



Our Vision: People and Business Succeeding with Quality Water **Our Mission:** Quality Water for Southwest North Dakota

MEMORANDUM

To: Southwest Water Authority Board of Directors
From: Jen Murray, Manager/CEO, SWA
Subject: February 2, 2026, SWA Board of Directors Meeting
Date: January 28, 2026

The next Southwest Water Authority (SWA) Board of Directors meeting will be on Monday, February 2, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. MST at the Southwest Water Authority O&M Center Office in Dickinson.

This month's consent agenda includes the preliminary financial reports for the 2025 year-end. Information from NDPERS on retirement and OPEB has not yet been received. The Board will be presented with the final financial reports once they are completed. Brady and Martz will be on-site February 9-11, 2026, to perform our annual audit.

The Board will review and monitor one Board Policy this month. Policy III.E. Board Governance Process – Committee Structure. This policy is included in the board packet for your review. There will be no motion or vote on this policy unless the Board wishes to amend it. There are no Executive Limitations Policies or Reports to review in February.

The 2025 Southwest Water Authority's Board of Directors' Retreat focused on topics such as the Supplementary Intake and Raw Water Infrastructure, Outside Funding Sources, the Three-Pronged Approach, and SWPP Ownership. The approved Action Plan is included in the Board packet.

The Rules and Regulations Subcommittee met on Tuesday, January 20, 2026. The Subcommittee nominated Director Engelhardt to serve as the chairperson. The draft minutes are included in the Board packet. The Subcommittee will meet again after the Board meeting to continue its work of reviewing the *Rules and Regulations*.

The 2025 Legislative Assembly met for Special Session on January 21-23, 2026. Their work included five bills related to the Rural Health Transformation Program, a resolution recognizing the YMCA's 175th anniversary, and six bills from the delayed bills committee. Most notable of these bills was the universal school meals bill, HB 1624, which was defeated in the Senate 22-24-2. All other bills were passed.

The topic of Polyethylene Pipe (PE) vs. PVC has been pulled from the parking lot and added to the agenda this month. A memo from B&W is included for Board review and discussion.

The SWC Pre-Commission meeting was held on January 22, 2026. There were two SWPP items up for discussion. The first was Contract 1-2 B, Equipment Procurement for Existing Intake Improvements. The second was for Contract 6A, Work order 4 funding authorization, which authorizes MicroComm services in the expansion of the Southwest Water Treatment Plant. The SWC will meet on February 12, 2026.

Justin Froseth will update the Board on the status of SWPP construction and various projects and contracts. Decker will provide an update on SWA Contracts and REM items. The Recoating of the New England Tank is currently advertised for bids. Bid opening is scheduled for February 18, 2026.

The DWR has begun developing the Water Development Plan for the 2027-2029 biennium and beyond. We have started reviewing projects and cost estimates for the upcoming biennium and will present them to the Board prior to submission to the Water Development Plan.

The SWA Management team will provide an operations and maintenance (O&M) update for January. Items in this report include Distribution and Treatment.

Misti Conzemius will provide an update on the Signup and Easement Department. The waiting list currently has 769 service requests system-wide. The Signup and Easement department is actively obtaining easements for the Hebron Rural Service Area.

This is an election year, and eight directors are up for election. Included with the Board packet is information on the number of signatures required to be placed on the ballot in your county or city and the deadline for returning the petitions to the county or city clerk's office.

The Missouri River Joint Water Board Advisory Committee will meet on Thursday, January 29, 2026. This meeting was called primarily to discuss the Ag Daily Op-ed on water and to draft a response. The Op-ed was in response to Senator Hoeven's bill, which provided funding for ENDAWS and RRVWSP. Senator Hoeven's press release and the article are included in the Board packet. I will update the Board on the response. I will also provide an update on the transition of the Missouri River Coordinator to Michael Gunsch.

The North Dakota Water Education Foundation (WEF) Board met on Wednesday, January 28, 2026. The meeting agenda and related information is included in the Board packet.

The ND Rural Water Systems Association EXPO will be held in Fargo from February 10-12, 2026. Registrations have been submitted and hotel reservations have been forwarded to attendees. The agenda is included in the Board packet.

The National Rural Water Association Rural Water Rally will take place February 2-5, 2026, in Washington, D.C. SWA will not attend in 2026. The participant list from Eric Volk, NDRWSA Executive Director, included three participants from Ft. Berthold Rural Water, Michelle Schommer and Bruce Henschel from Northeast RW, and Brent Brinkman from Cass Rural Water.

Southwest Water Authority will once again participate in the Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting Contest this year. The event will take place on February 21, 2026. SWA has consistently been in the top 10 best-tasting waters at this event for the past 10 years. In 2025, our water ranked 4th.

In 2025, SWA returned a record-breaking \$6,724,243.94 to the Resources Trust Fund. More than \$109 million has been returned over the life of the Project. The yearly and monthly breakdown of Capital Repayment is included in the consent agenda.

I want to congratulate Bartlett & West on their 75th anniversary. They held a celebration on January 8th and dedicated an entire room to water and the Southwest Pipeline Project. We also want to announce that February 22-28, 2026, is Engineers' Week. Thank you to all the engineers at B&W and the DWR who have helped make the SWPP what it is today! We appreciate you!

Other information included with my memo includes news articles about the City of Center's desire to sell water, and the Grant County News article announcing Director Gaugler's Water Wheel Award.

I look forward to seeing you on Monday, February 2, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. MST at the Southwest Water Authority O&M Center Office in Dickinson.



North Dakota Legislative Council

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff
LC# 27.9059.06000
January 2026

OIL AND GAS TAX REVENUES MONTHLY UPDATE

This memorandum provides an update on oil production and prices, oil and gas tax revenue collections, and oil and gas tax revenue allocations for January 2026 and for the biennium to date. The forecasted amounts reflect the 2025 legislative revenue forecast ("original forecast") prepared at the close of the 2025 regular legislative session.

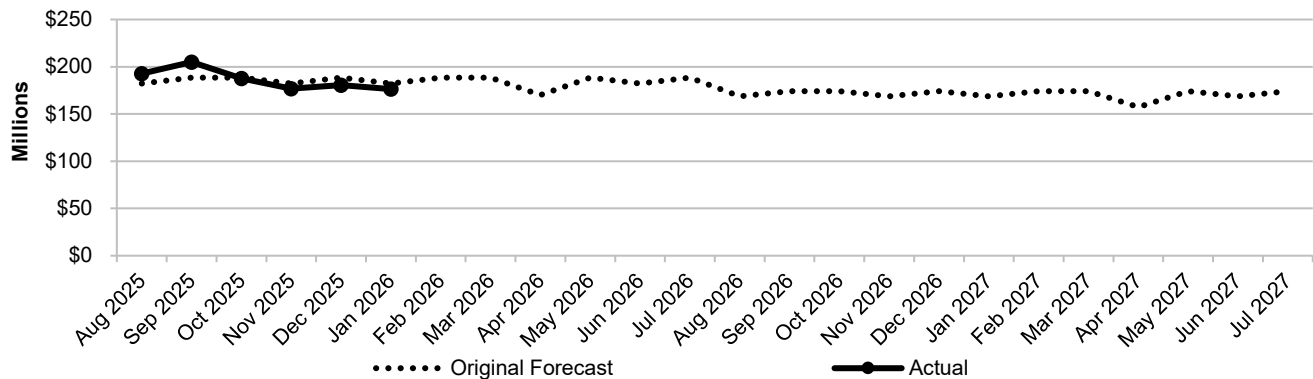
OIL PRODUCTION AND PRICES

The schedule below provides information on oil production and prices for November 2025 and for the biennium to date. Oil and gas tax revenue allocations reflect production and price from 2 months prior. The actual oil prices reflect the North Dakota oil prices reported by the Tax Department.

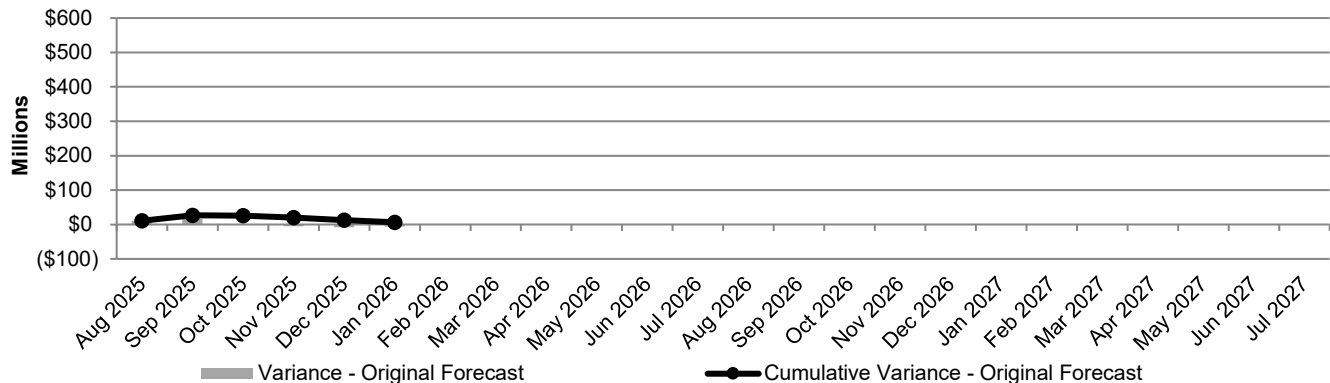
	Original Forecast							
	November 2025				Biennium to Date			
	Actual	Forecast	Variance		Actual	Forecast	Variance	
			Amount	Percent			Amount	Percent
Average daily oil production	1,189,104	1,150,000	39,104	3%	1,171,097	1,150,000	21,097	2%
Average oil price per barrel	\$52.87	\$59.00	(\$6.13)	(10%)	\$57.19	\$59.00	(\$1.81)	(3%)

OIL AND GAS TAX REVENUE COLLECTIONS

The chart below provides information on total oil and gas tax revenue collections based on the original forecast and actual allocations through January 2026.



VARIANCE TO FORECAST



OIL AND GAS TAX REVENUE ALLOCATIONS

The schedule below provides information on oil and gas tax revenue allocations to the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, state funds, and political subdivisions for January 2026 and for the biennium to date.

	Original Forecast							
	January 2026				Biennium to Date			
	Actual	Forecast	Variance		Actual	Forecast	Variance	
			Amount	Percent			Amount	Percent
Three Affiliated Tribes	\$10.99	\$16.26	(\$5.27)	(32%)	\$76.56	\$99.17	(\$22.61)	(23%)
Legacy Fund	49.67	49.92	(0.25)	(1%)	313.23	304.53	8.70	3%
North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund	1.42	1.35	0.07	5%	7.40	6.90	0.50	7%
Abandoned Well Reclamation Fund	0.71	0.68	0.03	4%	3.70	3.45	0.25	7%
Political subdivisions	26.88	27.08	(0.20)	(1%)	186.08	178.59	7.49	4%
Common Schools Trust Fund	7.21	7.39	(0.18)	(2%)	45.47	45.06	0.41	1%
Foundation Aid Stabilization Fund	7.21	7.39	(0.18)	(2%)	45.47	45.06	0.41	1%
Resources Trust Fund	14.78	15.14	(0.36)	(2%)	93.21	92.38	0.83	1%
Oil and Gas Research Fund	1.15	1.15	0.00	0%	6.99	6.78	0.21	3%
State Energy Research Center Fund	0.58	0.57	0.01	2%	3.50	3.39	0.11	3%
General Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	250.00	250.00	0.00	0%
Social Service Fund	55.76	55.44	0.32	1%	87.39	77.20	10.19	13%
Budget Stabilization Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Lignite Research Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
State Disaster Relief Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Municipal Infrastructure Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
County and Township Infrastructure Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
PERS main system plan	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Airport Infrastructure Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Strategic Investment and Improvements Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Total oil and gas tax revenue allocations	\$176.36	\$182.37	(\$6.01)	(3%)	\$1,119.00	\$1,112.51	\$6.49	1%

Bartlett & West



Bartlett & West opened our Bismarck location in 1981, the first location outside of our home office in Topeka, Kansas, which opened in 1951.

Bartlett & West exists to improve people's lives. From water and wastewater systems to railroads, roads and public spaces, we leverage our expertise in engineering, architecture, planning, construction and technology to solve real problems for real people.

Awards

- ✓ ENR Top 500 Design Firm
18 Consecutive Years
- ✓ ACEC Kansas, 2024
Public Improvement Award
- ✓ Prairie Business, 2025
50 Best Places to Work
- ✓ Dallas Business Journal, 2024
Best Places to Work
- ✓ Zweig Group, 2025
Hot Firm List
- ✓ Forbes, 2023
America's Best Small Employers
- ✓ ACEC Missouri, 2025
Grand and Honor Awards
- ✓ ACEC Kansas, 2023
Public Improvement Award

Multimedia tools to learn about Bartlett & West

Learn more about our history at BartlettWest.com/history — the page includes a video, historical photos and an interactive history timeline.



Bartlett & West has more than 80 employee-owners in the Bismarck location, and 475+ employee-owners across locations in seven states.



More than \$1 million in local charitable contributions given by Bismarck location since 2009.

Your partner for comprehensive solutions

Employee-owners in Bismarck represent the following core services:

- Architecture
- Construction engineering and inspection
- GIS and technology
- MEP (mechanical/electrical/plumbing) engineering
- Planning/civil/site
- Right-of-way
- Surveying
- Rural water
- Transportation
- Wastewater
- Water engineering



City negotiating with private buyer to set up water depot

BY RYAN SCHLEHUBER
CENTER REPUBLICAN CORRESPONDENT

The city of Center is moving closer to setting up a water depot within the community, which will provide a location for businesses and residents to purchase water for various needs.

During city council's Oct. 10 regular meeting, Mike Tietz, the Oliver County Water Commission superintendent, visited with council members discussing recent complaints from farmers and residents about companies pulling water from local creeks and talked about the trend of municipalities in North Dakota providing water depots to counteract that.

Shortly into the discussion, Mayor John Lee announced to Tietz that the city is negotiating with a private investor to set up an agreement with the city to create a water depot of its own.

"So, at this point, we do have interest from a private buyer that will entertain something of the sort where it's going to be on private property, but the deal will be done with the city so both entities

make a little cash on the deal," Lee said.

With the city of Center in the midst of possibly decommissioning its south water storage tank, discussion led into the possibility of turning it into a water depot station. After City Engineer A.J. Tuck, of Moore Engineering, advised not to – due to the expense of maintaining the 300,000-gallon tank for just selling water – the city then began discussing the idea of creating a water depot in another location.

The water depot idea is a two-prong approach as it provides a new funding source for the city and it aims to alleviate current and future complaints from farmers, ranchers and residents about businesses extracting water from nearby creeks, such as Square Butte Creek in Center.

Tietz said several small cities have set up water depots and have had success with it, such as Mott, Hettinger, Richardton and Belfield.

"They make a pretty fair chunk of change on it," Tietz said. "It might be worthwhile to look at them. Again, from the County

Water Board side, we'd have somewhere to direct them if industries are looking for water other than the creek."

Councilman Eric Casson asked Tietz if the state has the right to grant access to a water source without the consent of the local governing body, be it city or county. Tietz said the state does have the power to do that, however, it follows particular rules in this case.

"So there's different types of water, to my understanding, for temporary water pull," Tietz said. "(The state) runs it through their hydrologist and then it depends on what that stream can handle. So they have flow meters in Square Butte Creek and a couple others. If they feel that temporary withdrawal does not negatively impact the water rights on that creek, they'll allow it without county or city approval."

Tietz added that if water rights users protest and argue that by allowing a company to draw water from a creek or water source near

See **CITY** on page 9

CITY contined from page 1

their properties, it is negatively impacting their cattle or irrigation operations, that is one way to counteract the state's approval.

"If the creek is falling below a water level that is unusable for that water rights owner, then they can force the state to require that company to pull water somewhere else," Tietz said.

Tietz said because Center has two water lines – one coming in from the west and one from the north – the city is set up better than most North Dakota municipalities in selling its water and shouldn't have a capacity issue if it ever expanded its infrastructure.

ie holidays!

hot cocoa bar
ter Lobby.

ber 3

st - Center, ND

long-time rivalry game. Bragging rights of Highway 12 are on the line. You won't want to miss this one!

What better game to attend? The admission is free (thanks to Dakota Western Bank), the popcorn is free (thanks to Scranton Equity) and the water/hubbler for the first 240 fans to enter is also free (thanks to Northern Bottling-Pepsi)! The WRRHS Foundation is hoping that fans will consider "paying forward" what they would have given (or a little more) for admission, popcorn and pop

Visit the Bowman County Pioneer online:
www.bcpioneer.com

New Year, New Minimum – Same Trusted Service

After three years of stable rates, the SWA Board has approved a small increase to **rural minimums**, while keeping **water rates unchanged for 2026**. The minimum will change from \$55.32 to \$56.67 starting January 1.

Because minimums are billed in advance, the December 31 bill will reflect the new amount.



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Director Rick Seifert
Bowman County
rickseifert@swwater.com

"As we look toward 2026, we want to thank you for your partnership and trust in 2025. We're proud to continue delivering affordable, reliable water to our communities."

ancestors to Sitting Bull's Medicine Hat War Ponies. Sitting Bull surrendered

LOCAL!

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Vice Chairperson Jonathon Eaton
Adams County
jonathaneaton@swwater.com

"Thank you for your trust and support in 2025. We remain dedicated to providing the reliable water service you expect as we head into 2026."

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Director Kaylene Berg
Beulah County
kayleneberg@swwater.com

"Our customers are the reason we work hard every day. We appreciate your business in 2025 and are excited to continue serving you in the year ahead."

Bowman County Pioneer – January 2, 2026

Adams County Record – January 1, 2026

Beulah Beacon January 1, 2026

Center Republican January 1, 2026

Billings County Pioneer – January 1, 2026

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Director Mike Tietz
Oliver County
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"We sincerely appreciate your support this year. Our team is committed to meeting your needs in 2026 and beyond."

New Year, New Minimum – Same Trusted Service

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Chairperson James Oedermann
Billings County
jamesoedermann@swwater.com

"Our customers make our work meaningful. We appreciate your business in 2025 and look forward to continuing serving you with the same commitment and care in 2026."



PHOTOGRAPHY
701-516-7209
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Sports • Seniors • Events • Families • Couples • Real Estate • Concerts • and more!

