

**Western Area Water Supply Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
WAWSA Office January 15, 2026**

Attendees

Members Present: Doug Anderson, Matt Beard, Kent Bickler, Raoul Brandt, Ellis Haake, Robert Harms, Ward Koeser, Gary Rust, and Chris Brostuen

Members Present via Video: Larry Novak

Others Present: Chris Barke (WAWSA), Char Imsland (WAWSA), Cheryl McNeil (WAWSA), Dave Bell (WAWSA), Jacob Monson (WAWSA), Brittaney Carrillo (WAWSA), Weston McGruder (AE2S), Curt Clarys (City of Williston), Kenny Bergstrom (City of Williston), David Juma (City of Williston), Ben Clarys (NWRWD), Taylor Galeazzo (MCWRD), Liz Suhr (R&T), Graydon Olson (AE2S) via video, Cory Chorne (AE2S) via video, Tami Norgard (Vogel) via video, and Jason Faller (City of Watford City) 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.

Election of Officers

Chairman Brostuen called for nominations for the positions of Board Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary/Treasurer.

Novak moved to suspend the rules and re-elect the same officers as the previous year, Brandt seconded.

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

Nay: 0

Carried: 10-0

The 2026 WAWSA officers are as follows:

Chairman: Chris Brostuen

Vice-Chairman: Ellis Haake

Secretary/Treasurer: Char Imsland

Approval of the Minutes

The December 18, 2025, board meeting minutes were presented for approval. **Beard moved to approve the minutes as presented, Bickler seconded.**

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

Nay: 0

Carried: 10-0

The January 12, 2026, rate committee meeting minutes were presented for approval. **Anderson moved to approve the minutes as presented, Brandt seconded.**

Aye: Anderson, Brandt, Novak, and Brostuen

Nay: 0

Carried: 4-0

Financial Reports

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

The December capital accounting report was presented to the board for their consideration and discussion.

Executive Director's Report

Barke provided the board with an update on WAWSA's water usage and system updates.

Barke reported that Select Energy initially requested a five-year take-or-pay contract at a reduced rate compared to standard take-or-pay contracts. After meeting with them this week, they announced that Chevron has withdrawn most of its drilling activities for 2026 and that Select will no longer be requesting a take-or-pay contract in 2026.

State Water Commission Update

Barke reported that WAWSA is on the SWC's pre-commission meeting on January 22, 2026, for the R&T Battleview McGregor Alternate I project.

Member Weighted Voting Calculations

As per the WAWSA Bylaws, every three years, the Average Annual Water Volume shall be determined, and the number of additional votes of each Appointed Director recalculated. Each director receives one vote plus the additional votes. The votes per member entity are BDW 3 votes (1.5 votes per director), City of Williston 16 votes (8 votes per director), MCWRD 7 votes (3.5 votes

per director), R&T 6 votes (3 votes per director), and NWRWD 5 votes (2.5 votes per director) for a total of 37 votes.

Bickler addressed the board and presented an alternate weighted-vote rate calculation.

Brostuen announced that WAWSA will establish a new Bylaws/Policy committee to discuss the member-weight voting calculations going forward.

36" City of Williston Connection Update

Barke provided an update on the 36" City of Williston Connection update. He reported that he has informed the City of Williston and NWRWD management that no action item will be added to the WAWSA agenda until they reach an agreement.

End of Year Safety Update

Dave Bell presented the WAWSA end of year 2025 safety update. He reported that WAWSA had no recordables and that it received WSI's 25% discount.

Public Comment Period

No public comments were presented.

AE2S Reports

McGruder provided the board with the project updates.

Invoices for Payment

The MCWRD System IV Part IV – TO 77, Phase II Transmission Line – TO 88, System II Expansion – TO 90, and the NWRWD Trenton Rural Distribution – TO 85 invoices for engineering and construction for the month have a combined total of \$33,792.51.

SWC Grant Requests

SWC \$9.9M grant request 39-011526, SWC \$8M grant request 26-011526, SWC 9.7M grant request 10-011526, SWC \$8M grant request 21-011526, SWC \$747K grant request 11-011526, SWC \$99K grant request 08-011526, SWC \$14M grant request 7-011526, and SWC \$1M grant request 2-011526 were presented to the board for their approval. **Rust moved to approve the SWC monthly grant requests as presented, Koeser seconded.**

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

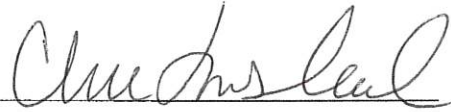
Nay: 0

Carried: 10-0

Brostuen adjourned the meeting at 10:37 am.



Chris Brostuen, Chairman



Char Imstrand, Secretary