

**Western Area Water Supply Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
WAWSA Office April 16, 2026**

Attendees

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

Members Absent: Ward Koeser and Gary Rust

Others Present: Chris Barke (WAWSA), Char Imsland (WAWSA), Cheryl McNeil (WAWSA), Dave Bell (WAWSA), Brittany Carrillo (WAWSA), Weston McGruder (AE2S), Curt Clarys (City of Williston), Kenny Bergstrom (City of Williston), David Juma (City of Williston), Taylor Galeazzo (MCWRD), Ben Lokken (R&T), Garrett Lalim (Heart-E Water), Dallas Lalim (Heart-E Water), Richard Ryan, Jacob Monson (WAWSA) via video, Dustin Schultz (AE2S) via video, Graydon Olson (AE2S) via video, Jason Faller (City of Watford City) via video, and Wyatt Eaton (J.F. Brennan) 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. **Haake moved to approve the agenda as presented, Anderson seconded.**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Approval of the Minutes

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

Aye: Anderson, Beard, Bickler, Brandt, Haake, Harms, and Novak

Nay: 0

Abstain: Brostuen

Carried: 7-0

Financial Reports

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

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

Public Comment Period

No public comments were presented.

Dallas Lalim – Lake Sacajawea Intake

Dallas and Garrett Lalim addressed the board in the hopes of obtaining a letter of support from WAWSA to submit an application to the USACE to put an intake on the north side of Lake Sacajawea. Brostuen recommended that this be brought to the Executive Committee for further discussion.

Executive Director’s Report

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

He reported that the on-site audit conducted by Brady Martz is scheduled to begin on May 4, 2026.

State Water Commission Update

Barke reported that he gave a quarterly update to the SWC on the 2025-2027 biennium projects on April 8, 2026.

He also submitted a water development plan for the 2027-2029 biennium to the DWR.

AE2S Reports

McGruder provided the board with the construction project updates.

MCWRD Phase II Transmission Main – TO 88

McGruder presented the board with the certificate of substantial completion for the MCWRD Phase II Transmission Main – TO 88 project. **Haake moved to approve the certificate of substantial completion for the MCWRD Phase II Transmission – TO 88 project, Anderson seconded.**

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

Nay: 0

Carried: 8-0

WTP Intake Remediation – TO 91

Dustin Schultz and Wyatt Eaton provided the board with four budgetary pricing options and explained their recommended approach for the WTP Intake Remediation – TO 91 project. The four options and their pricing are as follows:

- 36" Dual Pipeline (HDPE DR13.5 Pipe) - \$31,500,000
- 42" Dual Pipeline (HDPE DR13.5 Pipe) - \$31,700,000 – **Recommended Approach**
- 36" Dual Pipeline (Steel Pipe) - \$32,100,000
- 42" Dual Pipeline (Steel Pipe) - \$33,000,000

Novak moved to approve proceeding with the recommended approach of a 42" Dual Pipeline (HDPE DR13.5 Pipe) for \$31,700,000, Harms seconded.

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

Nay: 0

Carried: 8-0

McGruder presented a SWC project scope change and cost increase request letter for the WTP Intake Remediation – TO 91 project. The board has selected MTBM Option #3 and is requesting additional funding of \$515,000 at a 75% cost-share, amounting to \$386,250 for a new total preconstruction phase services amount of \$2,188,000. The additional funding would allow for full design and additional geotechnical investigations to be completed for the scope change, as well as allow for a 10% design phase contingency for further site investigations or permitting requirements requested by the USACE during the ongoing permitting process. **Haake moved to approve the SWC project scope change and cost increase request letter for the WTP Intake Remediation – TO 91 project, as presented, Novak seconded.**

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

Nay: 0

Carried: 8-0

WAWSA SCADA System Upgrades – TO 92

McGruder presented a SWC funding request letter for the programming, procurement, and installation of private cellular telemetry at 25 existing pump stations, reservoirs, and meter vaults. He reported that of the 25 sites, 18 are part of the domestic system and 7 are part of the industrial system. The total project cost is \$137,500, and WAWSA would be requesting 75% cost share for the domestic system portion in the amount of \$74,250 to cover the \$99,000 total for the sites on the domestic system. **Novak moved to approve the SWC funding request letter for the WAWSA SCADA system upgrades – TO 92 project, Haake seconded.**

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

Nay: 0

Carried: 8-0

Invoices for Payment

The MCWRD Phase II Transmission Main – 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 \$342,280.73.

SWC Grant Requests

SWC \$24M grant request 76-041626, SWC \$13.5M grant request 29-041626, SWC \$9.7M grant request 13-041626, SWC \$8M grant request 24-041626, SWC \$99K grant request 11-041626, SWC \$2M grant request 07-041626, SWC \$14M grant request 10-041626, and SWC \$1M grant request 05-041626 were presented to the board for their approval. **Anderson moved to approve the SWC monthly grant requests as presented, Bickler seconded.**

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

Nay: 0

Carried: 8-0

Brostuen adjourned the meeting at 11:13 am.



Chris Brostuen, Chairman



Char Imstrand, Secretary