

**Western Area Water Supply Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
WAWSA Office March 19, 2026**

Attendees

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

Members Absent: Matt Beard and Chris Brostuen

Others Present: Chris Barke (WAWSA), Char Imsland (WAWSA), Cheryl McNeil (WAWSA), Dave Bell (WAWSA), Jacob Monson (WAWSA), Weston McGruder (AE2S), Graydon Olson (AE2S), Cory Chorne (AE2S), Curt Clarys (City of Williston), Kenny Bergstrom (City of Williston), David Juma (City of Williston); Taylor Galeazzo (MCWRD), Ben Lokken (R&T), Justin Smith (City of Watford City) via video, Dustin Schultz (AE2S) via video, and Wyatt Eaton (J.F. Brennan) via video.

Meeting Called to Order

Vice-Chairman Haake called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Approval of the Agenda

Haake amended the agenda to include item #4 under the Executive Director's report for condemnation requests. **Rust moved to approve the agenda as amended, Anderson seconded.**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Approval of the Minutes

The February 19, 2026, board meeting minutes were presented for approval. **Bickler moved to approve the minutes as presented, Koeser seconded.**

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

Nay: 0

Carried: 8-0

Financial Reports

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

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

Public Comment Period

No public comments were presented.

Executive Director's Report

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

Barke reported a line break occurred on March 17, 2026, on the 24" line south of the 13 Mile corner.

Barke also reported that an operator had a recordable fall on March 5, 2026, and was transported to the Watford City Medical Center by EMS. The operator is at home recovering and doing well.

State Water Commission Update

Barke had no SWC updates to report.

Condemnation Requests

Barke presented three condemnation requests on the NWRWD E Williston CR 9 project. The request is for Rennerfeldt Holdings, 3 Mas LLP, and Judith Dugger. All have been recommended and approved by the NWRWD board of directors. **Harms moved to approve the three condemnation requests on the NWRWD E Williston CR 9 project, Anderson seconded.**

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

Nay: 0

Carried: 8-0

Barke also presented four condemnation requests on the R&T Battleview McGregor project. The request is for Blikre Trust, Kjelvik Trust, Gary and Lorena Lalim, and Wesley and Sheri Dahl, Nathan Dahl, and Sonja Dahl. All have been approved by the R&T board of directors. **Harms moved to approve the four condemnation requests on the R&T Battleview McGregor project, Bickler seconded.**

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

Nay: 0

Carried: 8-0

AE2S Reports

Schultz (AE2S) and Eaton (J.F. Brennan) provided the board with an update on the Williston WTP Intake Siting Study.

McGruder provided the board with the construction project updates.

R&T Battleview McGregor – TO 74

McGruder presented Carstensen Contracting increase change order #2 for \$6,562,112.05 for the R&T Battleview McGregor – TO 74 project. The change order is for balancing for the base bid,

awarding of and additions to alternate I, adding BABA language to alternate I, and changing meters to ¾" and 1" to Badger meters and AMRS.

McGruder also presented task order amendment #2 for the R&T Battleview McGregor – TO 74 project for \$448,000. The amendment is for additional services to be provided by the engineer, modifications of payment, and modifications of time.

Koeser moved to approve the Carstensen Contracting increase change order #2 for \$6,562,1125.05 and task order amendment #2 for \$448,000 for the R&T Battleview McGregor – TO 74 project, Anderson seconded.

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Harms, Koeser, Novak, Rust, and Haake
Nay: 0
Carried: 8-0

NWRWD E Williston CR 9 – TO 78

McGruder presented BEK increase change order #4 for \$131,648.75 for the NWRWD E Williston CR 9 – TO 78 project. The change order is for adding/removing users/services, additional work requested by the owner, Springbrook campground, Springbrook line maintenance, Shift Services master meter vault, Ellis Farms reroute, and 11A and 42 reinstallation cost reduction. **Anderson moved to approve the BEK increase change order #4 for \$131,648.75 for the NWRWD E Williston CR 9 – TO 78 project, Novak seconded.**

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Harms, Koeser, Novak, Rust, and Haake
Nay: 0
Carried: 8-0

WTP DeviceNET & Sludge Pump Improvement – TO 89

McGruder presented American General Contractors increase change order #1 for \$17,195.80 for the WTP DeviceNET & Sludge Pump Improvement – TO 89 project. The change order is for sludge pump discharge piping vertical to horizontal relocation and the addition of 2" blow-off ports for operational and maintenance needs. **Rust moved to approve the American General Contractors increase change order #1 for \$17,195.80 for the WTP DeviceNET & Sludge Pump Improvement – TO 89 project, Anderson seconded.**

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Harms, Koeser, Novak, Rust, and Haake
Nay: 0
Carried: 8-0

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 \$977,780.45.

SWC Grant Requests

SWC \$24M grant request 75-031926, SWC \$9.9M grant request 41-031926, SWC \$8M grant request 28-031926, SWC \$9.7M grant request 12-031926, SWC \$8M grant request 23-031926, SWC \$747K grant request 13-031926, SWC \$99K grant request 10-031926, SWC \$2M grant request 06-031926, SWC \$14M grant request 9-031926, and SWC \$1M grant request 04-031926 were presented to the board for their approval. **Anderson moved to approve the SWC monthly grant requests as presented, Rust seconded.**

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

Nay: 0

Carried: 8-0

Haake adjourned the meeting at 12:00 pm.



Chris Brostuen, Chairman



Char Imsland, Secretary