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENT TO AMEND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RELATIVE TO SALARY ADMINISTRATION PROCEDURES, RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION, JURY DUTY, LOCAL LEAVE, VACATION, LEAVE WITHOUT PAY, SICK LEAVE, SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM, APPEALS OF EMPLOYEE ACTIONS, APPEALS OF DISCIPLINARY OR REMEDIAL, AND SANCTIONS
THE NOTICE that the North Dakota Office of Management and Budget, Human Resource Management Services (HRMS), in cooperation with the State Personnel Board, will hold a public hearing to address proposed amendments to ND State Rules Chapter 1-02-01, 1-02-02, 1-02-03, 1-02-04, 1-02-05, 1-02-06, 1-02-07, 1-02-08, 1-02-09, 1-02-10, 1-02-11, 1-02-12, 1-02-13, 1-02-14, 1-02-15, 1-02-16, 1-02-17, 1-02-18, 1-02-19, 1-02-20, 1-02-21, 1-02-22, 1-02-23, 1-02-24, 1-02-25, 1-02-26, 1-02-27, 1-02-28, 1-02-29, 1-02-30, 1-02-31, 1-02-32, 1-02-33, 1-02-34, 1-02-35, 1-02-36, 1-02-37, 1-02-38, 1-02-39, 1-02-40, 1-02-41, 1-02-42, 1-02-43, 1-02-44, 1-02-45, 1-02-46, 1-02-47, 1-02-48, 1-02-49, 1-02-50, 1-02-51, 1-02-52, 1-02-53, 1-02-54, 1-02-55, 1-02-56, 1-02-57, 1-02-58, 1-02-59, 1-02-60, 1-02-61, 1-02-62, 1-02-63, 1-02-64, 1-02-65, 1-02-66, 1-02-67, 1-02-68, 1-02-69, 1-02-70, 1-02-71, 1-02-72, 1-02-73, 1-02-74, 1-02-75, 1-02-76, 1-02-77, 1-02-78, 1-02-79, 1-02-80, 1-02-81, 1-02-82, 1-02-83, 1-02-84, 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New Year, New Minimum – Same Trusted Service

After three years of stable rates, the SWA Board has approved a small increase to rural minimums, while keeping water rates unchanged for 2026. The minimum will change from \$55.32 to \$56.67 starting January 1.

Because minimums are billed in advance, the December 31 bill will reflect the new amount.



701-225-0241 | swwater.com



Director
Harold Gaugler
Grant County
haroldgaugler@swwater.com

"Your continued confidence in Southwest Water Authority means everything to us. Thank you for a strong 2025, and we look forward to another year of dependable service in 2026."

Grant County Recorder January 1, 2026

New Year, New Minimum – Same Trusted Service

After three years of stable rates, the SWA Board has approved a small increase to rural minimums, while keeping water rates unchanged for 2026. The minimum will change from \$55.32 to \$56.67 starting January 1.

Because minimums are billed in advance, the December 31 bill will reflect the new amount.



701-225-0241 | swwater.com



Director
Mark Begger
Golden Valley County
markbegger@swwater.com

"Thank you for your continued support this past year. We value every customer we serve and look forward to another year of providing dependable water service in 2026."

Golden Valley News January 1, 2026

New Year, New Minimum – Same Trusted Service

After three years of stable rates, the SWA Board has approved a small increase to rural minimums, while keeping water rates unchanged for 2026. The minimum will change from \$55.32 to \$56.67 starting January 1.

Because minimums are billed in advance, the December 31 bill will reflect the new amount.



701-225-0241 | swwater.com



Director
Don Schaible
Hettinger County
donschaible@swwater.com

"Your support throughout 2025 has been truly appreciated. As we prepare for 2026, we're grateful for the opportunity to continue delivering safe, dependable water to you and your families."

Hettinger County January 1, 2026

New Year, New Minimum – Same Trusted Service

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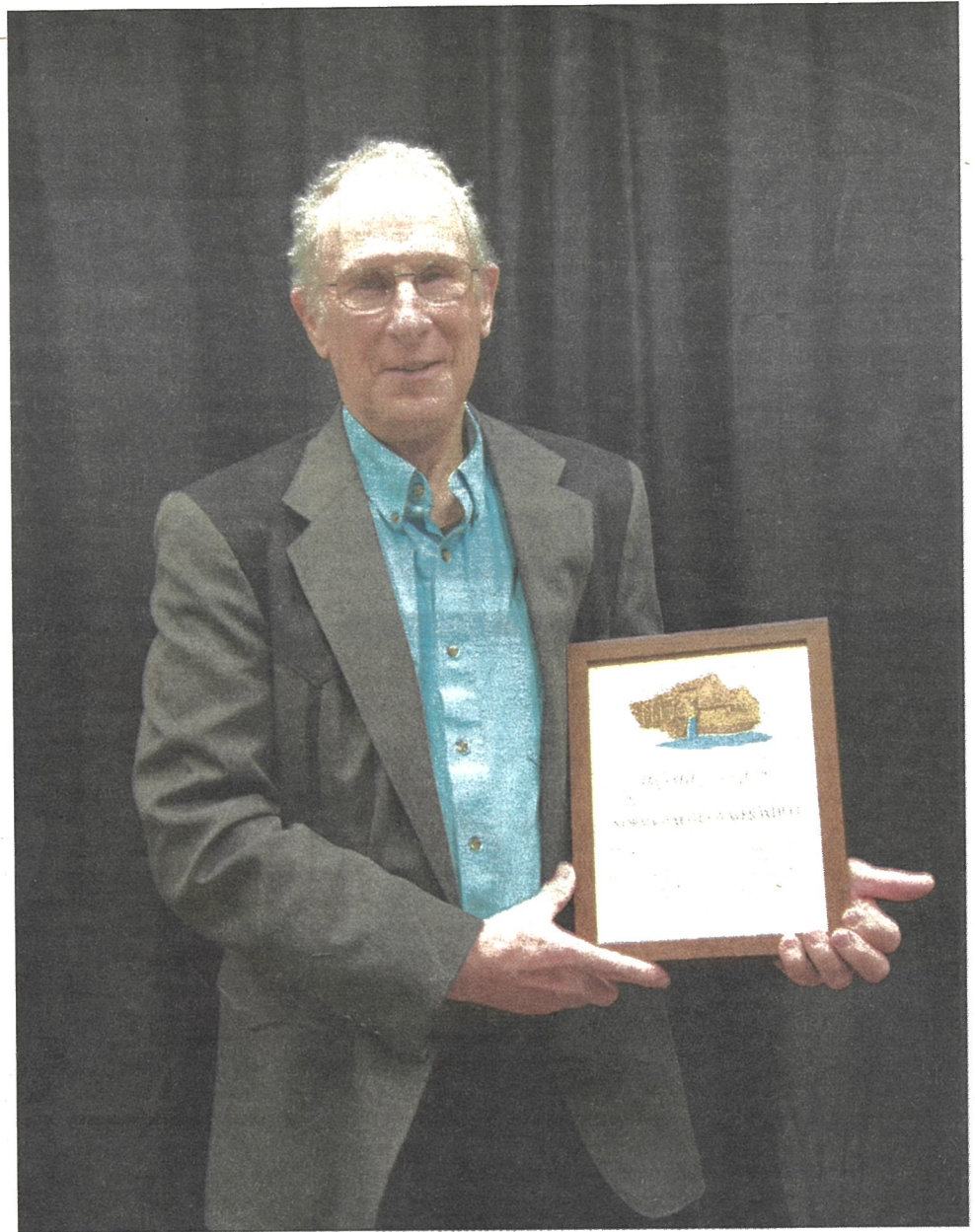


701-225-0241 | swwater.com



Director
Curtis Glasco
Stark County
curtisglasco@swwater.com

"We're grateful for the trust you placed in us throughout 2025, and we remain committed to delivering reliable service in 2026. Thank you for being part of the Southwest Water Authority community."



Gaugler honored with Water Wheel Award

Harold Gaugler of rural Grant County was honored with the Water Wheel Award at the 62nd annual Joint North Dakota Water Convention and Irrigation Workshop Dec. 11 in Bismarck.

The Water Wheel Award is a joint award given by the North Dakota Water Users Association and the North Dakota Water Resource Districts Association in recognition of distinctive leadership and perseverance for the protection, de-

velopment and management of North Dakota's water resources, thereby fostering a better quality of life for our people.

Gaugler lives on a 100-year-old ranch near the state line by Lemmon, South Dakota. Gaugler has represented the state's western way of water for more than a decade on the ND Water Resource District Association and ND Water Users Association boards. He just finished a term as president of the North Dakota Water Resource

Districts Association. In addition, he represents Grant County on the Southwest Water Authority board.

Gaugler and his wife, Jodie, along with their grown kids, have implemented innovative and regenerative practices to promote sustainability on their ranch. Some of the practices include solar power, rotational grazing, and bale grazing to improve water quality and infiltration.



2026 State of the City Luncheon



Join us for the State of the City luncheon on Thursday, February 5th from 11:30AM to 1:30PM at the August House Venue.

Our annual event brings our community together to hear directly from our local leaders and talk about our region's growth, goals and priorities.

ADDRESS

Mayor Scott Decker | City of Dickinson

CITY OF DICKINSON PANEL

Coming Soon!

Menu

Sandwiches
Pasta Salad
Chips
Cookie

Presented by Bravera



SOUTHWEST WATER AUTHORITY
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
Monday, February 2, 2026, 9:00 a.m. MST
Southwest Water Authority O&M Center Office, Dickinson, ND
Meeting can be accessed via Teams or by calling: 1-321-558-6608 ID: 190145978#

	Flip Chart Recorder: Director Eaton	Process Observer: Director Engelhardt	Minutes: Wendy Serhienko
9:00 a.m.	1. Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance - Introductions		Chairperson Odermann
9:05 a.m.	2. Agenda A. Review Agenda B. Consent Agenda* <i>Official Minutes of January 5, 2026, Board of Directors Meeting, Draft Minutes of January 20, 2026, Rules and Regulations Subcommittee Meeting, Accounts Payable & Financial Reports and Return on Investment*</i>		Chairperson Odermann Board of Directors
9:10 a.m.	3. Public Comments not on the agenda		
9:30 a.m.	4. Board Policy Review and Monitoring A. Policy III.E. Board Governance Process –Committee Structure		Board of Directors
9:35 a.m.	5. Board Member Reports A. Board Action Plan B. Rules and Regulations Subcommittee C. Garrison Diversion Conservancy District D. Legislative Update		Board of Directors Director Engelhardt Chairperson Odermann Director Schaible
9:45 a.m.	6. Incidental Information A. Poly Pipe versus PVC Pipe		Decker/Murray/Erickson
10:15 a.m.	Break		
10:30 a.m.	B. SWC Meeting		Justin Froseth
	C. SWPP Update and Funding 1. Water Development Plan 2027-2029 Biennium		Froseth/Decker/Murray Jen Murray
11:00 a.m.	D. Update from Manager/CEO/SWA Staff 1. SWA Construction and O&M Update 2. Easement/Signup Update 3. 2026 General Election Information 4. Missouri River Joint Board Advisory Committee Meeting 5. ND Water Education Foundation Board of Directors Meeting 6. NDRWSA Expo 7. NRWA Washington D.C. Rural Water Rally 8. Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting		Murray/Rixen/Erickson Misti Conzemius Jen Murray Jen Murray Jen Murray Jen Murray Jen Murray Jen Murray
11:20 a.m.	E. Perkins County Rural Water System Update		Ledeanna O’Shields
11:25 a.m.	7. Review issues pending/Parking lot/Plan next agenda		
11:30 a.m.	Adjourn for Lunch		

****Items require Board action.***

**Minutes of Meeting
Southwest Water Authority
Board of Directors
January 5, 2026
Southwest Water Authority O&M Center Office, Dickinson, ND**

1. Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance - Introductions

The Southwest Water Authority Board of Directors met on Monday, January 5, 2026, at Southwest Water Authority O&M Center Office, in Dickinson, ND. Chairperson Odermann called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. MST, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call.

Present at the meeting were: Directors James Odermann, Ryan Baumgartner, Mark Begger, Kaylene Berg, Dave Burke, Jonathon Eaton, Bruce Engelhardt, Harold Gaugler, Curtis Glasoe, Bob Ingold, Bob Leingang, Rick Seifert, Mike Tietz and Scott Tschetter. Also present were: Justin Froseth, DWR, Keegan Richards, Bartlett & West, Jack Dwyer, Dwyer Law Office, Chelsey Jacobson, Odney, Inc., Jen Murray, SWA Manager/CEO, Andy Erickson, SWA Water Distribution Manager, Grace Rixen, SWA Water Treatment Manager, Misti Conzemius, SWA Marketing Manager, Ledeanne O'Shields, SWA CFO/Office Administrator, Perry Grammond, Assistant Water Treatment Manager, and Wendy Serhienko, SWA Executive Assistant.

Director Berg was excused.

2. Agenda

2.A. Review Agenda

Chairperson Odermann asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. There were none.

2.B. Consent Agenda*

Motion by Director Leingang, seconded by Director Baumgartner, to approve item 2.B. Minutes December 1, 2025, Meeting, Accounts Payable, and Financial Reports and Return on Investment. Motion carried by voice vote without dissent.

3. Public Comments not on the agenda

Chairperson Odermann asked if there were any public comments not on the agenda. There were none.

4. Board Policy Review and Monitoring

4.A. Policy III.D. Board Governance Process – Board Committee Principles

Director Baumgartner reviewed the policy. Chairperson Odermann asked if there were any comments, questions or changes to Policy III.D. Board Governance Process – Board Committee Principles. There were none.

5. Decision Making

5.A. Policy II.C. Executive Limitations – Financial Condition and Manager/CEO Internal Report*

Director Tschetter reviewed the policy. Murray noted the policy is reviewed four times a year. Murray reviewed the report and stated there is over eight months in reserve and over \$29.5 million in the Replacement and Extraordinary Maintenance Fund Reserves. Chairperson Odermann reviewed the report and asked if there were any comments or questions to Policy II.C. Executive Limitations-Financial Condition and the Manager/CEO Internal Report. There were none.

Motion by Director Glasoe, seconded by Director Ingold, to approve Policy II.C. Executive Limitations-Financial Condition and Manager/CEO Internal Report. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote.

5.B. Policy II.E. Executive Limitations – Asset Protection and Manager/CEO Internal Report*

Director Schaible reviewed the policy. Chairperson Odermann asked if there were any comments or changes to Policy II.E. Executive Limitations-Asset Protection and Manager/CEO Internal Report.

Motion by Director Leingang, seconded by Director Schaible, to approve Policy II.E. Executive Limitations – Asset Protection and Manager/CEO Internal Report. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote.

5.C. Board of Directors’ Action Plan

Murray stated the Board of Directors’ retreat was held on Monday and Tuesday, October 6 and 7, 2025. The retreat focused on topics including the Supplementary Intake and Raw Water Infrastructure, Outside Funding Sources, the Three-Pronged Approach, and SWPP Ownership. The drafts of the action plan were presented at the Board of Directors’ meeting on November 3, 2025, and December 1, 2025.

Murray noted an internal review by SWA staff of the *Southwest Water Authority's Rules and Regulations for Water Service from the Southwest Pipeline Project* will be held on January 14, 2026.

Motion by Director Glasoe, seconded by Director Tschetter, to approve the Board of Directors’ Action Plan. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote.

6. Board Member Reports

6.A. Appointment of Rules and Regs Subcommittee

Chairperson Odermann requested volunteers to serve on the Rules and Regs Subcommittee to review interpretations and update the *Rules and Regulations*.

The following Directors were appointed to the Rules and Regs Subcommittee: Director Baumgartner, Director Engelhardt, Director Glasoe, Director Ingold, and Chairperson Odermann.

Murray noted the first meeting of this subcommittee will be held mid to late January, before the February Board of Directors meeting with subsequent meetings to be held after regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting.

6.B. 62nd Annual Joint ND Water Convention and Irrigation Workshop and Upper Missouri Water Association Conference

Murray stated the 62nd Annual Joint ND Water Convention and Irrigation Workshop was well attended. SWA had seven directors in attendance. Several Board member reports are included with the official minutes.

Murray congratulated Director Gaugler on his well-deserved win of the Water Wheel Award.

The Missouri River was a major focus of the conference. Director Engelhardt noted the EAE’s push to expand their audience and present at conferences out of state. Chairperson Odermann stated without the Missouri River SWPP would not exist. He asked if the SWA contribution to the program should be increased in future budget cycles.

Murray noted the Missouri River Joint Water Board (MRJWB) approved counties that are not touching to Missouri River to join the MRJWB. The 2026 goals and resolutions were approved for the ND Water User Association.

7. Incidental Information

7.A. SWC Meeting

Froseth stated the SWC meeting was held December 16, 2025, in Bismarck, ND. The SWC approved the 2026 Capital Repayment and REM Rates, REM reimbursement request, and Intake Contract 1-2A Mediation Funds Allocation to the SWPP. Information on the Feasibility Criteria Exclusion for the pipeline for deferred storage in the Hebron Service Area was reviewed by the SWC.

Froseth noted Secretary Haase stated to the SWC that it is important for Deloitte to make recommendations on the Strategic Finance and Governance Study and not be influenced by DWR staff.

Chairperson Odermann noted the SWC approved a request for Operation Safe Flow-Low Head Dam Mitigation Initiative. The SWC has placed greater emphasis on mitigating public safety hazards associated with low head dams. As part of that increased attention, staff were directed by the SWC to develop an inventory of low head dams throughout the state, and a process to rank dams in the inventory based on risks to human safety.

The next SWC pre-commission meeting will be on January 22, 2026, in Bismarck, ND.

7.A.1. Strategic Finance and Governance Study

Murray stated Deloitte representatives provided an update on the Regional Water Systems Governance and Finance Study and the Cost-Share Program at the Water Topics Overview Committee and the SWC meetings in December. A draft of the Study is expected to be received by the DWR in February and the final Study will be complete in March.

7.B. SWPP Update and Funding

Froseth provided an SWPP update and a slide presentation on SWPP construction progress. His memo is on file with the official minutes.

Froseth stated the project team met with the United States Army Corp of Engineers on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, to understand what limits may exist as design options are being considered for the Contract 1-2A, Supplementary Raw Water Intake. From that meeting, DWR staff walked away with an understanding that there are no red flags from any of the participating agencies to pursuing an alignment in Renner Bay that is roughly 2,000 feet north of the previous attempts. Still, new permitting will be needed and the DWR is working with these agencies to ensure all factors are understood.

Froseth stated 90% design plans are almost complete for the existing Intake Pump Station Improvements. The Intake Pump Station Improvements are scheduled to be bid in the first half of 2026, with construction anticipated to be completed in 2027, depending on schedule of owner procured materials.

