Western Area Water Supply Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
WAWSA Office May 21, 2026

Attendees

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

Members Present via Video: Robert Harms

Members Absent: Matt Beard

Others Present: Chris Barke (WAWSA), Char Imsland (WAWSA), Cheryl McNeil (WAWSA), Dave Bell (WAWSA), Jacob Monson (WAWSA), Weston McGruder (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), Dustin Schultz (AE2S) 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. Barke added an Executive Session after the approval of the agenda for attorney consultation for contract negotiations for the Blikre Trust condemnation. **Novak moved to approve the agenda as amended, Koeser seconded.**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Rust moved to enter into an executive session for attorney consultation to discuss contract negotiations on the Blikre Trust condemnation, Haake seconded.

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Haake, Harms, Koeser, Novak, Rust, and Brostuen
Nay: 0
Carried: 9-0

Left regular session and entered into the executive session at 9:04 am.

Rust moved to exit the executive session and return to the regular open session; Haake seconded.

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Haake, Harms, Koeser, Novak, Rust, and Brostuen
Nay: 0
Carried: 9-0

Exited the executive session and entered back into the regular session at 9:22 am.

Approval of the Minutes

The April 16, 2026, board meeting minutes were presented for approval. **Haake moved to approve the minutes as presented, Bickler seconded.**

Aye: Anderson, Bickler, Brandt, Haake, Harms, Koeser, Novak, Rust, and Brostuen
Nay: 0
Carried: 9-0

The April 24, 2026, Executive Committee meeting minutes were presented for approval. **Koeser moved to approve the minutes as presented, Haake seconded.**

Aye: Haake, Koeser, and Brostuen
Nay: 0
Carried: 3-0

Financial Reports

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

The April 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 that an altercation occurred on the R&T Battleview/McGregor project between a landowner and a hydrovac sub (Badger Daylighting). These were the only two parties on site at the time of the incident. Project representatives responded after the fact, but the altercation was over by the time they arrived.

Barke also reported that he has reached out to multiple fire departments in the area to set up depot accounts for fire suppression use due to the drought conditions.

He also reported that another operator, Jordan Stafne, has been hired to fill an open position that will be vacated by Brittaney Carrillo, who will be moving to the full-time Safety Coordinator position later in the year.

Harms left the meeting at 9:45 am.

HDR Pretreatment Analysis

Barke reported that HDR completed rounds of sediment sampling through fall 2024 and summer 2025. HDR will present at the June board meeting to review the data and present findings and potential next steps.

Intake Permit and USACE

Barke reported that discussions are being held with the USACE regarding the permitting required for the intake improvements.

State Water Commission Updates

Barke reported that WAWSA is on the pre-commission agenda for two projects: the WAWSA cellular Telemetry SCADA project and the WTP Intake Phase II.

AE2S Reports

McGruder provided the board with the construction project updates.

NWRWD East Williston CR9 – TO 78

McGruder presented the board with a Ystaas Electric Service increase change order #1 for $23,775 for the NWRWD East Williston CR9 – TO 78 project. The change order is for a B-3 service upgrade. **Koeser moved to approve the Ystaas Electric Service increase change order #1 for $23,775 for the NWRWD East Williston CR9 – TO 78 project, Haake seconded.**

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

MCWRD 30" Transmission Main – TO 88

McGruder presented a Metro Construction, Inc., balancing deduct change order #2 for -$54,154.79 for the MCWRD 30" Transmission Main – TO 88 project. The change order is for quantity balancing, a contract completion timing deduct, and includes an additional one-year restoration and seeding warranty to June 10, 2029.

McGruder also presented the board with the final inspection and acceptance for the MCWRD 30" Transmission Main – TO 88 project, with the one-year warranty period and the three-year restoration and seeding warranty starting April 28, 2026.

Novak moved to approve the Metro Construction, Inc. balancing deduct change order #2 for -$54,154.79 and the final inspection and acceptance for the MCWRD 30" Transmission Main – TO 88 project, Rust seconded.

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

MCWRD System II Expansion – TO 90

McGruder presented the board with an Eatherly Constructors, Inc. increase change order #1 for $75,093 for the MCWRD System II Expansion – TO 90 project. The change order is for a Ceynar 10" reroute, a Nelson reroute, two service removals, and three service additions. **Novak moved to approve the Eatherly Constructors, Inc. increase change order #1 for $75,093 for the MCWRD System II Expansion – TO 90 project, Koeser seconded.**

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

McGruder also presented task order amendment #2 for $223,450 for the MCWRD System II Expansion – TO 90 project. The amendment is for additional services to be performed due to Forest Service survey guidelines and payment modifications. **Koeser moved to approve task order amendment #2 for $223,450 for the MCWRD System II Expansion – TO 90 project, Haake seconded.**

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

Williston WTP Intake Remediation Phase II – TO 91

McGruder presented a JF Brennan Company, Inc. increase change order #1 for $36,412 for the Williston WTP Intake Remediation Phase II – TO 91 project. The change order is for additional subsurface investigation, including subcontracting American Engineering and Testing, Inc. (AET) to install one monitoring well and perform a slug test within the well. This is to test for the connectivity of the river to the nearby groundwater source to better understand if additional sealing of the secant shaft is needed. **Rust moved to approve the JF Brennan Company, Inc. increase change order #1 for $36,412 for the Williston WTP Intake Remediation Phase II – TO 91 project, Novak seconded.**

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

Invoices for Payment- MCWRD and NWRWD

The MCWRD System IV Part IV – TO 77, 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 $291,176.18.

SWC Grant Requests

SWC $24M grant request 76-052126, SWC $9.9M grant request 42-052126, SWC $13.5M grant request 30-052126, SWC $9.7M grant request 14-052126, SWC $8M grant request 25-052126, SWC $2M grant request 08-052126, SWC $14M grant request 11-052126, and SWC $1M grant request 06-052126 were presented to the board for their approval. **Bickler moved to approve the SWC monthly grant requests as presented, Haake seconded.**

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

Brostuen adjourned the meeting at 10:30 am.

Chris Brostuen, Chairman

Char Imsland, Secretary