

**LAKE KAMPESKA WATER PROJECT DISTRICT**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**WATERTOWN, SOUTH DAKOTA**

**SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

**12:15 O'CLOCK P.M.**

Present at the meeting were the directors, namely: Gregory K. Blow, Mark Messerli, Mark S. Roby, and Bradley D. Johnson. Also present during the meeting were secretary-treasurer Katie M. DeBoer and guests.

Gregory K. Blow presided as chairman and Katie M. DeBoer acted as secretary.

The chairman welcomed the guests to the meeting. The guests informed the Board that they were there to hear information about the Corps of Engineers Flood Control Update as they all live along the river and are concerned citizens that did not know about the public meeting that was held on September 17, 2024 or how the flood control update could impact their homes.

The chairman called for approval of the minutes of the last meeting on September 9, 2024. Upon motion made by Johnson, seconded by Roby and carried unanimously, the minutes were approved.

Next was approval of miscellaneous invoices, bills and reimbursements. The first invoice was from Borns Group for the postcard mailing informing lake residents of the September 17, 2024, meeting. The invoice was \$598.07. Upon motion by Messerli, seconded by Roby, and carried unanimously, the invoice was approved.

The next was a request for reimbursement for \$273.39 to Jeff Ranum for the public meeting banners that were set up around the lake. Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Roby, and carried unanimously, the reimbursement was approved.

Next, Johnson and Roby provided information to the guests about the SD Lakes and Streams organization and the Economic Impact Study. The second half payment of \$15,000 is due to SD Lakes and Streams for LKWPD's commitment to the study. Upon motion by Messerli, seconded by Johnson, and carried unanimously, the invoice was approved.

Johnson provided the Board with an updated invoice from RESPEC. Johnson also provided background information to the guests in the audience about RESPEC and their history with the LKWPD Board as well as the flood control plan. The current invoice due to RESPEC is \$18,137.17. Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Messerli, and carried unanimously, the invoice was approved.

DeBoer presented the 2024-2025 gaging station cost sharing agreement received from the U.S. Geological Survey. Upon motion made by Roby, seconded by Johnson, and carried unanimously, the following resolution was adopted:

#### RESOLUTION 2024-7

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Lake Kampeska Water Project District that the proposed 2024-2025 contract for maintenance of one streamflow gaging station, two seasonal flood monitoring stations and one elevation monitoring station, by the United States Department of the Interior, U. S. Geological Survey, South Dakota Water Science Center, for a cost of \$7,352.00, is approved. The Chairman authorized and directed to execute the contract.

DeBoer requested authority to pay the contracted amount for the 2023-2024 gaging station cost sharing agreement. Upon motion made by Roby, seconded by Messerli, and carried unanimously, the following resolution was adopted:

#### RESOLUTION 2024-8

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Lake Kampeska Water Project District that payment of the upcoming invoice from by the United States Department of the Interior, U. S. Geological Survey, in the amount of \$7,056.00, for the 2023-2024 contract for maintenance of the streamflow gaging stations by the United States Department of the Interior, U. S. Geological Survey, South Dakota Water Science Center, is approved to be paid.

Next was an extensive discussion on the Corps of Engineers Flood Control Update. The Corps of Engineers Flood Control Report was released on September 9, 2024, to the public, and the 30-day comment period began on September 9, 2024, where organizations like Lake Kampeska Water Project District and citizens can provide feedback on the report. After the 30-day comment period ends on October 9, 2024, the Corps will refine their report, and their final report is slated to be released early 2025.

In their initial analysis of the flood control process, the US Army Corps of Engineers presented ten options. The top option presented was to manipulate the level of Lake Kampeska and lower the lake level by 8/10ths of a foot in last summer/fall. There is little to no analysis as to whether it is even possible to lower the lake in the time frame as presented. The nine other initial options presented would provide no protection for the lake. All options currently presented would negatively impact Lake Kampeska. Discussions took place about how the US Army Corps of Engineers would like to re-classify the 1997 flood down to a 47-year event versus a 95-year event which would impact flood maps and ultimately impact flood insurance requirements. FEMA is proposing a new flood map and this would lower flood requirements at the lake. FEMA is also looking to expand the flood zone

in town. LKWPD members have had conversations with members of the City Council about the impact this reclassification would have on flood insurance requirements. The City of Watertown hired HDR Engineering to assist with the reclassification pertaining to flood map and zone.

Discussion took place pertaining to the upcoming 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge project; it appears that the plan is to widen and strengthen the 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge. There was discussion about Kemp Avenue and the possibility of the City building a dike system to contain water in Southwest Watertown. The dike system project would cost the City of Watertown approximately \$26 million. Also, discussion took place on widening of the river through Watertown and how this would impact the citizens and businesses located along the river, as well as the ecological and recreational impacts this could potentially have.

Additional discussion took place on how the Corps plans did not include consideration to modify or improve water flow along and under the Sioux Conifer Road even though previously the State of South Dakota hired RESPEC engineering to build a \$1 million Big Sioux River flow model that shows Sioux Conifer Road is one of biggest bottlenecks to the Big Sioux River.

The guests asked the LKWPD Board on the best way to make their voices be heard since they are concerned citizens. The LKWPD Board advised the guests to reach out to their elected officials and share their concerns. The LKWPD Board will share the statement that was emailed to the LKWPD mailing list pertaining to the US Army Corps of Engineers Flood Control Plan with the guests. No further action was taken.

A brief discussion took place about purchasing or locating equipment to help control the weed growth at the lake due to the invasive species. No action was taken.

The chairman thanked all the guests for coming to the meeting.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned.

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Katie M. DeBoer  
Secretary