Froseth noted the DWR received the West Zone Preliminary Design Report (PDR). Phase I projects are proposed to increase capacity to all West Zone segments while spending about half the cost of all improvements approved in October 2024. The DWR informed the SWC of their intention to proceed with the Phase I enhancements. In order to complete the Phase I projects, DWR is now concentrating on carrying out Specific Authorizations.

Murray reviewed SWPP funding through November 30, 2025.

7.C. Update from Manager/CEO/SWA Staff

7.C.1. SWA Construction Update and O&M Update

Murray noted the US Highway 85 pipeline relocation from Highway 200 to the Long X Bridge is complete. B&W is in the process of verifying installations and submitting the changes to the NDDOT for the reimbursable portion. The second phase of Highway 85 relocations is in the beginning planning stages.

Murray stated compromised coatings were observed on tank walls, tank floor, and center support column of the first New England Reservoir in October 2023 and again in January 2024. The New England Reservoir was constructed in 1993. The preparation of bid ready drawings and specifications has been in development and a submittal review set of documents are compiled. A submittal letter will be distributed to SWA once complete.

Murray noted SWA continues to work with the city of Medora and the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation (TRMF) to provide for their water needs on the west side of Medora. Options are being evaluated.

Murray noted staff drained the New Hradec Reservoir to the half full level and filled it back up due to taste and odor complaints downstream of the reservoir. One gallon water samples were collected from the New Hradec Reservoir and County Line Valve and shipped overnight to Minnesota Valley Testing Laboratories in New Ulm, Minnesota for a metal scan. Water samples from these locations have passed all local testing. The tank remains isolated from service until the cause of the issue can be identified.

Distribution, Treatment and Staff updates were provided.

7.C.2. Easement/Signup Update

Conzemius reviewed the sign-up and easement report. Subsequent cost quotes, customer complaints and waiting list numbers were reported. There are 766 requests for service system-wide plus 908 Burt Hebron Service Area Signups for a total of 1,674 requests system wide. Of the 766 waiting list requests, 111 have committed for service via intent forms once the North New England Strategic Improvements have been completed. Four subsequent customers signed up in December. The department is focused on acquiring easements for the Hebron Rural Service Area.

7.C.3. 2026 General Election Information

Murray stated 2026 is an election year and several Board members are up for re-election. More information will be provided at the February 2, 2026, board meeting.

Dwyer stated NDCC 16.1-08.1-02.3, which requires public officials to disclose year-end campaign statements, must file the Campaign Disclosure Statement with the Secretary of State between January 1 and January 31, 2026, regardless of whether they have received any contributions.

7.C.4. Water Topics Overview Committee

The Water Topics Overview Committee (WTOC) met on December 9, 2025. Murray and Chairperson Odermann were in attendance.

Enacted HB 2020 requires project sponsors to provide information to the WTOC if projects exceed \$10 million. SWPP has historically given an update to WTOC on the proposed projects for the upcoming biennium and will make this present at the next WTOC meeting. The next meeting is March 26, 2026.

7.C.5. Waters of the United States (WOTUS)

Murray stated the revised Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule was finalized and published in January 2023. It was amended in August 2023 to conform to the Supreme Court's Sackett v. EPA decision. In November 2025, a proposed rule was announced to refine the definitions and provide additional clarity. Governor Armstrong expressed his support for the new rule

after U.S. Senator Kevin Cramer hosted the EPA and Army Corps officials at a listening session at Bismarck State College on December 12, 2025.

7.C.6. NDRWSA Expo

Murray stated the 39th Annual Rural Water EXPO has been scheduled for February 10-12, 2026, in Fargo. The tentative agenda was reviewed. Board members were encouraged to attend.

7.C.7. NRWA Washington D.C. Rural Water Rally

Murray stated the National Rural Water Association Water Rally will be held on February 2-5, 2026, in Washington D.C. SWA budgets for two directors and the Manager/CEO to attend. Murray noted if Board members would like to attend to let the office know so arrangements can be made. Murray stated she is working to arrange water discussions with our Congressional delegates or their Regional Directors while they are in North Dakota.

7.D. Perkins County Rural Water System Update

O'Shields reported the Perkins County Rural Water System (PCRWS) provided minutes from their November 13, 2025, meeting, along with a copy of the agenda for the December 11, 2025. PCRWS approved a three percent increase for water rates in 2026.

8. Review issues pending/Parking lot/Plan next agenda

Murray stated poly pipe versus PVC pipe be on the February agenda. Decker will provide a factual based report regarding the two different pipes for Board discussion. This is being brought back to the Board based on public comment from Todd Kollman, water installer, and the Dschaak's, SWA customers.

There being no further business, Chairperson Odermann adjourned the meeting at 11:19 a.m. MST.

Jim Odermann, Chairperson

Mike Tietz, Secretary/Treasurer

**Southwest Water Authority
Rules & Regulations Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 20, 2026
10:00 a.m. MST
Southwest Water Authority O&M Center Office, Dickinson, ND**

A. Call to Order

The Southwest Water Authority Rules and Regulations Subcommittee met on Monday, January 20, 2026, at the Southwest Water Authority O&M Center Office. Murray called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m. MST.

Present at the meeting were: Directors Ryan Baumgartner, Bruce Engelhardt, Curtis Glasoe, Bob Ingold, and James Odermann. Also present were: Jen Murray, SWA Manager/CEO, Andy Erickson, SWA Water Distribution Manager, Misti Conzemius, SWA Marketing Manager, Tyson Decker, Bartlett & West, and Wendy Serhienko, SWA Executive Assistant.

B. Elect a Chairperson

Director Ingold nominated Director Engelhardt to serve as Chairperson for the Rules and Regulations Subcommittee. There were no other nominations from the floor.

Motion by Director Ingold, seconded by Director Glasoe, to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Director Engelhardt as Chairperson.

C. Subcommittee Scope and Timeline

Murray reviewed the Scope of Work and the Timeline for the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee's Primary Objectives will be centered on two distinct levels of review: 1) Board-Level Policy Review and Clarification and 2) Administrative Cleanup and Consistency Review. Substantive policy changes will not be made without explicit Board direction.

Engelhardt stated the Timeline suggests bringing the deliverables to the May Board of Directors meeting for decision-making. Director Odermann was concerned with the Timeline. Chairperson Engelhardt suggested keeping the May date as a goal, but the Subcommittee will continue to meet until their work is complete.

Director Ingold questioned whether legal counsel will need to look at any proposed changes. Murray stated legal counsel will review policy changes.

D. Review of Rules and Regulations

Murray stated the Board Action Plan calls for review and clarification of three sections of the *Rules and Regulations*. The following three sections were reviewed by the Subcommittee: IV.D.1. CONSTRUCTION – NEW PROPERTY OWNER OPTION, VI.E. APPLICATION FOR WATER SERVICE, and XVI.A. EXTENSION OF TRANSMISSION – CURB STOPS-RELOCATIONS -WET TAPS.

The Subcommittee gave a “thumbs up” for the Manager/CEO to makes changes and edits and bring them back to the Subcommittee for review.

After discussing the three sections, the Subcommittee requested an editable version of the *Rules and*

Regulations be sent out in order to make changes and comments before the next Subcommittee meeting.

E. Schedule Future Meeting

The Board of Directors Rules and Regulations Subcommittee will meet on Monday, February 2, 2026, at 12:30 p.m. at the SWA O&M Center Office.

G. Adjournment

Chairperson Engelhardt adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m. MST.

Bruce Engelhardt, Chairperson



Our Vision: People and Business Succeeding with Quality Water **Our Mission:** Quality Water for Southwest North Dakota

MEMORANDUM

To: Jen Murray, Manager/CEO

From: Ledeanne O'Shields, CFO/Office Administrator

Subject: Financial, Administration and Customer Service – Incidental Information

Date: January 28, 2026

The financial statements included for your review are for December 2025. These include a summary income and expense statement that compares to budget, a detailed income statement of actual income and expenses for the year and the balance sheet. The balance sheet is a comparison of December 2024 to December 2025. Also included is a detailed statement of board expenses for the month of December.

The accounts receivable listing for rural customers is for December 2025 and the transmission accounts receivable listing is for December 2025. The checks written for the month are from December 23, 2025 to January 19, 2026.

Total rural usage for December 2025 was 23,087,100 gallons. By comparison, in December 2024 rural water sales were 28,372,800 gallons. This is a decrease of 18.63%. During the month of December, there was 5 hookups with, four hookups in 7-1B, and one in Contract 7-8E.

There are 2,360 customers using our Automatic Payment Plan, 382 paid online with a credit option and 343 paid online with a checking account. We had 62 spot checks (two months without a reading or the same reading). Currently there are 516 customers who are using the Customer Service Center to view their accounts.

Included with this memo are residual mill levy income and signup income for the month of December. SWA sold a total of 155,985,250 gallons of water in the month of December. The projection for the year 2025 is 2,324,607,000 gallons. A comparison of total usage through December is listed at the top of the next page. The difference shown in the first column is the difference between year-to-date for the year (2024) and 2025. This shows a historical year-to-date comparison. Also listed are the usage and the difference for the last two months. Sales through December were less than last year's sales through December by 7.38%. SWA had 7,849 active accounts with 3,059 subsequent users in December. As of December 31, 2025, SWA has 314 tenants.

Also listed below is O&M Income minus Capital Repayment and REM, along with percentages, through December 31, 2025.

Comparisons Through November	Listed in thousand gallons		
		November 2025	140,057,470
2016	1358,849,790	December 2025	<u>155,985,250</u>
2017	114,339,930	Difference	15,927.78
2018	115,496,370		
2019	110,535,850		
2020	113,274,720		
2021	123,284,960		
2022	165,949,960		
2023	141,690,210		
2024	168,407,320		
2025	<u>155,985,250</u>		
Difference	(12,422,070)		

As of December 31, 2025	Amount	Percent
O&M Income	\$19,275,545	
Return on Investment Expense	(6,781,049)	35%
REM Expense	<u>(2,186,288)</u>	11%
Balance	<u>\$ 9,218,261</u>	54%

The financial statements that are presented are as of the end of the year, but are preliminary. SWA also has not received the retirement information from NDPERS. Brady, Martz and Associates will be conducting fieldwork February 9 through 11, 2026, for the annual audit.

Water depot usage information is included with this memo.

A listing of Accounts Payables (aged trial balance) is included. In addition to the regular accounts payable, included in the listing are: Bartlett & West for \$21,166.95 which includes \$7,278.70 for the New England recoat, \$3,788.40 for Hwy 85, \$3,551.74 for capacity checks and waiting list reviews, \$2,858.42 for Chateau Road, and \$436.08 for the OMND WTP roof; BEK Consulting, LLC for \$17,493.22 to repair a leak on the main line in Contract 2-8F; ESRI, Inc for \$5,150.00 for the 2026 GIS mapping agreement; Farmers Union Beulah for \$4,099.93 for fuel for Dodge; Fenix for \$5,282.20 for 4,802 hosting minutes; Informational Data Technologies for \$7,590.00 for 759 air minutes for November and December; Lindtech Services, Inc for \$2,541.00 for HVAC service at the OMND WTP; ND Water Education Foundation for \$2,000.00 for the 2026 digital subscription of the *ND Water Magazine*; Pump Systems, LLC for \$20,768.71 for two pumps for Coffin Buttes; Quality Quick Print for \$6,688.57 which includes \$6,609.57 for 5,292 Newsletters; Temp Right Service, Inc for \$26,490.00 to install the new heating tubes and heater in the O&M shop; TK Elevator for \$1,869.45 for the annual service agreement; TriTech Software Systems for \$10,881.29 for the yearly license and maintenance agreement for Diamond & CSC; and USA Blue Book for \$1,529.41 for lab supplies and parts for the DWTP.

Southwest Water Authority
Statement of Income & Expenses
For 1/1/2025 To 12/31/2025

	Current Period	Current YTD	YTD 2025 Budget	YTD % of Budget	Budget total 2025
Sales					
Sales of Water	\$1,372,868	\$18,817,879	\$18,645,300	100.93%	\$18,645,300
Sales of Equipment	\$1,500	\$260,751	\$253,100	103.02%	\$253,100
Sales of Services	\$741	\$178,915	\$25,900	690.79%	\$25,900
Gross Sales	\$1,375,109	\$19,257,545	\$18,924,300	101.76%	\$18,924,300
O&M Expense --Transmission	\$692,376	\$7,764,146	\$8,345,800	93.03%	\$8,345,800
O&M Expense --Distribution	\$444,161	\$6,217,882	\$5,822,300	106.79%	\$5,822,300
O&M Expense -- Treatment	\$206,664	\$2,811,822	\$3,479,400	80.81%	\$3,479,400
Customer Service Expense	\$19,968	\$221,535	\$242,700	91.28%	\$242,700
Total Expenses	\$1,363,169	\$17,015,385	\$17,890,200	95.11%	\$17,890,200
Gross Profit On Sales	\$11,940	\$2,242,160	\$1,034,100	216.82%	\$1,034,100
Other Income					
Mill Levy Income	\$1,229	\$20,659	\$0	0.00%	\$0
Other Income	\$89,034	\$943,334	\$601,100	156.94%	\$601,100
Grant Income	\$0	\$5,139	\$2,000	256.95%	\$2,000
Total Other Income	\$90,263	\$969,132	\$603,100	160.69%	\$603,100
Board of Directors Expense	\$19,158	\$251,279	\$276,900	90.75%	\$276,900
Administrative Expense	\$97,148	\$1,127,564	\$1,236,100	91.22%	\$1,236,100
Signup & Easement Expense	\$46,989	\$533,344	\$618,800	86.19%	\$618,800
Depreciation Expense	\$40,090	\$488,925	\$532,000	91.90%	\$532,000
Gain/Loss on Asset Disposal	(\$506)	(\$36,900)	\$0	0.00%	\$0
Net Income/Expenses	(\$101,688)	\$773,280	(\$1,026,600)	(75.32)%	(\$1,026,600)
Replacement & EM Fund Expense	\$23,236	\$3,160,465	\$5,603,600	56.40%	\$5,603,600
Net Income w/ Replacement & EM	(\$124,924)	(\$2,387,185)	(\$6,630,200)	36.01%	(\$6,630,200)

Board of Directors Expenses

For 1/1/2025 to 12/31/2025

	Current Period	Current YTD	2025 BUDGET YTD	2025 BUDGET Budget
Board of Directors Expenses				
Per Diem -- Board of Directors	\$5,283	\$55,415	\$70,000	\$70,000
Group Life Insurance -- Board of Directors	2	14	0	0
Workers Compensation Expense -- Board of Directors	3	39	200	200
FICA - Social Security -- Board of Directors	407	4,075	6,100	6,100
FICA - Medicare -- Board of Directors	95	953	1,500	1,500
Professional Services -- Board of Directors	3,254	57,418	35,000	35,000
Office Supplies -- Board of Directors	(21)	81	200	200
Copies & Duplication -- Board of Directors	0	0	100	100
Public Relations & Development -- Board of Directors	0	21,717	34,000	34,000
Development & Education -- Board of Directors	0	14,045	10,600	10,600
Mileage Reimbursement -- Board of Directors	1,563	16,499	20,000	20,000
Lodging & Meals -- Board of Directors	3,334	17,322	25,600	25,600
Travel Expenses -- Board of Directors	0	1,435	8,000	8,000
Telephone/Internet -- Board of Directors	460	5,140	5,000	5,000
Postage -- Board of Directors	307	2,236	600	600
Dues & Subscriptions -- Board of Directors	2,617	32,622	34,000	34,000
Insurance - Liability -- Board of Directors	1,856	22,270	26,000	26,000
Total Board of Director Expense	\$19,160	\$251,281	\$276,900	\$276,900
Total Expenses	\$19,160	\$251,281	\$276,900	\$276,900
	\$19,160	\$251,281	\$276,900	\$276,900

Comparative Balance Sheet

12/31/2025

	Through 12/31/2025	Through 12/31/2024
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash		
Cash in Checking - O&M - Bravera	\$954,299	\$941,835
Cash in Checking - Payroll - Bravera	451,509	433,200
DDM - Reserve - O&M - Bravera	927,314	2,171,551
Cash in Checking - BMO Bank	83,192	63,297
Petty Cash	198	145
Total Cash	\$2,416,512	\$3,610,028
Short-Term Investments		
Short-Term Investment - O&M Fund	\$727,657	\$133,509
Short-Term Investment - General Fund	37,468	43,268
Short-Term Investment - Reserve Fund	1,015,099	6,610
Short-Term Investment - Escrow Fund	4,847	16,244
Short-Term Investment - Replacement	7,574,216	3,475,348
Cash Management Account - General Fund	23,644	22,688
Cash Management Account - O&M	1,263,601	1,216,758
Certificate of Deposit #18112	4,412,352	4,201,040
Certificate of Deposit #24552	0	1,038,500
Certificate of Deposit #24572	1,074,577	1,050,739
Total Short-Term Investments	\$16,133,461	\$11,204,704
Accounts Receivable		
Accounts Receivable -- Distribution Prepayments	(\$67,858)	(\$53,513)
Accounts Receivable -- Transmission	843,655	968,116
Accounts Receivable -- Distribution	600,720	698,982
Accounts Receivable -- MWWS	15,098	23,321
Accounts Receivable -- Other	628	2,229
Grant Receivable	0	467,161
Allowance For Doubtful Accounts	(11,358)	(11,824)
Allowance For Doubtful Accounts -- MWWS	(2,168)	(2,168)
Total Accounts Receivable	\$1,378,717	\$2,092,304
Interest Receivable		
Interest Receivable	\$44,421	\$20,672
Interest Receivable -- REM	106,494	84,485
Total Interest Receivables	\$150,915	\$105,157

