSA system operations.

Madsen reported that the Williston WTP has a hydrologic constraint. She reported that five pumps need to be replaced and that one has already burnt out. The cost to repair all five pumps is \$500,000 and should be added to the City of Williston's 2024 budget.

State Water Commission Update

Madsen provided the board with the State Water Commission update.

R&T Water Main Relocation

Madsen reported that R&T has a water main that was installed and needs to be relocated. Because the easements were not appropriately obtained, WAWSA needs to pay to have them moved. Chris Barke will help obtain new easements for the revised alignment. The price to move the water main line is \$111,000. **Koeser moved to authorize WAWSA to pay the full \$111,000 for the R&T water main relocate, Anderson seconded.**

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Haake, Koeser, Rust and Brostuen

Nay: 0

Carried: 7-0

29-Mile Project Update

Feil presented the board with a 29-Mile project update.

AE2S Reports

McGruder presented the board with the project updates.

MCWRD System I South Expansion – TO 80

McGruder presented a BEK Consulting increase change order #1 for \$271,989.50 to add ARV inflow preventors, an easement reroute, and 15 additional users for the MCWRD System I South Expansion – TO 80 project. **Anderson moved to approve the BEK Consulting increase change order #1 for \$271,989.50 for MCWRD System I South Expansion – TO 80, Bickler seconded.**

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Haake, Koeser, Rust and Brostuen

Nay: 0

Carried: 7-0

MCWRD Invoices for Payment

The MCWRD System I North Expansion – TO 76, System IV Part IV – TO 77, and System I South Expansion – TO 80 invoices for engineering and construction for the month have a combined total of \$381,421.14.

SWC Grant Payment Request

SWC \$24M grant request 44-072823, SWC \$7M grant request 06-072823, SWC \$9.6M grant request 09-072823, SWC \$398K grant request 2-072823, and SWC \$4M grant request 02-072823 were presented to the board for their approval. **Koeser moved to approve the SWC grant requests, Haake seconded.**

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Haake, Koeser, Rust and Brostuen

Nay: 0

Carried: 7-0

Madsen informed the board that board compensation will increase from \$193 to \$205 starting August 2023.

Haake moved to adjourn, Anderson seconded.



Chris Brostuen, Chairman



Char Imsland, Secretary