Comparative Balance Sheet

	Through 12/31/2025	Through 12/31/2024
Inventory		
Inventory Contributed Capital	\$99,797	\$99,797
Inventory -- User Spare Parts	712,004	713,386
Inventory -- WTP	184,964	123,369
Inventory -- SWTP	186,437	159,957
Inventory -- OMND WTP	150,639	116,462
Total Inventory	\$1,333,841	\$1,212,971
Prepaid Expenses		
Prepaid Expenses	\$60,892	\$58,755
Prepaid Deposit	66,405	14,845
Prepaid Insurance	64,496	168,671
Prepaid Workers Compensation	3,622	5,946
Total Prepaid Expenses	\$195,415	\$248,217
Total Current Assets	\$21,608,861	\$18,473,381
Long-Term Investments		
Long-Term Investment - O&M Fund	\$3,236,038	\$3,745,727
Long-Term Investment - General Fund	1,200,183	1,171,164
Long-Term Investment - Reserve Fund	453,199	364,357
Long-Term Investment - Escrow Fund	776,680	754,110
Long-Term Investment - Replacement	21,045,732	23,191,913
Total Long-Term Investments	\$26,711,832	\$29,227,271
Property, Plant and Equipment		
Land	\$113,318	\$112,817
Buildings & Improvements	4,009,928	3,959,597
Office Furniture & Fixtures	290,706	290,706
Vehicles	1,190,022	1,066,499
Contributed Vehicles	46,093	46,093
Other Fixed Assets	25,301	4,011
Computer Equipment	99,565	92,163
Machinery & Equipment	3,010,227	3,010,227
Contributed Equipment	60,530	60,530
Computer Software	178,590	178,590
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	\$9,024,280	\$8,821,233
Accumulated Depreciation		
Accum Depr -- Buildings & Improvements	\$1,366,652	\$1,270,816
Accum Depr -- Office Furn & Fixt	281,145	276,533

Comparative Balance Sheet

	Through 12/31/2025	Through 12/31/2024
Accum Depr -- Vehicle	683,383	571,806
Accum Depr -- Contributed Vehicles	46,093	46,093
Accum Depr -- Other Fixed Assets	4,192	4,011
Accum Depr -- Computer Equipment	92,987	80,754
Accum Depr -- Machinery & Equipment	2,201,009	2,009,304
Accum Depr -- Contributed Equipment	60,530	60,530
Accumulated Amortization	178,590	178,590
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$4,914,581	\$4,498,437
Other Assets		
Deferred Pension Outflows	\$1,628,277	\$1,628,277
Deferred OPEB Outflows	43,485	43,485
Total Other Assets	\$1,671,762	\$1,671,762
Total Assets	\$54,102,154	\$53,695,210

Comparative Balance Sheet

	Through 12/31/2025	Through 12/31/2024
Liabilities and Equity		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
Accounts Payable	\$1,158,897	\$1,347,587
Employee Benefits Payable	139,484	126,325
Deductions Payable	438	0
Total Accounts Payable	\$1,298,819	\$1,473,912
Taxes Payable		
ND State Withholding Payable	\$4,603	\$4,271
Employer Matching FICA - Social Security	18,142	17,870
Employer Matching FICA - Medicare	4,243	4,179
Total Taxes Payable	\$26,988	\$26,320
Other Current Liabilities		
Accrued Annual Leave Payable	\$200,247	\$200,247
Accrued Sick Leave Payable	183,067	183,067
Flex -- Medical Spending Payable	400	(32)
Flex -- Life Insurance Payable	4	0
Accrued Salaries Payable	297,584	292,272
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$681,302	\$675,554
Total Current Liabilities	\$2,007,109	\$2,175,786
Long-Term Liabilities		
Deferred Revenue	\$986,125	\$892,125
Tenant Rental Deposits	23,550	22,350
Tenant Rental Deposits -- MWWS	375	375
Customer Escrow Deposit	40,000	40,000
Deferred Pension Inflows	2,630,067	2,630,067
Deferred OPEB Inflows	50,389	50,389
Net Pension Liability	4,131,317	4,131,317
Net OPEB Liability	152,208	152,208
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$8,014,031	\$7,918,831
Total Liabilities	\$10,021,140	\$10,094,617

Equity

Reserve Funds

Comparative Balance Sheet

	Through 12/31/2025	Through 12/31/2024
Reserve Account -- O&M Transmission	\$3,557,605	\$3,605,322
Reserve Account -- O&M Distribution	2,115,551	2,130,241
Reserve Account -- O&M Treatment	(2,177,681)	(2,174,397)
Reserve Account -- General Operating Fund	391,030	384,956
Reserve Account-Replace & EM -- Transmission	18,368,502	17,256,342
Reserve Account-Replace & EM -- Distribution	1,148,411	850,960
Interest Income -- Replace & EM	8,907,489	8,307,208
Dividend Income -- Replace & EM	474,753	419,887
Interest Income -- O&M Reserve	1,250	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Reserve Funds	\$32,786,910	\$30,780,519
Unappropriated Funds	\$13,114,629	\$12,319,098
Contributed Capital	566,665	566,665
Net Profit/(loss)	(2,387,188)	(65,697)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Equity	\$11,294,106	\$12,820,066
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$54,102,156	\$53,695,202
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

AGED TRIAL BALANCE
 Southwest Water Authority
 Payables Management

Ranges:

Vendor ID: First - Last
 Class ID: First - Last
 Payment Priority: First - Last
 Vendor Name: First - Last

Accts Payable: First - Last
 Posting Date: First - Last
 Document Number: First - Last

Print Option: SUMMARY
 Age By: Document Date
 Aging Date: 12/31/2025

Exclude: Credit Balance, Zero Balance, No Activity, Unposted Applied Credit Documents, Multicurrency Info
 Sorted By: Vendor ID
 Document Date

Vendor ID: AM1956	Name: AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES		
Voucher(s): 8	Aged Totals:	Due	\$1,834.33
Vendor ID: BA1491	Name: BACKYARD MECHANICS		
Voucher(s): 2	Aged Totals:	Due	\$1,517.00
Vendor ID: BA6742	Name: BARTLETT & WEST ENGINEERS, INC.		
Voucher(s): 6	Aged Totals:	Due	\$21,166.95
Vendor ID: BA7351	Name: BASIN AUTO PARTS		
Voucher(s): 3	Aged Totals:	Due	\$50.67
Vendor ID: BE4155	Name: BEK CONSULTING, LLC		
Voucher(s): 1	Aged Totals:	Due	\$17,493.22
Vendor ID: BI3772	Name: BIRSCHBACH EQUIPMENT & SUPPLY		
Voucher(s): 1	Aged Totals:	Due	\$582.00
Vendor ID: BI7517	Name: THE BISMARCK TRIBUNE-SUBSCRIPTION		
Voucher(s): 1	Aged Totals:	Due	\$699.99
Vendor ID: BO6225	Name: BORDER STATES ELECTRIC SUPPLY		
Voucher(s): 4	Aged Totals:	Due	\$321.39
Vendor ID: BR2557	Name: BRENNTAG PACIFIC		
Voucher(s): 3	Aged Totals:	Due	\$14,070.00
Vendor ID: BU7426	Name: BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY		
Voucher(s): 1	Aged Totals:	Due	\$1,200.00
Vendor ID: CE5269	Name: C. EMERY NELSON, INC.		
Voucher(s): 1	Aged Totals:	Due	\$7,800.00
Vendor ID: CN1776	Name: CNA SURETY DIRECT BILL		
Voucher(s): 1	Aged Totals:	Due	\$50.00
Vendor ID: DI1449	Name: DICKINSON PRESS		
Voucher(s): 1	Aged Totals:	Due	\$237.49
Vendor ID: DO8576	Name: DOWNTOWN GAS & AUTO REPAIR		
Voucher(s): 1	Aged Totals:	Due	\$1,330.00
Vendor ID: DW9264	Name: DWYER LAW OFFICE, PLLC		
Voucher(s): 1	Aged Totals:	Due	\$2,106.13
Vendor ID: EL2177	Name: ELECTRO WATCHMAN, INC		

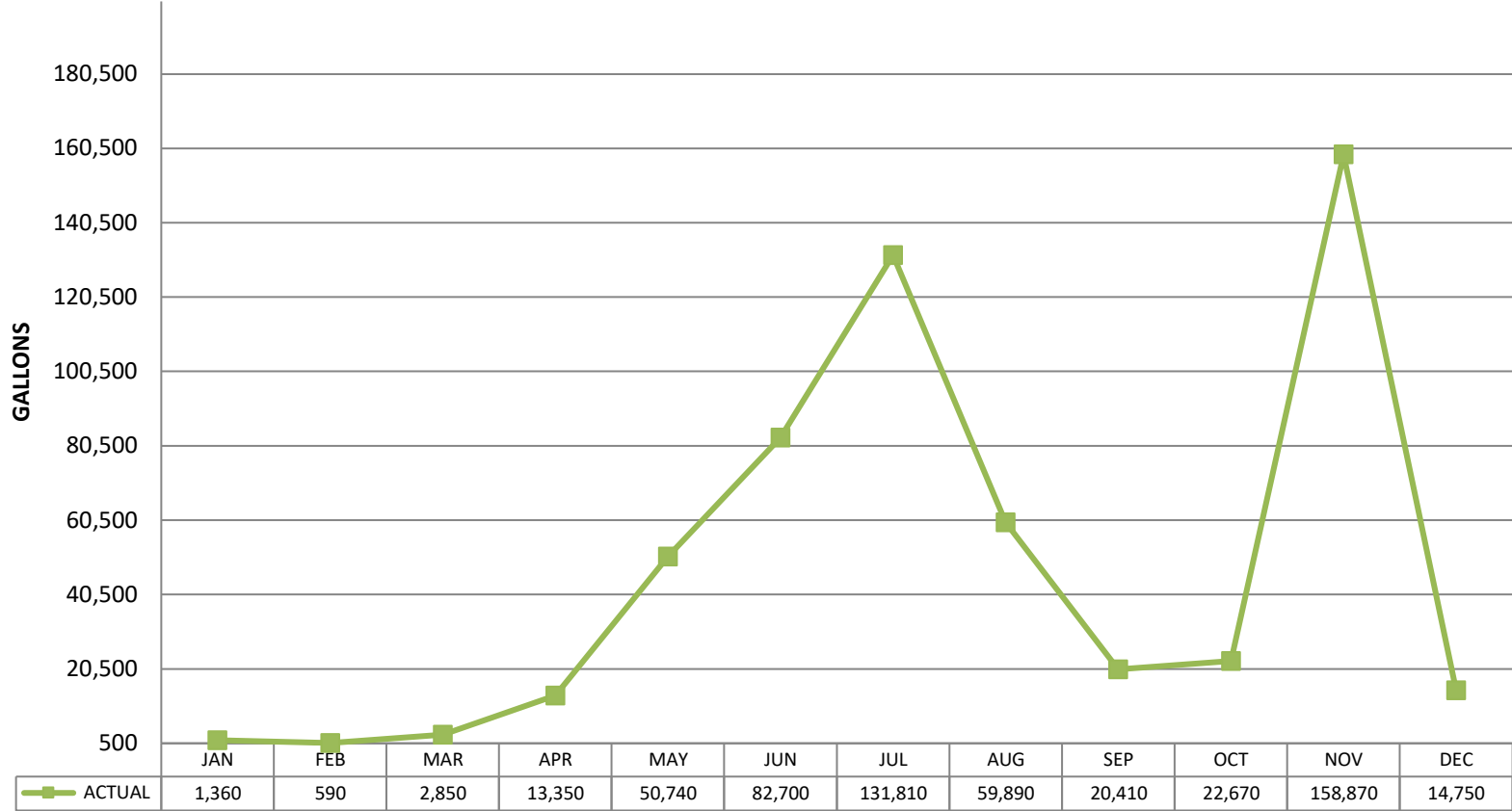
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$1,198.80
Vendor ID: ES6327	Name: ESRI, INC.		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$5,150.00
Vendor ID: FA1274	Name: FARMERS UNION-BEULAH		
Voucher(s): 2		Aged Totals:	Due \$4,099.93
Vendor ID: FA3192	Name: FARMERS UNION HAZEN		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$847.00
Vendor ID: FA7725	Name: FASTENAL COMPANY		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$79.88
Vendor ID: FE2200	Name: FEDERAL EXPRESS		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$22.88
Vendor ID: FE5387	Name: FENIX USA LLC		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$5,282.20
Vendor ID: FO2567	Name: FORTE		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$1,355.39
Vendor ID: GA7125	Name: G.A. SADOWSKY & SON, INC.		
Voucher(s): 2		Aged Totals:	Due \$341.82
Vendor ID: GR1571	Name: GRANT COUNTY NEWS		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$60.00
Vendor ID: GR1955	Name: GRAYMONT (WI) LLC		
Voucher(s): 4		Aged Totals:	Due \$19,957.49
Vendor ID: HA1315	Name: HACH COMPANY		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$387.16
Vendor ID: HA8435	Name: HAWKINS INC		
Voucher(s): 5		Aged Totals:	Due \$6,975.00
Vendor ID: HA9253	Name: HAZEN HARDWARE HANK		
Voucher(s): 3		Aged Totals:	Due \$66.53
Vendor ID: IN2566	Name: INFORMATIONAL DATA TECHNOLOGIES L		
Voucher(s): 2		Aged Totals:	Due \$7,590.00
Vendor ID: LE7268	Name: LEE SERVICES, LLC dba NAKOTA CLEAN		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$1,624.00
Vendor ID: LI5272	Name: LINDTECH SERVICES, INC		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$2,541.00
Vendor ID: LO2243	Name: LOFFLER COMPANIES, INC		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$919.37
Vendor ID: LO3551	Name: LOGO MAGIC, INC		

Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$399.05
Vendor ID:	LU1497	Name:	LUCKY'S TOWING & REPAIR
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$416.00
Vendor ID:	MO7355	Name:	MOTION INDUSTRIES, INC
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$103.81
Vendor ID:	NA6761	Name:	NATIONAL RURAL WATER ASSOC.
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$49.00
Vendor ID:	NO6275	Name:	ND DIVISION OF MICROBIOLOGY
Voucher(s): 4		Aged Totals:	Due \$162.00
Vendor ID:	NO6301	Name:	ND DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL - CHEMIST
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$780.76
Vendor ID:	NO6727	Name:	ND WATER EDUCATION FOUNDATION
Voucher(s): 2		Aged Totals:	Due \$2,520.00
Vendor ID:	NO6739	Name:	NORTHWESTERN POWER EQUIP CO INC
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$877.00
Vendor ID:	OD5299	Name:	ODNEY
Voucher(s): 3		Aged Totals:	Due \$4,800.59
Vendor ID:	OL7558	Name:	OLSON'S SERVICE
Voucher(s): 2		Aged Totals:	Due \$122.00
Vendor ID:	ON2114	Name:	ONE CALL CONCEPTS
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$187.20
Vendor ID:	PO4416	Name:	POLLARD WATER
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$47.50
Vendor ID:	PO8266	Name:	POWERFLEET, INC
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$474.81
Vendor ID:	PR2756	Name:	PRESORT PLUS, LLC
Voucher(s): 2		Aged Totals:	Due \$5,645.96
Vendor ID:	PU5679	Name:	PUMP SYSTEMS, LLC
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$20,768.71
Vendor ID:	QU1437	Name:	QUALITY QUICK PRINT, INC.
Voucher(s): 2		Aged Totals:	Due \$6,688.57
Vendor ID:	RE3726	Name:	REITER WELDING, INC.
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$504.00
Vendor ID:	RR1775	Name:	R & R AUTO, FARM & ELECTRIC, INC.
Voucher(s): 2		Aged Totals:	Due \$177.03
Vendor ID:	RU5535	Name:	RUNNINGS SUPPLY, INC

AGED TRIAL BALANCE
Southwest Water Authority

Voucher(s): 11		Aged Totals:	Due \$574.45
Vendor ID: SO7739	Name: SOUTHWEST LIME, LLC		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$7,750.00
Vendor ID: SO8901	Name: SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$375.00
Vendor ID: SO8909	Name: SOUTHWEST GRAIN/LEMMON		
Voucher(s): 2		Aged Totals:	Due \$451.11
Vendor ID: ST2215	Name: STEFFAN SAW & BIKE		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$31.96
Vendor ID: ST5526	Name: STONERIDGE SOFTWARE, LLC		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$411.25
Vendor ID: TE5663	Name: TEMP RIGHT SERVICE, INC.		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$26,490.00
Vendor ID: TK6500	Name: TK ELEVATOR CORPORATION		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$1,869.45
Vendor ID: TR3721	Name: TRITECH SOFTWARE SYSTEMS, A CENTF		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$10,881.29
Vendor ID: US1147	Name: USA BLUE BOOK		
Voucher(s): 2		Aged Totals:	Due \$1,529.41
Vendor ID: VE7715	Name: VESSCO, INC.		
Voucher(s): 1		Aged Totals:	Due \$177.45
Vendor ID: VI7111	Name: VISA		
Voucher(s): 27		Aged Totals:	Due \$3,492.95
		<u>Vendor(s)</u>	<u>Due</u>
Vendor Totals:	63		\$227,715.93

2025 SWA DEPOT USAGE
TOTAL 559,990



2025 INDUSTRIAL SALES

CITY	*COMMENTS	*RATE/KGAL FOR INDUSTRIAL	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL GALLONS	TOTAL ACRE FEET
BEACH	SELLS WATER TO FARMERS FROM CITY WELLS ONLY. DOES NOT SELL SWPP WATER															
BELFIELD	\$32.00/1,000 GALLONS, AS OF MAY 2021	\$32.00	0	5,300	9,500	48,500	51,300	90,600	39,500	45,300	27,200	18,600	33,200	7,700	376,700	1.16
CARSON	DO NOT SELL															0.00
DICKINSON	\$19.00/1,000 GALLONS, AS OF MAY 2021	\$19.00	34,750	25,380	101,380	152,500	171,090	196,200	162,130	107,630	242,900	146,700	269,000	787,000	2,396,660	7.36
DODGE	DO NOT SELL															0.00
DUNN CENTER	DO NOT SELL															0.00
ELGIN	DO NOT SELL															0.00
GLADSTONE	DO NOT SELL															0.00
GLEN ULLIN	DOES NOT SELL ON REGULAR BASIS ONLY TO FARMERS & CONSTRUCTION,	\$15.00	800	3,900	2,800	6,900	6,200	73,400	42,300	21,500	24,900	23,300	10,200	800	217,000	0.67
GOLDEN VALLEY	SPRAYING & DUST CONTROL USE ONLY															0.00
GOLVA	DO NOT SELL SWPP WATER - USES CITY WELLS															0.00
HALLIDAY	SELLS WATER TO FARMERS FROM CITY WELLS ONLY. DOES NOT SELL SWPP WATER															0.00
HEBRON	USUALLY SELLS TO FARMERS, ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND BRICK YARD. CHARGES THE SAME FOR ALL USERS	\$10.35	136,000	122,000	184,000	129,000	150,000	145,000	158,000	121,000	127,000	126,000	86,000	102,000	1,586,000	4.87
HETTINGER	CHARGES THE SAME FOR ALL USERS	\$10.00	16,000	0	0	0	9,700	30,500	18,600	0	7,300	141,600	0	0	223,700	0.69
KILLDEER	CHARGES THE SAME FOR ALL USERS	\$35.71	168,270	229,480	112,910	118,260	78,690	81,530	58,760	24,913	36,300	18,800	21,300	23,500	972,713	2.99
MEDORA	DO NOT SELL															0.00
MOTT	SPRAYING/DOES NOT SELL TO OIL INDUSTRY	\$10.00	0	0	0	22,686	55,129	53,359	19,429	16,800	6,190	0	0	0	173,593	0.53
NEW ENGLAND	CHARGES THE SAME FOR ALL USERS	\$20.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
NEW HRADEC	DO NOT SELL															0.00
NEW LEIPZIG	DO NOT SELL															0.00
REEDER	DO NOT SELL SWPP WATER - USES CITY WELLS															0.00
REGENT	DO NOT SELL															0.00
RICHARDTON	ONLY SELL TO FARMERS															0.00
SCRANTON	SPRAYING USE ONLY/DOES NOT SELL TO OIL INDUSTRY	\$8.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
SENTINEL BUTTE	INDUSTRIAL SALES ONLY	\$22.47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
SOUTH HEART																0.00
TAYLOR	DO NOT SELL															0.00
ZAP	DO NOT SELL															0.00
TOTAL GALLONS			355,820	386,060	410,590	477,846	522,109	670,589	498,719	337,143	471,790	475,000	419,700	921,000	5,946,366	18.25
TOTAL ACRE FEET			1.09	1.18	1.26	1.47	1.60	2.06	1.53	1.03	1.45	1.46	1.29	2.83	18.25	
CONTRACT																
BAKER BOY			444,600	518,300	549,700	733,100	771,300	932,500	853,000	893,800	984,000	731,900	805,300	627,800	8,845,300	27.15
BILLINGS COUNTY DIST 3			0	0	56,100	41,600	100,200	90,300	86,300	66,000	49,200	58,900	13,500	0	562,100	1.73
SWA WATER DEPOT - RAW			1,360	590	34,300	127,200	54,500	97,200	111,700	61,800	23,500	23,700	158,870	14,750	709,470	2.18
DAKOTA PRAIRIE REFINING			906,900	1,033,900	885,500	1,858,400	1,376,600	573,000	1,269,000	1,722,700	1,935,000	505,300	561,300	1,818,200	14,445,800	44.33
ND ENERGY SERVICES			112,900	44,300	23,400	0	0	0	0	39,200	0	136,700	20,600	44,100	421,200	1.29
NET-ZERO RICHARDTON, LLC			14,237,000	16,288,000	16,335,000	17,813,000	15,685,000	22,836,000	20,896,900	22,660,100	17,534,000	17,049,000	16,647,000	18,271,000	216,252,000	663.65
STEFFES CORPORATION			161,300	218,800	268,300	220,700	213,000	302,800	186,600	181,100	188,400	175,300	210,700	134,300	2,461,300	7.55
TOTAL GALLONS			15,864,060	18,103,890	18,152,300	20,794,000	18,200,600	24,831,800	23,403,500	25,624,700	20,714,100	18,680,800	18,417,270	20,910,150	243,697,170	747.88
TOTAL ACRE FEET			48.68	55.56	55.71	63.81	55.86	76.21	71.82	78.64	63.57	57.33	56.52	64.17	747.88	
TOTAL GALLONS COMBINED			16,219,880	18,489,950	18,562,890	21,271,846	18,722,709	25,502,389	23,902,219	25,961,843	21,185,890	19,155,800	18,836,970	21,831,150	249,643,536	
TOTAL ACRE FEET COMBINED			49.78	56.74	56.97	65.28	57.46	78.26	73.35	79.67	65.02	58.79	57.81	67.00	766.13	766.13

Southwest Pipeline Project

Return on Investment

YEAR	RESOURCES TRUST FUND	BOND PAYMENTS	TOTAL
1991	\$ 11,166.00		\$ 11,166.00
1992	\$ 212,899.00		\$ 212,899.00
1993	\$ 195,973.00		\$ 195,973.00
1994	\$ 300,472.00		\$ 300,472.00
1995	\$ 504,179.00		\$ 504,179.00
1996	\$ 734,994.15		\$ 734,994.15
1997	\$ 389,111.41	\$ 468,801.59	\$ 857,913.00
1998	\$ 415,197.60	\$ 500,593.77	\$ 915,791.37
1999	\$ 349,574.05	\$ 676,423.19	\$ 1,025,997.24
2000	\$ 418,164.86	\$ 728,614.91	\$ 1,146,779.77
2001	\$ 475,021.15	\$ 833,246.78	\$ 1,308,267.93
2002	\$ 416,859.08	\$ 1,015,365.60	\$ 1,432,224.68
2003	\$ 458,780.10	\$ 1,122,504.11	\$ 1,581,284.21
2004	\$ 615,337.62	\$ 1,005,901.63	\$ 1,621,239.25
2005	\$ 661,099.95	\$ 1,045,858.38	\$ 1,706,958.33
2006	\$ 611,674.29	\$ 1,336,805.97	\$ 1,948,480.26
2007	\$ 856,597.12	\$ 1,451,468.74	\$ 2,308,065.86
2008	\$ 1,451,385.68	\$ 1,004,121.20	\$ 2,455,506.88
2009	\$ 1,504,429.59	\$ 1,114,558.52	\$ 2,618,988.11
2010	\$ 877,624.28	\$ 1,898,922.31	\$ 2,776,546.59
2011	\$ 1,793,563.59	\$ 1,282,852.85	\$ 3,076,416.44
2012	\$ 3,303,608.16	\$ 983,667.70	\$ 4,287,275.86
2013	\$ 3,080,405.43	\$ 1,441,235.41	\$ 4,521,640.84
2014	\$ 3,753,622.85	\$ 1,340,702.63	\$ 5,094,325.48
2015	\$ 4,776,377.17		\$ 4,776,377.17
2016	\$ 4,936,757.79		\$ 4,936,757.79
2017	\$ 5,258,182.90		\$ 5,258,182.90
2018	\$ 5,015,416.74		\$ 5,015,416.74
2019	\$ 5,079,128.39		\$ 5,079,128.39
2020	\$ 5,476,914.31		\$ 5,476,914.31
2021	\$ 5,566,425.98		\$ 5,566,425.98
2022	\$ 5,688,266.69		\$ 5,688,266.69
2023	\$ 6,227,003.19		\$ 6,227,003.19
2024	\$ 6,642,973.92		\$ 6,642,973.92
2025	\$ 6,724,243.94		\$ 6,724,243.94
	\$ 78,059,187.04	\$ 19,251,645.29	\$ 104,035,076.27
Perkins County	\$ 5,459,000.00		\$ 5,459,000.00
	\$ 83,518,187.04	\$ 19,251,645.29	\$ 109,494,076.27
Jan	\$ 524,179.15		\$ 524,179.15
Feb	\$ 465,874.73		\$ 990,053.88
Mar	\$ 496,188.74		\$ 1,486,242.62
Apr	\$ 470,457.96		\$ 1,956,700.58
May	\$ 505,572.75		\$ 2,462,273.33
June	\$ 523,116.86		\$ 2,985,390.19
July	\$ 629,744.96		\$ 3,615,135.15
Aug	\$ 619,985.74		\$ 4,235,120.89
Sep	\$ 584,210.51		\$ 4,819,331.40
Oct	\$ 900,036.41		\$ 5,719,367.81
Nov	\$ 474,139.06		\$ 6,193,506.87
Dec	\$ 530,737.07		\$ 6,724,243.94

III. POLICY TYPE: BOARD GOVERNANCE PROCESS

E. POLICY TITLE: *COMMITTEE STRUCTURE*

Adopted 03/06/00 - Amended 8/6/07; 4/7/14

A committee is a Board committee only if its existence and charge come from the Board, regardless whether Board members sit on the committee. The only standing Board committees are those set forth in this policy and appropriately chartered with clear product, authorities, time lines, and staff considerations.

1. Executive Committee

- A. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers.
- B. The Executive Committee shall only conduct such affairs of the Authority that are assigned by the Board of Directors.

2. Subcommittees. The Authority shall appoint standing or ad hoc subcommittees as needed.

- A. Standing subcommittees shall be established by vote of the Board of Directors. Members shall serve two (2) year terms beginning in July of even numbered years. Members shall be appointed by the Chairperson and approved by the Board of Directors.
- B. Ad hoc subcommittees may be established, as needed, by the Chairperson, Executive Committee, or a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Members shall be appointed by the Chairperson. Ad hoc subcommittees shall be given specific assignments and a time frame in which to complete its assignment.
- C. Chairperson of subcommittees. Each subcommittee shall appoint a subcommittee chairperson. The Chairperson must report on subcommittee activities, either in person or in writing, at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.
- D. Nominations Subcommittee. A nominations subcommittee shall be appointed by the Chairperson in March of even numbered years. The Chairperson of the nominations subcommittee shall accept letters of interest from members of the Board. The nominations subcommittee shall confirm interest and willingness to accept positions from all nominees. Members of the nominations subcommittee are not precluded from being nominated for any position. Nominations for all available positions will be accepted from the floor at the time of elections. Any board members shall be eligible to serve on any standing or ad hoc subcommittee.

MONITORING:

<i>Method:</i>	<i>Board of Directors Internal Report</i>
<i>Frequency:</i>	<i>Annually</i>
<i>Month:</i>	<i>February</i>

Southwest Water Authority

Board of Directors Action Plan

2025-2027

Intake and Raw Water Infrastructure

The last Close-Interval Survey (CIS) was conducted in 2014; Microbiologically Induced Corrosion (MIC) issues have emerged in multiple locations.

1. Proceed with CIS on Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) metallic lines (including raw water and potable pipelines that are either Ductile Iron or Steel).
2. Data from the CIS will be used to identify potential areas of concern regarding MIC on the Ductile Iron Pipe. The 2026 budget includes \$200,000 from Replacement and Extraordinary Maintenance for this purpose.
 - Develop scope of work
 - Select vendor and schedule survey for metallic transmission lines
 - Incorporate findings into 5-year capital planning
3. Cross-industry outreach on MIC
 - Coordinate and consult with other industries/entities on MIC
 - ND Petroleum Council, Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC), NAWs, etc.
 - Revisit the SWPP Potential Indicators of MIC Matrix and update criteria with any new information
4. Remain engaged in discussions with the Department of Water Resources and the State Water Commission regarding the Intake Construction.

Rules and Regulations and Outside Funding Sources

As the SWPP evolves, outside funding becomes more prevalent. The SWA Board of Directors has discussed concerns about fairness, leapfrogging, implementation, interpretation, and alignment with prioritization. Sections of the *Southwest Water Authority's Rules and Regulations for Water Service from the Southwest Pipeline Project* require review.

1. SWA staff review and develop interpretations of existing *Rules and Regulations* and provide details on scenarios in which these *Rules and Regulations* may apply.
2. Appoint an Ad Hoc Committee to review interpretations and update *Rules and Regulations*
 - Conduct internal redline review, draft revisions if necessary, and provide recommendations to the SWA Board of Directors
 - Section IV.D. I Construction – New Property Owner Portion (Page 8)
 - Section VI. E. Application for Water Service (Page 10)
 - Section XVI.A. Extension of Transmission-Curb Stops-Relocations-Wet Taps (Page 20)
 - Present to the ND Department of Water Resources (DWR) for further discussions and collaboration.

3. Ad Hoc Committee to also consider outside funding as a criterion.
 - Outside funding score and weight, as well as the percentage of total project costs to be covered by such funding.
4. Draft a framework and pathway for customers that may contribute outside funding toward design or construction, taking prioritization into account.

Three-Pronged Approach

The Three-Pronged Approach was adopted in 2019. 1) Main Transmission Line Capacity 2) Strategic Hydraulic Improvements 3) Rural Expansion. The SWA Board of Directors discussed revisiting each prong armed with the information and lessons learned over the past six years.

1. Remain engaged with the Main Transmission Line Capacity plans
 - SWC approved 25% + blue sky scenario for West Zone
 - Advocate for the same template for other zones
2. Amend the Strategic Improvement Prioritization Matrix to include all service areas
 - Consider outside funding as a criterion
 - Outside funding score and weight, as well as the percentage of total project costs to be covered by such funding.
3. Rural Expansion - Pocket Areas
 - Identify areas of the SWPP where Strategic Hydraulic Improvements are not possible because there is no existing infrastructure
 - Develop a list of these 'pocket areas' to be considered for potential rural expansion.
 - Identify rural expansion areas that are financially viable and hydraulically practical
4. Strategic Hydraulic Improvement vs. Rural Expansion
 - Any Service Areas that have existing pipelines should be included in the prioritization matrix for strategic improvements. Rural Expansions do inherently have longer design timelines than strategic improvements.

Ownership and Governance

During the 2025 Legislative Session, House Bill 1020 included a requirement for a Regional Water Systems Governance and Finance Study. Deloitte is conducting this study.

1. Engage with Deloitte to provide feedback and stakeholder interviews.
2. Continue to support the existing position statement of remaining a state-owned entity with operations and maintenance management by SWA.
3. Review Deloitte findings as soon as available.

Operational and Organizational

1. Emergency Response Planning – Identify strategic points of contact.



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Scope of Work

Rules & Regulations Review Subcommittee

Purpose

The Rules & Regulations Review Subcommittee is established as part of the Board of Directors' 2026 Action Plan to conduct a focused, structured review of SWA's Rules and Regulations. The goal is to ensure the document remains clear, consistent, enforceable, and aligned with current Board direction, operational practices, and long-term system integrity.

Primary Objectives

The Subcommittee's work will be centered on two distinct levels of review:

1. Board-Level Policy Review and Clarification

Three primary sections of the Rules and Regulations have been identified as requiring Board input, discussion, and clarification. For these sections, the Subcommittee will:

- Review existing language for alignment with current Board intent and operational realities
- Identify areas where language is unclear, outdated, or open to interpretation
- Develop recommended clarifications, revisions, or policy direction for full Board consideration
- Clearly distinguish between policy decisions and administrative or operational procedures

2. Administrative Cleanup and Consistency Review

In addition to the primary policy sections, several other portions of the Rules and Regulations require general cleanup. For these sections, the Subcommittee will:

- Correct formatting, numbering, and organizational inconsistencies
- Update terminology to reflect current practices, systems, or technology
- Eliminate redundancies or conflicting language
- Improve clarity and readability without changing underlying policy intent
- Identify any sections that may benefit from future policy review, even if no immediate action is recommended

Substantive policy changes will not be made within these sections without explicit Board direction.

Scope Limitations

To maintain focus and efficiency, the Subcommittee will **not**:

- Rewrite the Rules and Regulations in their entirety
- Create new policies outside of the identified sections without Board authorization
- Address individual customer disputes or enforcement actions
- Substitute administrative judgment for Board policy direction

Any issues identified that fall outside the approved scope will be documented and referred to the full Board for future consideration.

Deliverables

The Subcommittee will provide the Board with:

- A summary of findings and observations
- Recommended revisions to the three primary sections requiring Board input
- A redlined or tracked-change version of proposed cleanup edits
- A clear distinction between policy recommendations and administrative clarifications

Timeline

The Subcommittee will conduct its review during monthly Subcommittee meetings. For efficiency, it is recommended to hold these meetings after the monthly Board meeting. The Manager/CEO suggests bringing the deliverables to the May Board of Directors meeting for decision-making.

Authority

The Subcommittee serves in an advisory capacity to the Board of Directors. Final authority for approval, adoption, or amendment of the Rules and Regulations remains with the Board of Directors of Southwest Water Authority.

January 12, 2026 -- Carrington, ND

To: Southwest Water Authority Board of Directors

RE: Garrison Diversion Conservancy District quarterly meeting

Golden Valley County director Mark Begger was unable to attend the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District quarterly meeting January 8-9, 2026, at the GDCC headquarters in Carrington. I filled in for him on behalf of the SWA. A full agenda of topics was on the agenda. Nearly all directors were in attendance, either personally or via electronic connection.

A short discussion on a request from Burleigh County to withdraw from the GDCC took place. Burleigh County contended in its letter to withdraw the county has paid \$9.9 million in taxes to the GDCC and received only \$825,588 in grants “from 1993 to 2022, which Burleigh does not see as a proper return on its investment.”

The request from the Burleigh County Commission was dated December 1, 2025.

GDCC was formed in 1955. Burleigh County petitioned to join the organization in 1988. Burleigh County officials have expressed concern about money spent from GDCC on Southwest Pipeline Project and Red River Valley Water Supply Project. GDCC legal counsel Tami Norgard informed the board of its legal rights to answer the concerns. She said the board has two options as follows:

- Allow Burleigh County to exit GDCC
- Disallow the request because Burleigh County does receive benefit and then request a public hearing to establish there are no benefits to Burleigh County.

The GDCC staff provided a five-page response to the allegations by Burleigh County in the board packet for the board members.

The board approved a motion to schedule a public hearing relative to allowing Burleigh County to exit the GDCC.

The GDCC appropriated funds to the Educate, Advocate and Engage program of \$43,835. Total funding for the EAE program for 2026 is \$175,340. In addition to the GDCC, the Department of Water Resources will provide \$87,670. The local share (counties and other entities) is \$43,835. Southwest Water Authority has budgeted to provide \$10,000 to the EAE program for 2026.

The commitment of \$175,340 also includes an appropriation of \$23,850 from GDCC as part of the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee (MRRIC) program. Terry Fleck is the North Dakota representative on MRRIC.

Paul Joersma from Black and Veatch Corporation, engineering firm working on the RRVWSP, and Kip Kovar, GDCC engineer, provided statistics regarding ongoing construction of the RRVWSP:

- About 24% of the 125-mile project from the McClusky Canal to the Sheyenne River Outfall has been completed.

- There is anticipation the design of the entire project will be completed in 2026.
- The goal is to have 50% of the construction completed in 2026.
- Carstensen Contracting, Inc., of Dell Rapids, SD (a company that has done work on the Southwest Pipeline Project) is one the major contractors on the RRVWSP. The company currently is the low bidder on three contracts on phases 6B, 6C and 7A. The total value of the three contracts is nearly \$185M. Construction is slated to begin in 2026 on these three phases, which total 24.1 miles. All bids on these three phases came in under engineers estimates.
- Power supply options and costs for the Biota Water Treatment plant were presented as follows:

	in millions	
Option no.1: full electrical service (11mw)	\$40	\$68
Option no. 2: reduced electrical service (3mw) & onsite generation for high service pumping	\$62	\$93
Option no. 3: onsite power generation with natural gas (no electrical)	\$57	\$127

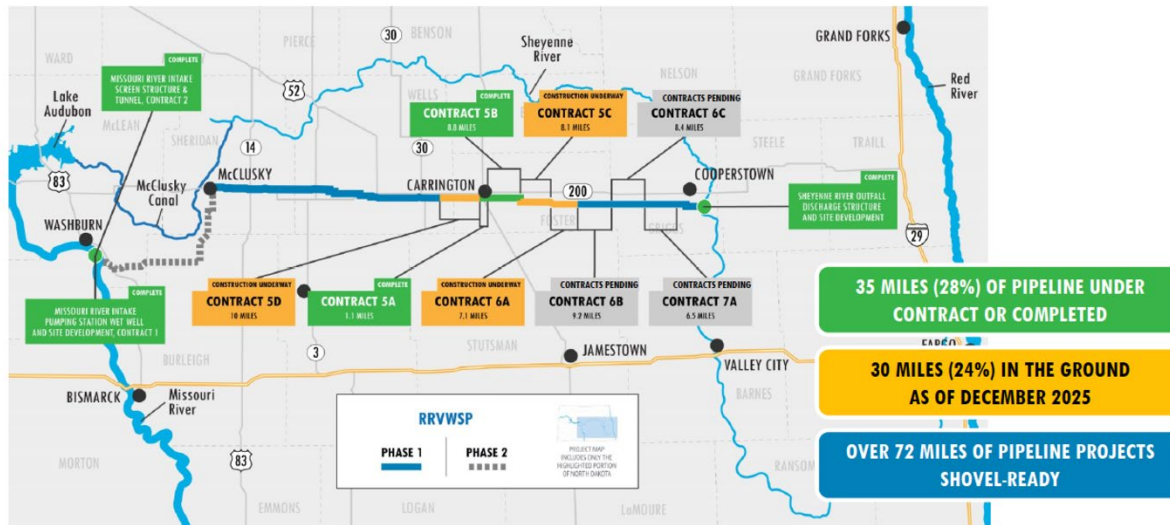
There will be continued discussion as to which option to pursue.

General Manager Duane DeKrey provided the board an update on financial outlays of the GD CD contribution to the Lake Agassiz Water Authority (LAWA) since LAWA's inception in 2003. The high points were as follows:

Item	GD CD Contributed Value
Staff Time	\$ 14,351,316.97
GD CD Directors	\$ 353,250.00
GD CD RRVWSP General Fund Expenses	\$ 4,517,266.80
Series C Financing Agreement Upfront Cash	\$ 3,767,503.97
LAWA Meeting Expenses (excluding staff time shown above)	\$ 712,125.00
TOTAL	\$23,701,462.74

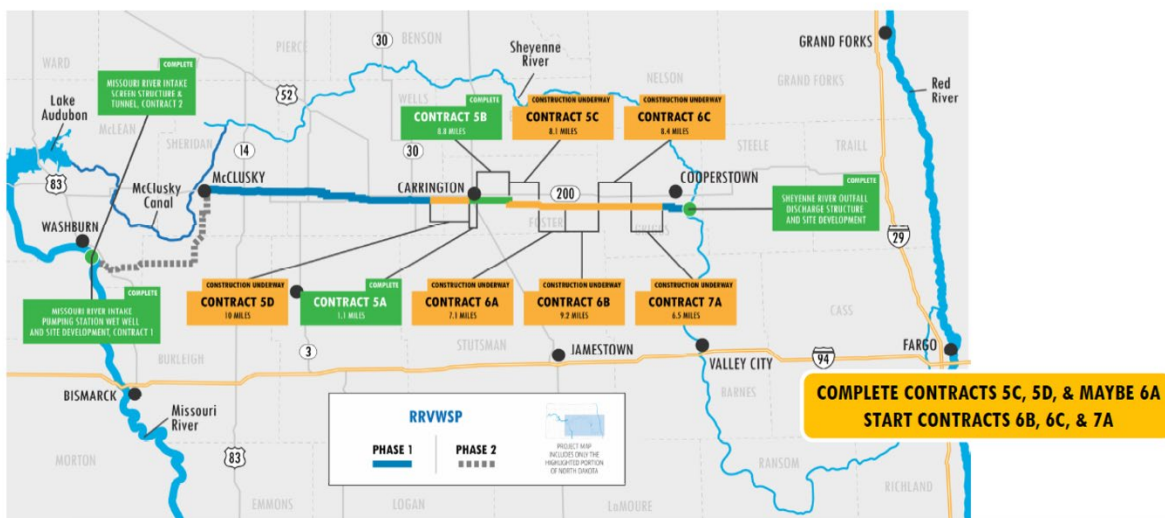
DeKrey noted in his written report that "Per ND Century Code (61-39-04), the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District shall provide administrative, technical, and legal support for the authority."

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS



The graphic above denotes the GD CD construction progress through the end of 2025. Below, the graphic shows construction goals for 2026.

PLANNED 2026 CONSTRUCTION



In other business, the GDCD board:

- Received LAWA update from Brent Bogar.
- Heard report on federal legislation and activity relative to water from Washington D.C. Luke D. Johnson from the Bernhardt Group provided the report.
- Heard ND Water Users/Irrigation Association Report from executive vice president Dani Quissell.
- Approved GDCD work plan for 2026 as presented by General Manager Duane DeKrey.
- Received electronic report from Luke D. Johnson of the Bernhardt Group from Washington DC. Bernhardt said 2026 is an election year. Expectations are the Democrats will win control of the House of Representatives. He said the expectation is the Republicans will maintain control of the Senate.

The next GDCD board meeting will be April 16-17, 2026, in Carrington.

Respectfully submitted,

James Odermann, Director
Billings County

Policy Update

Special Session

Governor Armstrong called the legislature back this week for a special session to appropriate federal dollars awarded to the state for rural health care initiatives. Legislative Management met on Jan. 20 to serve as the Delayed Bills Committee for the special session. They moved six bills and one resolution forward for consideration by the Joint Appropriations and Joint Policy Committees, in addition to the five bills related to the Rural Health Transformation Program.

Gov. Armstrong kicked off the special session on Jan. 21 with a brief State of the State address. He urged lawmakers to stay focused on the task at hand, allocating rural health transformation funds and “making the best possible use of this investment.”

The Joint Policy Committee gave a Do Pass recommendation to four rural health transformation bills ([HB 1621](#), [HB 1622](#), [SB 2401](#), [SB 2402](#)), a bill on how to apply the primary residence credit for early taxpayers ([HB 1626](#)), and a resolution recognizing the YMCA's 175th anniversary ([HCR 3038](#)). The Joint Appropriations Committee gave a Do Pass recommendation to the bill allocating rural health transformation grant funds ([HB 1623](#)), an emergency loan for the Elgin hospital ([SB 2403](#)), emergency appropriations for state website ADA compliance and PSC lawsuit intervention efforts ([SB 2404](#)), and a bill related to the sale of the Ray Richards golf course at UND ([HB 1625](#)). There was extensive debate on school meals. Ultimately Rep. Nathe's bill for universal no-cost school meals ([HB 1624](#)) received a Do Pass recommendation, while Rep. Dressler's bill to increase the threshold for receiving no-cost meals to 300% of federal poverty guidelines ([HB 1627](#)) was forwarded with no committee recommendation.

The House and Senate convened on Jan. 22 and passed all bills except for HB 1627. As in committee, the issue of school meals drew the most debate and attention. On Jan. 23, the House and Senate swapped bills. After another lengthy debate, HB 1624, the universal school meals bill, was defeated in the Senate 22-24-1. All other bills were passed, and the special session adjourned.

Water Convention Videos

If the weather caused you to miss the Joint Annual Water Convention in December, or if you just want to re-watch some of the presentations, visit our [YouTube channel](#) and start watching!

State Water Commission Meeting

The State Water Commission met for the January pre-commission meeting on January 22. Of note, the Horsehead Flats Irrigation District presented a request for a feasibility study on expanding the district using Missouri River water. Additionally, the Souris River Joint Board

is requesting \$81 million in flood control dollars for the Souris River flood protection project. There were also several requests from water resource districts for projects that would be funded out of the conveyance line item in the General Water bucket.

Projects will go before the full commission in February for final approval.

Water Development Planning Process Kicks Off

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) and State Water Commission (SWC) are beginning their water development planning process for the 2027-2029 biennium. Project sponsors who have new projects that may request DWR/SWC cost-share in the future should submit those projects as part of this planning process. In addition, unfunded projects submitted to the 2025 or previous Water Development Plans must re-submit updated information to be included in the 2027 Plan. Please note, those projects that are identified in the state's Water Development Plan are considered for funding ahead of those that are not.

Project information will be collected electronically through the DWR website at www.dwr.nd.gov under the heading "2027 Water Development Plan." To ensure that your projects are included in this planning process, please submit your projects before April 30, 2026.

As passed by the 69th Legislative Assembly in 2025, NDCC 54-35-02.7 now requires projects seeking \$10 million or more from the SWC to report to the Interim Legislative Water Topics Overview Committee before May 31, 2026. Therefore, projects identified during the inventory process that meet this criterion will be forwarded on to the Water Topics Committee.

Upcoming Events

A water manager training on Assessing Costs and Benefits in Assessment Projects will be held via Zoom on Monday, January 26 at 10 a.m. If you'd like to participate in the training, please email Julie at staff@ndwater.net to receive the login information. Attending the virtual training will count towards required water manager training.

The next interim Water Topics Committee meeting will be held on March 26 at 8:30 a.m. at the Capitol in Bismarck.

The summer water conference will be held July 15-16 in Watford City.



TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

To: Jen Murray, SWA Manager/CEO, Southwest Water Authority
From: Tyson Decker, P.E., Sr Project Engineer, Bartlett & West
CC: Justin Froseth, P.E., SWPP Project Manager, Water Development Division DWR
Date: January 28, 2026
Subject: Polyethylene Pipe (PE) on SWPP

This memo is provided in response to discussion at the December 2025 Southwest Water Authority (SWA) Board of Directors meeting regarding the use of PVC and polyethylene (PE) pipe on the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP). The intent of this memo is not a comprehensive review but rather a condensed review of the main aspects to consider related to the exploration of the use of PE pipe on SWPP.

The current SWPP design standards do not include PE pipe for transmission or distribution pipeline networks. Rural water standards were developed under Specific Authorization 33 culminated in a report published in November 1992 and subsequently adopted by the State Water Commission (SWC) at its July 2, 1993, meeting. The adopted standards included guidelines for the design of PVC pipe with safety factor adjustments that provide a more conservative design than the American Water Works Association (AWWA) standards referenced at that time. Design safety factors for PVC pipe continued to be evaluated through correspondence and the development of the Main Transmission Line Hybrid Standards report for SWPP published in August 1995. These SWPP design standards have been utilized throughout the construction of SWPP even though the AWWA standards have continued to evolve. The AWWA standards referenced in these SWPP reports were AWWA C900 and AWWA C905 which were combined in 2016 into a single standard, AWWA C900-22 (current version). The safety factor adjustments in the adopted SWPP design criteria have remained more conservative than the AWWA standards and have thus remained unchanged. PE pipe currently has two different AWWA standards which consist of AWWA C901-25 for 3" and smaller PE pipe and AWWA C906-21 for 4" and larger PE pipe.

PE pipe was not mentioned in the SWPP standards stated above however it has been allowed in 1" service lines at curb stops and meters pits for contracts designed after 1996. The earliest rural water record drawings for SWPP Contract 7-1B Roshau Subdivision (1992) included PE pipe at curb stops but the meter pit detail was shown with PVC pipe. This was changed in Contract 7-3 (1996) to include a 20-foot-long stub out of 1" PE 3408 SDR 7 pipe downstream of the meter pit. Also in Contract 7-3, installations where curb stops or meter pit were less than 50' from a mainline connection, 1" PE 3408 SDR 7 pipe was allowed with the use of a 1" compression joint fitting. The Contract 7-3 drawings show the standard dimension ratio (SDR) to be PE 3408 SDR 7 regardless of the class of PVC pipe upstream of the meter pit assembly. PE pipe continued to be used at the SWPP rural distribution system meter pits with modification of the pipe material over the years, from SDR 7 PE 3408 to the current SDR 7 PE4710. The allowable length for PE pipe upstream of the meter pit was changed in the SWPP 7-9G Record Drawings to allow PE pipe for installations up to 100 feet. The limitation on length of 1" PE pipe prior to the meter pit limits the effects of head loss on the water system and also limits the resulting forces applied at the connections to the unrestrained PVC pipe. As such, a limitation on the length of 1" PE pipe for individual services is appropriate and justified to maintain in our opinion.

SWPP has not allowed PE materials to be installed on transmission or distribution pipelines. While both PVC materials and PE materials are both accepted for use on rural water systems by AWWA, EPA, and NDDEQ, the use of either material on a water system is a decision typically driven by the rural water system since the experience with operation, maintenance, and repair of their systems oftentimes lends a preference on a given material. SWPP has been able to utilize PVC materials for main transmission pipelines and secondary distribution pipelines for all applications where operating pressures do not warrant a higher-pressure class, in which case ductile iron or steel pipe was used. The use of PE on SWPP for main transmission and secondary pipelines would require development of SWPP standards that are comparable to the current SWPP design standards for PVC. This would require evaluating the AWWA standards and developing compatible design standards for PE pipe.

For water systems such as SWPP, the integration and connection of PVC pipe systems to PE pipe systems for main transmission and secondary distribution pipelines presents specific problems. To explain this, it is best to understand the material differences between the two materials. PE material is four (4) times more elastic in nature than PVC which results in thermal expansion/contraction with temperature changes of the pipe material and PE pipe also shortens in length when pressurized. This elastic nature of PE requires the installation to be a monolithic system, meaning all joints are restrained either through mechanical restraints or fused connections. The elastic characteristics and monolithic installation of PE then present concerns when connecting to systems with unrestrained PVC pipe. Additional design measures need to be considered for all PE/PVC tie-ins. One such measure would consist of installing in-line thrust restraints at the connection to limit PE movement that could result in a joint failure of the existing unrestrained PVC pipe. This in-line thrust restraint is typically fused to the PE pipe near the tie-in connection to PVC and can require concrete encasement. Another measure is to evaluate each specific connection to determine the required restrained length by adding bell restraints to the existing unrestrained PVC joints and/or replacement of unrestrained fittings near the PE/PVC tie-ins.

PE and PVC pipe, and the standards that relate to them, do inherently have different inside diameters, pressure classes, and surge considerations. This means that hydraulic designs of distribution systems using PVC and PE are inherently different. For example, the internal diameters of a 6" DR 13.5 PE pipe has an internal diameter of 5.59 inches, where a 6" PVC ASTM SDR 26 pipe has an internal diameter of 6.08 inches. Both of these pipes are rated for 160 psi working pressure according to the respective AWWA standards. This internal diameter difference directly affects the head loss for a given design condition and warrants two different evaluations for a given design application. It is possible and common to design projects that allow either pipe system to be installed however these designs are difficult to prepare without creating advantage for one material over the other.

The consideration of dimensional differences is one of many factors to consider when comparing the two pipe systems. The working pressures, the effects of pressures surges on the anticipated design life, and the installation differences are all factors to consider for the use with rural water systems. For PE specifically, the fusing of joints is a specialized process that requires training and technical expertise to be performed correctly. This fusing process is typically employed on straight pipe but can be employed on coiled pipe by experienced contractors. When fused joints are entertained, quality control measures should be considered that include review of contractor qualifications, requirements for data recording for fused joints, mitigation or removal of environmental variables, and field observation. This fusion process is performed at the site of installation but can be performed above ground or in the trench depending on the situation. Experienced PE contractors do have manufacturer training and offer record data for each fused joint. This data typically includes variables such as heating

plate temperatures, heating times, fusing time, and fusing pressure. While this data can prove to be valuable, environmental factors such as wind and precipitation are also a consideration and can present contamination of the fused surfaces. Contamination is known to affect the integrity of the joints and is something that requires care, and we recommend oversight during installation. While the use of fused joints is common with qualified contractors and larger PE pipe installation, it is difficult for rural water systems to justify equipment and training to self-perform fused connections. As a result, it is common for systems to make repairs with fittings utilizing a restrained mechanical coupling such as the Romac Alpha coupling. For rural water pipelines in sizes 1" through 4", it is common to see installers prefer coiled PE pipe which has a reduced number of joints due to the longer coiled pipe lengths. Coiled PE pipe is locally stocked in lengths up to 500 feet and larger rolls of 2", 3", and 4" are available in 800-1,000 foot lengths. It is not uncommon for small installations to utilize compression or restrained mechanical couplings in lieu of fused joints. For systems such as SWPP where specific attention is required at PE to PVC connections, it will be difficult for installers to avoid fusing entirely with the installation of in-line thrust collars.

Regarding the maintenance of these pipelines, most systems stock restrained mechanical joint fittings specifically designed for use with PE pipe, such as the Romac Alpha described above. This coupling is typically used in situations where pipeline repairs are required. This is not to say electrofusion or fusion couplings couldn't be used for PE repairs but trying to control the environmental factors in repair scenarios present the same environmental concerns as stated previously. The O&M department would also have to stock replacement valves either with fused connections or with mechanical restraining glands designed for PE pipe. It is Bartlett and West's understanding that PE pipe fusing can be performed by contractors for 4-inch pipes and smaller down in the trench while 6-inch and larger pipes generally require larger equipment for fusing which is typically only effectively done on the surface above the trench. For this reason, valves and fittings 6 inches and larger will require mechanical restraining devices while 4-inch and smaller valves and fittings may be fused onto the pipe. Larger sized valves and fittings cannot be fused onto the pipe above ground and then installed in the trench as the pipe could rotate slightly in the process affecting the vertical alignment of the fitting or valve. Specifications and details for the fittings and valves will need to be developed for PE pipe use on SWPP.

Plastic pipe (both PVC and PE) is documented to be susceptible to permeation of light hydrocarbon contaminants. Both AWWA manuals for PE and PVC pipe recommend that pipe not be installed in environments where light hydrocarbons are present in the soil around the pipe. That being said, there are some differences in the permeation rates of the material and the type of hydrocarbon. For a hydrocarbon such as gasoline, this compound permeates rapidly through PE pipes whereas PVC with gaskets is documented to be more tolerant to gasoline. AWWA and NDDEQ recommend all plastic pipe, both PVC and PE, to be replaced if susceptible to light hydrocarbon exposure. One inherent difference is that PE pipe, if exposed to hydrocarbons, is no longer considered fusible due to the resulting contamination. Considering the high number of oil and gas crossings present in Southwest North Dakota, this is also a factor to consider for instances where oil and gas pipelines are installed after water lines. Current SWPP standards require fusible PVC casing pipe in addition to restrained PVC carrier pipe at all oil and gas crossings. PE is not allowed for either material due to the known permeability with hydrocarbons, specifically gasoline.

Comparing the installation prices of PE to PVC pipelines, the material prices of PE and PVC do fluctuate due to market conditions, and subsequently the cost of installation of one material is more economical than the other. The rise in PVC pipeline material costs following the COVID pandemic did push many rural water systems to consider PE pipe as an option. When considering the installation costs, the material prices are one factor, however the labor costs to install each material can vary as well. PVC pipe is manufactured in 20-foot or 40-foot bell and spigot sections with gasket joints. PE can be provided in coiled rolls for sizes 4" or smaller. Larger PE sizes are typically limited in length by delivery mode, which is typically 50 feet. Comparing the installation costs of PVC and PE, the number of fusion joints for PE pipelines and the length of time to fuse each joint increases with pipeline size and therefore installation costs can offset a portion of the material savings.

The above paragraphs are intended to provide the primary differences between PE and PVC pipe. A comprehensive review would be performed if further investigation into PE is desired by SWA. There are other differences specifically related to required trench conditions, installation procedures, and pressure testing that are inherently different between PE and PVC pipe. Our experience on SWPP has indicated that PVC remains a suitable material for main transmission and secondary distribution pipelines. This is not to be construed that that PVC doesn't have its own challenges as any water system will have leaks or failures develop. SWPP has current project specific standards for main transmission and secondary distribution pipelines are based on the design and installation of PVC pipe. While other water systems have allowed and maybe even prefer PE over PVC, this decision ultimately is a decision that rests with the Southwest Water Authority, the State Water Commission, and the Department of Water Resources.

State Water Commission Pre-Commission Meeting
Bank of North Dakota
1200 Memorial Highway, Bismarck, ND 58504
Thursday, January 22, 2026 – 1:00 PM CT
A QUORUM OF THE COMMISSION MAY BE PRESENT

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AGENDA

- | | | | | |
|--------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------|------|
| 1:00 – 1:03 | A. Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance | | | |
| 1:03 – 1:15 | B. SWC Secretary Update (Reice Haase) | | | |
| | 1. Financial Disclosures | | | |
| 1:15 – 1:20 | C. Operation Safe Flow Update (Patrick Fridgen)(no attachment) | | | |
| 1:20 – 1:25 | D. Commissioner Reimbursement & Fiscal Policy (Chris Kadrmas)(no attachment) | | | |
| 1:25 – 1:35 | E. Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) (Justin Froseth) | | | |
| | 1. Contract 1-1B – Equipment Procurement for Existing Intake Improvements | | | |
| | 2. Contract 6A – Work Order 4 Funding Authorization | | | |
| 1:35– 1:40 | F. Missouri River Potential Intake Sites Investigation – Phase 2 (Clay Carufel) | | | |
| 1:40 – 1:45 | G. Navigability Study (Aaron Carranza) | | | |
| 1:45 – 1:50 | H. Flood Control (Abigail Franklund) | | | |
| | 1. Souris River Joint Board | Mouse River Flood Protection 2025-27 | \$81,000,000 | PC/C |
| 1:50 – 2:15 | I. General Water (Abigail Franklund) | | | |
| | 1. Horsehead Irrigation District | Preliminary Study Phase I | \$150,000 | PC |
| | 2. Rush River WRD | Drain 12 Reconstruction | \$150,000 | PC |
| | 3. Maple River WRD | Cass County Drain 37 | \$719,947 | C |
| | 4. Maple River WRD | Cass County Drain 39 | \$786,579 | C |
| | 5. Steele County WRD | Drain 1 Outlet Repair | \$110,861 | C |
| 2:15 – 3:250 | J. Water Supply (Municipal/Rural) (Julie Prescott) | | | |
| | 1. City of Mandan | 2026 Reconstruct Project Area 2B | \$228,357 | PC |
| | 2. South Central Regional Water Dist. | Burleigh Co. Main Transmission Line | \$140,400 | PC |
| | 3. City of Bismarck | 2025 WU149 Watermain Extension | \$428,466 | C |
| | 4. City of Dickinson | 5 th Street SE | \$197,942 | C |
| | 5. City of Lisbon | Infrastructure Improvements | \$1,532,343 | C |
| | 6. City of New Town | Sand Hill Water Tower Replacement | \$2,852,918 | C |
| | 7. City of Oakes | WTP Rehabilitation | \$484,710 | C |
| | 8. City of Stanley | Capital Improvements Plan Ph. 3 | \$399,804 | C |

9. Stutsman Rural Water District	Booster Station No. 14	\$562,875	C
10. City of Watford City	Park Avenue East Reconstruction	\$551,622	C
11. City of Elgin	East Side Watermain Improvements	\$78,137	CI
12. City of Mandan	Memorial Highway Watermain	\$5,728,681	CI
13. WAWSA	R&TWD Battleview-McGregor Rural Ph.1	\$5,454,817	CI
14. Greater Ramsey Water District	North System Capacity Improvements	\$0	O

K. Adjourn

PC Pre-Construction
C Construction
L Legislative
CI Cost Increase
O Other

TO: Members of the State Water Commission
FROM: Justin Froseth P.E., SWPP Project Manager
SUBJECT: SWPP – Contract 1-1B – Equipment Procurement for Modifications to Existing Intake Project
DATE: January 13, 2026

Department of Water Resources (DWR) has been working with BW/AECOM to develop plans and specifications for the Modifications to Existing Intake Contract (Contract 1-1C). In support of this effort, an Invitation for Bid (IFB) is being prepared for posting through the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) State Procurement Online (SPO) system. The IFB is to procure long-lead equipment in advance of advertising Contract 1-1C, the installation contract for bids.

While the IFB is still under development, the anticipated schedule is to issue it soon, with potential SPO results available either shortly before or shortly after the February State Water Commission (SWC) meeting. BW/AECOM is assembling technical information to include in the IFB. The IFB will include three distinct bid schedules to address the project's equipment needs. It is DWR's intent to solicit all three schedules under a single IFB to streamline the procurement process.

As currently drafted, the IFB will include the following bid schedules::

1) Vertical Turbine Pump Procurement Package, consisting of:

Vertical Turbine Pumps and Motors

2) Electrical Gear Procurement Package, consisting of:

Pad-Mounted		Transformers
Low-Voltage		Switchboards
Variable	Frequency	Drives
Automatic	Transfer	Switches
Surge Protective Devices		

3) Valve Procurement Package, consisting of:

Process Butterfly Valves (300-psi valves only)

SWPP - SWPP – Contract 1-1B – Equipment Procurement for Modifications to Existing
Intake Project

Page 2 of 2

January 13, 2026

We anticipate requesting authorization for Secretary to award the bid schedules to the lowest responsible bidder at the February SWC meeting. Funding authorization required may be delayed until the April SWC meeting.

RH:JF/1736-99

TO: Members of the State Water Commission
FROM: Justin Froseth P.E., SWPP Project Manager
SUBJECT: SWPP – Contract 6A Work Order #4 - Funding Authorization
DATE: January 13, 2026

Southwest Pipeline Project Contract 6A - Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Equipment Supply and Integration was awarded to Micro-Comm, Inc. at the August, 13, 2020 State Water Commission (SWC) meeting. In 2020, when Microcomm Inc., was selected for award of the Contract, the Commission reserved the right to retain Microcomm Inc., as the SCADA Contractor for the SWPP for 10 years. The August 2020 Commission meeting minutes also noted Secretary was authorized to administer and execute future work orders (WO) on the contract.

To date four work orders (WO#1, 2,3, and 5) have been executed on Contract 6A. Cost for these executed WO's have ranged between \$33,000 and \$59,000.

Work Order No. 4 is to furnish the SCADA equipment and integration services required for the Southwest Water Treatment Plant (SWTP) Expansion. The cost for the WO No. 4 is \$1,201,645.

This cost was not included in the funding authorization approved in December 2024 for the SWTP Expansion Project.

DWR staff intends to request approval of this funding authorization at the February SWC meeting.

RH:JF/1736-99

MEMORANDUM

To: Southwest Water Authority Board of Directors, Staff
From: Justin Froseth, PE, Southwest Pipeline Project Manager
Subject: SWPP Project Update
Date: January 28, 2025

Contract 1-2A Supplementary Raw Water Intake:

With the mediated settlement complete for Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) Contract 1-2A, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) team is fully focused on developing a project needed to complete the supplementary intake for the SWPP. BW/AECOM is working on a Preliminary Design Report (PDR) for completing the supplementary intake. As part of the PDR effort, multiple intake alignments within Renner Bay are being evaluated to identify the option that carries the least risk while remaining cost-effective. The project team continues discussions with the US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE), US Bureau of Reclamation, and ND Game and Fish during the PDR development for best understanding of permitting responsibilities. The PDR includes alternatives through the existing caisson and alignments to the north. DWR staff has directed BW/AECOM staff to submit an amendment to the Specific Authorization that adds the following scope of works: discussion of the different contracting delivery methods for completing the construction of the supplementary raw water intake and the development of a plan for additional geotechnical exploration along the northern alignment.

Existing Intake Improvements:

The pumps, electrical equipment, and valves needed for the existing intake improvement construction are being procured directly by DWR ahead of the issuance of the construction contract completing the improvements to the existing intake. An Invitation For Bid (IFB) for the procurement is currently advertised on the ND State Procurement Office (SPO) online bidder services. The submittal date for the IFB is February 12th at 10 am. At the February State Water Commission (SWC) meeting, recommendation to authorize Secretary to award the contract will be presented.

BW/AECOM delivered 90% design drawings for completing the construction of improvements to the existing intake. Those have been reviewed and commented on by DWR staff and SWA staff. BW/AECOM is using those comments to finalize the bid ready documents. This contract is expected to be advertised in the next couple of months with bid award expected at the April SWC meeting.

Distribution Upgrades – Strategic Plan

Prong 1 Transmission Improvements

West Zone Main Transmission Expansion:

At the October 2024 State Water Commission (SWC) meeting, the SWC approved proceeding with bid-ready documents for Design 3, estimated at \$40.4 million, following the recommendation of DWR staff. The SA with BW/AECOM has been amended to include a topographical survey of the pipeline route. Bid-ready documents will be segmented to accommodate construction and budget constraints.

Upon receiving the West Zone Preliminary Design Report (PDR), DWR staff has reviewed and have discussed with BW/AECOM staff. One of the key sections of the PDR is an phased approach that suggests phase I projects to improve capacity to all segments of West Zone while expending roughly half the cost of all the improvements approved in October of 2024. DWR staff updated the SWC of our intent to move forward with the phase I improvements identified in the PDR. DWR is now focused on executing SAs with BW/AECOM to accomplish the phase I projects.

Buffalo Gap Tank:

The Buffalo Gap Tank was put into service in early December and has been performing as expected. Now that winter conditions have set in, the remaining items are expected to be addressed in the spring when weather allows. The substantial completion date for the project is June 15, 2026.

Ray Christensen Pump Station (RCPS) Preliminary Design Report (PDR):

BW/AECOM is working on the PDR that will identify the main components that will be needed for the capacity upgrades identified during the West Zone preliminary engineering. At the same time, capacities will be projected for the North and East Zone as well as the South Zone in order to make sure that we are properly planning for future needs in those zones with any near-term improvements to the West Zone capacity. The effort has included community and contract customer outreach conducted by SWA staff in order to best understand those customers' perspectives on each's potential to grow.

Prong 2 Strategic Improvements

North New England Strategic Hydraulic Improvements

With the good weather in November, up until about November 20th, Wagner, the contractor, was able to install about 7,600 feet of pipeline on the project. They were also able to install most of the bored crossings. Winter weather required them to pause work until next spring. About 17,500 feet of remaining pipeline, two booster stations and six Pressure Reducing Vaults (PRVs) are the main components of the project that are to be completed by the substantial completion date of October, 2026.

Prong 3– Expansion into Under-Served Areas

Burt-Hebron Service Area:

The Hebron Rural Service Area Distribution Project submittal set has been reviewed by DWR staff and SWA staff. A joint review meeting was held in mid-January. BW/AECOM team is working to finalize the bid ready plans based on the review comments.

SWA staff continue to work on acquiring the easements necessary for the project. The most recent update from SWA staff on easement progress is as follows:

Letters Sent: 630

Returned: 284 (45%)

Accepted: 229 (36%)

Refused: 55 (9%)

The acquisition of easements will continue to be a focus. Historically, rural expansion projects have moved forward to bid before full easement acquisition, when there is a comfort level in the easements that are acquired. Rather than a simple percentage, a mix of percentage acquired and locations of the easements are factored in before the decision to advertise is made.

Southwest Water Treatment Plant (SWTP) Expansion:

The basement-level concrete structure has been the primary focus of the project since early October. To date, there have been dozens of concrete pours, with many more remaining to complete this portion of the work. It is a particularly busy phase of the project, with numerous crew members and significant equipment resources dedicated to the ongoing pours. This activity also includes coordination with the mechanical and electrical trades to ensure that conduit, plumbing, and other concrete penetrations are installed in accordance with the plans.

BW/AECOM's submittal review is ongoing, with about 19 Work Change Directives (WCDs) now issued. The number and scope of these WCDs are within expectations for a project of this scale.

Change order #2 which includes 17 approved work change directives for a total cost of about \$141,000 and a contract extension for 22 days is under review. Discussions are ongoing between, DWR staff, BW/AECOM, and the contractor regarding a work change directive issued for an obstruction encountered during construction.

SWTP project picture below taken on January 27, 2026



Metallic Pipeline Replacement:

BW/AECOM is proceeding with final design of the metallic pipeline replacement project. The bid advertisement is planned in the first half of 2026 with work starting in 2026. The segments prioritized for this final design are those most affected by Microbiologically Induced Corrosion near Dodge, ND. The pipeline needed for this project is expected to be owner procured separately, ahead of the construction bid.

Raw Water Implementation Study:

BW/AECOM is making progress on SA 246, which includes update to the raw water upgrades implementation plan completed in 2014, alternative service study to Net-Zero, Richardton ethanol facility and study of the expansion of SWPP raw water conveyance infrastructure. The draft report of the implementation plan upgrade is expected soon. Based on the cost sharing agreement with Gevo, parent company for Net-Zero for SA 246, monthly update meetings are held between DWR, BW/AECOM, and Gevo.

Dunn County Hydraulic Improvements Preliminary Engineering Report (PER):

BW/AECOM is making progress on SA 248, which is for the development of preliminary design of distribution system improvements for serving waitlisted users in Dunn County. A draft letter summary report is expected soon.

Project Funding

Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) Funding Sources

State Funding (in millions of dollars)

Resources Trust Fund\$310.59
Water Development Trust Fund\$8.55

Bonds

USDA – Rural Development\$15.81
Public Revenue Bonds \$7.05
ND Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund \$1.50
Subtotal **\$343.50**

Federal Funding

Garrison Diversion Conservancy District –
Municipal Rural & Industrial (MR&I) Fund
(ARRA Funding \$11.90)\$105.63
USDA – Rural Development (RUS) \$15.36
Natural Resources Conservation Service PL566 .. \$0.93
Subtotal **\$121.92**

Total Funding: \$465.42

(As of December 31, 2025)



Capital Replacement Funding

State Fiscal Recovery Fund\$4.50
Replacement & Extraordinary Maintenance \$2.14
Subtotal **\$6.64**

January 22, 2026

Dear Partner In Water Management:

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the State Water Commission (SWC) have started the process of developing a Water Development Plan for the 2027-2029 biennium and beyond. The purpose of this letter is to ask for your help in identifying North Dakota's potential water development projects, the timing of their implementation, and estimated costs.

Project sponsors who have new projects that may request DWR/SWC cost-share in the future should submit those projects as part of this planning process. In addition, unfunded projects submitted to the 2025 or previous Water Development Plans must re-submit updated information to be included in the 2027 Plan. Please note, those projects that are identified in the state's Water Development Plan are considered for funding ahead of those that are not.

We recognize that you and your constituents' efforts are the key to water development in North Dakota, and for that reason, we are respectfully requesting your help to make this process a success. As in the past, the input gained with your help will become the foundation of the DWR's budget request to the Governor and Legislature. *Thus, we are particularly interested in collecting information on water projects that may require DWR/SWC cost-share during the 2027-2029 and future biennia.*

Project information will be collected electronically through the DWR website at www.dwr.nd.gov under the heading "2027 Water Development Plan." Please submit each project individually so they are inventoried correctly as part of this planning effort. To identify if your project is eligible for DWR/SWC cost-share assistance, the policy and eligibility requirements can be found via the website by hovering over the "Project Development" tab, and then clicking "Cost-Share."

As passed by the 69th Legislative Assembly in 2025, NDCC 54-35-02.7 now requires projects seeking \$10 million or more from the SWC to report to the Interim Legislative Water Topics Overview Committee (WTOC) before May 31, 2026. Therefore, projects identified during the inventory process that meet this criterion will be forwarded on to the WTOC. It is expected that WTOC and Legislative Council may establish a supplemental reporting system or may schedule sponsors to report at future hearings. Specific details regarding those processes will not impact this project inventory effort.

To ensure that your projects are included in this planning process, we ask that you submit your projects before April 30, 2026. Questions can be directed to Cory Drevecky at (701) 328-4967 or cjdrevecky@nd.gov. Thank you for your assistance with this important process.

Sincerely,



Reice Haase
Director

RH:dp:cd/322



BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE PATH FOR WATER DEVELOPMENT

A SHIFTING FUNDING LANDSCAPE

North Dakota's water development efforts are supported in large part by the Resources Trust Fund (RTF), which remains the primary state funding source for major water projects. Because the RTF is funded through a portion of the oil extraction tax, its revenues naturally fluctuate with changes in oil activity. In recent years, a growing number of oil wells have begun qualifying for "stripper well" status. Under state law, production from these wells is fully exempt from the oil extraction tax, which means no extraction tax is collected from them. While this trend is projected to reduce deposits into the RTF in the near term, it also ensures the industry's ability to extend the productive life of mature wells.

Under North Dakota Century Code, a stripper well is a low-producing oil well whose average daily production over any consecutive 12-month period falls below specific thresholds set in law, which vary based on the depth of the well and whether it is located in the Bakken or Three Forks formations. These depth-based production limits determine when a well qualifies for the reduced oil extraction tax rate.

By exempting these wells from oil extraction tax, oil and gas producers are able to keep these wells economic to produce, extending their useful life for many years to come and continuing to contribute oil production revenues for the benefit of the state. Although this underscores the



need for disciplined financial and policy planning in the water community, it also ensures that our state can continue to enjoy the economic benefits that our oil revenues provide.

STRENGTHENING WATER THROUGH STRATEGIC PLANNING

This shift matters because the RTF is one of the primary funding sources for statewide water development. The fund receives 20.5 percent of the state's oil extraction tax, and those dollars support water supply infrastructure, flood protection projects, planning efforts, and other essential water management needs.



As oil-related revenues fluctuate—and in this case trend downward due to changes in well classifications—the Department of Water Resources (DWR) anticipates tighter budget conditions in the years ahead.

This means more careful planning will be required to align statewide water priorities with available funding.

EVALUATING THE COST-SHARE PROGRAM

To prepare for this new funding environment, the Legislature directed the DWR to evaluate the long-term sustainability of the state's Cost-Share Program. In response, DWR hired Deloitte, an independent professional services firm, to complete the study and provide an independent assessment of how the program can sustainably serve North Dakota's water development needs in future years.

The evaluation is focused on the big-picture question: whether the current cost-share framework is positioned to meet statewide water project needs through 2039, given projected revenue constraints. The study will help the State Water Commission and DWR understand how current policies, cost-share percentages, and project eligibility requirements align with future financial realities—and identify strategies to maintain a strong and reliable program for the long term.

THE 2027 WATER DEVELOPMENT PLAN KICKS OFF

These funding trends highlight the importance of the Water Development Plan (WDP), the state's comprehensive inventory of water projects prepared every two years as required by NDCC 61-02-01.3. The WDP identifies project needs, organizes them by basin, and forms the basis of DWR's budget request to the Legislature.

The Water Development Plan process begins in January when DWR asks project sponsors to submit updated information about the projects they hope to advance. Sponsors will have until the end of April to provide their materials. After submissions

are received, staff review and prioritize projects using the State Water Commission's guidance. The resulting draft inventory is then shared during the Commissioner-hosted basin meetings held across the state in summer. These meetings—one in each of North Dakota's eight major drainage basins—offer sponsors and the public the chance to discuss project needs, receive updates, and participate directly in the planning process. All meetings are open to the public, and participation is strongly encouraged.

The final Water Development Plan will be presented to the 70th Legislative Assembly in January 2027.

ENGAGEMENT STRENGTHENS THE PROCESS

As the state faces a future with tighter revenues, participation in the WDP process becomes even more important. When resources are limited, complete and accurate project information helps the State Water Commission and the Legislature make informed decisions about prioritizing water development across the state.

Early engagement from project sponsors—through timely submissions and active involvement in basin meetings—ensures that local needs are clearly reflected in statewide planning and budgeting discussions.

North Dakota has a long history of collaborative water management, grounded in partnerships between local sponsors, state agencies, and stakeholders. In the years ahead, this collaboration will be essential. By working together through the Water Development Plan process combined with the cost-share program evaluation, the state can continue building a sustainable path for water development—one that supports current needs while planning responsibly for the future.

For more information on the WDP process, please visit www.dwr.nd.gov.



MEMORANDUM

To: Southwest Water Authority Board of Directors
From: Jen Murray, Manager/CEO
Subject: SWA Construction and O&M Update – Incidental Information
Date: January 28, 2026

This memo updates the SWA Board of Directors on ongoing and upcoming SWA Construction and O&M activities.

SWA Construction:

The US Highway 85 pipeline relocation from Highway 200 to the Long X Bridge is largely complete with only punch list items remaining along with grouting the abandoned PVC piping. B&W is in the process of verifying installations and submitting the changes to the NDDOT for the reimbursable portion.

Future Hwy 85 project coordination is ongoing.

Compromised coatings were observed on tank walls, tank floor, and center support column of the first New England Reservoir in October 2023 and again in January 2024. The New England Reservoir was constructed in 1993. The New England Tank Recoat contract was advertised for bids on January 28, 2026, and bid opening will be held on February 18, 2026.

West Medora

SWA continues to work with the city of Medora and the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation (TRMF) to provide for their water needs on the west side of Medora. Medora and TRMF have reached an agreement that the city of Medora will serve the new hotel with water and sewer services. The city infrastructure for these services has yet to be constructed. TRMF engineers are requesting more water to meet their peak demands. SWA is able to provide adequate flow to serve a 100 bed hotel but has relayed the need for TRMF to provide storage to meet their peak needs. Options are being evaluated.

Treatment:

SWTP's operating computer had a hard drive failure in October 2024. SWA has been informed that the software is no longer supported and requires an upgrade. SWA has executed a contract to upgrade through Kurita/Tonka Water. The replacement computer system and Allen-Bradley FactoryTalk SE software programming are expected to take 26 to 30 weeks. Kurita has completed the necessary programming for the CIP and the new VFD was installed, and both CIP pumps are working correctly along with the new CIP heater. CIP's will be conducted in February.

Evoqua, the filter press supplier at the Residuals Handling Facility, completed a retrofit of the shifters in May 2024. Since that time, problems have persisted. The plate hangers were not changed in the retrofit. Evoqua has stated that they are aware of the continued issues and are in the process of redesigning the shifters. Evoqua is working with a precast company to have the plate hangers built. Evoqua responded on January 15, 2026, that they are ready to complete the replacement but are requesting a claim resolution agreement with SWC/SWA. Evoqua provided a claim resolution letter and that letter is under review.

On January 9, 2026, the chlorine gas line was replaced between the Dodge booster pump station and the tank building due to age and a possible obstruction, causing chlorine residuals to fluctuate.

The week of January 13, 2026, operators completed annual maintenance and cleaning of the 105-softening basin at the Dickinson Water Treatment Plant.

The Water Treatment Plant Manager and Assistant Manager have been working on end of year reports and updating chemical bid documents to be sent out in February.

Distribution Operations:

On January 4, 2026, staff responded to Low Discharge Pressure alarms at the Coffin Butte VFD in Contract 7-6B by overriding telemetry and manually pumping up lines downstream of the Coffin Butte VFD. Once the lines were packed full of water, telemetry was able to take over and return to normal operations.

On January 5, 2026, staff responded to low tank level alarm at the Bowman Reservoir by hauling portable generator (G2) to the Scranton BPS to run a pump under generator power until Slope Electric could restore utility power. Once utility power was restored, the generator was stored at Ray Christensen Pump Station allowing for normal operations of the Scranton BPS.

On January 8, 2026, staff collected water samples from the New Hradec Reservoir and County Line Valve and sent to Minnesota Valley Testing Laboratories to determine the source of the taste and odor problems associated with the New Hradec Reservoir. The test results did not indicate a reason for the taste and odor complaints. Staff continued to drain the New Hradec Reservoir down to the ½ tank level and then fill it back up on a weekly basis to prevent ice formation while the source of the taste and odor problems are being determined.

On January 14, 2026, staff replaced missing stainless steel roof bracing on the 1st Dickinson Reservoir.

On January 16, 2026, staff responded to a power fail at the Golva VFD in Contract 7-8B. Staff found that there was power at the station but that pumps would only run in hand and not in auto. Bypassing a defective power phase monitor and replacing a defective S4000 telemetry board allowed pumps to run in auto.

On January 17, 2026, a resident of Elgin, ND, reported water running down the street. Staff found that the Elgin Meter Vault hatch had blown open allowing the vault to freeze up and the pipes to break, flooding the vault. Staff pumped the water from the vault and began replacing the frost damaged equipment. Staff was able to repair the vault to the point that it could be run in hand but not in auto. Staff monitored the City of Elgin Reservoir levels and manually filled as needed through the weekend and Holiday. Staff placed ice melt on the resident's driveway to remove the ice.

On January 20, 2026, the SWA electrician began replacing the water damaged electrical equipment in the Elgin Meter Vault to restore it to its pre-flood condition which would fill the City of Elgin Reservoir automatically.

On January 26, 2026, staff collected a Bac-t sample from the New Hradec Reservoir and submitted it for analysis. If the bac-t sample passes the New Hradec Reservoir will be placed back into service due to the fear of damaging the tank by ice formation from the recent bitter cold weather. Currently, there is a 3' X 1' ring of ice at the top of the reservoir with smaller pieces of ice floating in the middle of the tank.

On January 26, 2026, staff responded to low clear well level alarms at the Dunn Center BPS. Staff found a defective 1550 telemetry board not telling the Cla-val or clear well fill valve to open and put water in the clear well. Replacing the 1550 board allowed the clear well to fill as intended.

Lead Service Line Inventory:

SWA staff continue to collect information for the Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI) for the NDDEQ. SWA has collected inventories from 4,798 accounts, or 61.1% of all connections. The survey link remains active on the SWA website, and O&M staff continue to collect the information during routine operations and new connections.



Our Vision: People and Business Succeeding with Quality Water **Our Mission:** Quality Water for Southwest North Dakota

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jen Murray, Manager/CEO, Southwest Water Authority
FROM: Misti Conzemius, Marketing Manager, Southwest Water Authority
SUBJECT: Report for January, 2026
RE: Marketing Manager's Incidental Information
DATE: January 22, 2026

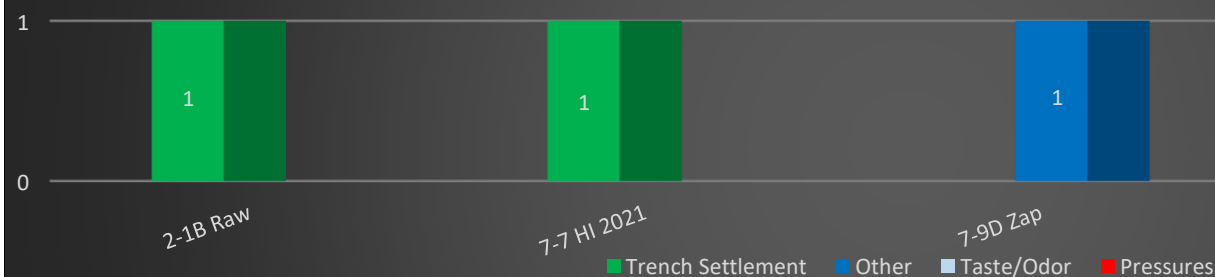
JANUARY 2026 SIGN-UP REPORT

SUBSEQUENT CUSTOMERS

NAME	TYPE OF CUSTOMER	SERVICE AREA	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
Janel Schmidt	Standard	7-1B Davis Buttes	140-96-26
Bridger Boltz	Standard	7-8B Fryburg	140-98-8
Roberto Garcia	Standard	7-1B Davis Buttes	140-96-2
Rusty Ridl	Pasture Tap	7-1B Davis Buttes	141-97-33

Four (4) subsequent customer signed up in January and 4 subsequent customers have been added year-to-date. A total of 5 customer quotes have been given year-to-date.
SWA had a total of 3059 active subsequent users in January.

2025 COMPLAINTS



Zero (0) complaints were called in during the month of January.
Zero (0) complaints were closed during the month of January.
Open complaints are shown above by area and type.
Open complaint numbers may not include landowner/customer concerns handled in the field.

WAITING LIST UPDATE

Three (3) water requests have been added to the waiting list during the month of January.
There are currently 769 requests system wide.

BURT, HEBRON SERVICE AREA

To date 3120 sign up packets have been mailed. Of the 3120 packets, 2679 are Rural and 441 are Lake Tschida. 914 signups have been returned. Of the 914 signups, 615 or 67% are Rural and 299 or 33% are Lake Tschida. 475 are Hebron Rural including North Lake Tschida, and 439 are Burt Rural including South Lake Tschida.

SYSTEM WIDE SERVICE REQUESTS
There are currently 769 waiting list requests and 914 Burt Hebron Construction Signups for a total of 1,683 requests system wide
HEBRON RURAL & MAIN TRANSMISSION LINE EASEMENTS
To date a total of 557 easements have been mailed for the Hebron Rural Area. A total of 283 easements or 51% have been signed and returned.
To date a total of 73 easements have been mailed for the Main Transmission Line. A total of 1 easement or 1% have been signed and returned.



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County	Waiting List Locations	Standard Service	Pasture Tap Service	High Consumption	Other
Adams	25 locations	12	12	1	0
Billings	71 locations	20	47	2	2
Bowman	78 locations	47	26	4	1
Dunn	86 locations	46	37	1	2
Golden Valley	69 locations	32	33	2	2
Grant	54 locations	43	11	0	0
Hettinger	51 locations	32	16	3	0
Mercer	28 locations	13	15	0	0
Morton	106 locations	57	46	3	0
Oliver	1 location	1	0	0	0
Slope	61 locations	36	20	5	0
Stark	139 locations	122	13	3	1
Grassy Butte (McKenzie County)	0 locations	0	0	0	0
Total Waiting List	769	461	276	24	8

Other: Subdivisions, Additional Capacity, or Higher Usage

Updated through January 22, 2026

WAITING LIST REQUESTS BY CLASSIFICATION						
SERVICE AREA	WAITING LIST START DATE	STD	PT	HC	OTHER	TOTAL
7-1B DAVIS BUTTES	10/3/2022	13	2	0	0	15
7-1B NEW HRADEC		0	0	0	0	0
7-2 NEW ENGLAND*	3/6/2012	136	26	5	0	167
7-2A BELFIELD	3/6/2013	1	0	0	1	2
7-3 JUNG LAKE	3/1/2016	25	7	2	0	34
7-4 BUCYRUS		0	0	0	0	0
7-5 HEBRON**	5/30/2017	3	1	0	0	4
7-6 BURT**	3/15/2012	58	30	1	0	89
7-7 BOWMAN	6/13/2012	74	38	7	1	120
7-8 BEACH	10/5/2011	32	33	2	0	67
7-8 FRYBURG	6/20/2016	7	6	1	3	17
7-8C TOWER HILL/JUNCTION INN/ NORTH CROWN BUTTE	TOWER HILL-7/29/2015 JUNCTION INN-12/1/2015 N. CROWN BUTTE-1/20/2021	43	33	3	0	79
7-8 FAIRFIELD/GRASSY BUTTE POCKET	10/17/2016	18	42	2	1	63
7-9B KILLDEER MOUNTAIN		0	0	0	0	0
7-9E WEST CENTER	7/24/2019	13	17	0	0	30
7-9G DUNN CENTER	10/20/2017	37	39	1	2	79
7-9G HALLIDAY	1/3/2021	1	2	0	0	3
TOTALS		458	276	24	8	769

*Intent forms signed for hydraulic improvement project in this area will decrease waiting list numbers by a total of 111.

**Current signups from Burt and Hebron service areas will decrease waiting list numbers by 93.

Updated through January 22, 2026



Our Vision: People and Business Succeeding with Quality Water **Our Mission:** Quality Water for Southwest North Dakota

MEMORANDUM

To: Jen Murray, Manager/CEO
From: Wendy Serhienko, Executive Assistant
Subject: Election Information – Incidental Information
Date: January 27, 2026

During the June primary election, on even numbered years, individuals are elected to serve four-year terms on the Southwest Water Authority (SWA) Board of Directors. In 2026, there are six county director positions, one city of Dickinson, and one city of Mandan position up for election/re-election. Directors up for re-election in 2026 include:

Director Mark Begger – Golden Valley County	Director Bruce Engelhardt – Morton County
Director Curtis Glasoe – Stark County	Director Don Schaible – Hettinger County
Director Robert Leingang – City of Mandan	Director Rick Seifert – Bowman County
Director Kaylene Berg – Mercer County	Director Ryan Baumgartner - City of Dickinson

According to NDCC § 61-24.5-06* persons aspiring to the office of county director of the Southwest Water Authority must present a petition containing the signatures of no less than two percent (2%) of the qualified electors of the county as determined by votes cast in the county for the office of director of Southwest Water Authority at the most recent preceding election at which the office of director of Southwest Water Authority was voted upon. Petitions may be picked up at the county auditor's office and must be returned no later than **4:00 p.m. on April 6, 2026**, to be placed on the no-party primary election ballot as a candidate for the office of director.

According to NDCC § 61-24.5-07** persons aspiring to office of director for either the city of Dickinson or the city of Mandan must present a petition containing the signatures of no less than 10 percent (10%) of the qualified electors who voted for that office in the last city election. Petitions may be picked up at city hall and must be returned no later than **4:00 p.m. on April 6, 2026**. Signers of the petition must reside within the corporate limits of the city.

County/City	Votes cast in 2022 Election	Minimum Signatures Required
Bowman County	809	17
Golden Valley County	53	2
Hettinger County	167	4
Mercer County	2,218	45
Morton County	2,582	52
Stark County	376	8
City of Mandan	1,664	167
City of Dickinson***	2,372	238

***Most recent election in which City of Dickinson Director was voted for was in 2024

The above information has been verified with the county and city auditors. Although a minimum number of signatures is required, each auditor recommends obtaining more signatures than needed for accuracy and validity purposes.

***NDCC 61-24.5-06. Election of county directors of the Southwest Water Authority.** Any person who is a resident and qualified elector of the county, who aspires to the office of director of the Southwest Water Authority, shall, not more than seventy nor less than sixty days and before four p.m. of the sixtieth day before any primary election preceding a general election at which a director of the authority is to be elected, present to the county auditor a petition giving that person's name, post-office address, and the title of the office of the Southwest Water Authority to which that person is seeking election. The petition must contain the signatures of not less than two percent of the qualified electors of the county as determined by the number of votes cast in the county for the office of director of the Southwest Water Authority at the most recent preceding election at which the office of director of the Southwest Water Authority was voted upon. Each signer of the petition shall include with that signer's name that signer's mailing address.

The petition must be accompanied by an affidavit substantially as follows:
State of North Dakota)

) ss.

County of _____)

I _____, being sworn, say that I reside in the county of _____ and State of North Dakota; that I am a qualified elector therein; that I am a candidate for the office of director of the Southwest Water Authority to be elected at the primary election to be held on _____, _____, and I request that my name be printed upon the no-party primary election ballot as provided by law, as a candidate for the office.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on _____, _____.

Notary Public

Upon receipt of the petition, the county auditor shall without fee place the name of the aspirant on the no-party primary election ballot as a candidate for the office of director. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes is elected. At the primary election, votes must be canvassed, returned certified, and certificates of election issued in the manner provided by law for the election of county officers.

**** NDCC 61-24.5-07. Election of city directors of the Southwest Water Authority.** Any person who is a resident and qualified elector of the city of Dickinson or Mandan who aspires to the office of director of the Southwest Water Authority shall, at least sixty days and before five p.m. on the sixtieth day before the election, file with the city auditor a petition signed by not less than ten percent of the number of qualified electors who voted for that office in the last city election, except that the petition for the first election must be signed by not less than two hundred qualified electors. Signers of a petition must reside within the corporate limits of the city, and each signer of the petition shall include with the signer's name the signer's mailing address. The petition must include the candidate's name, post-office address, and the title of the office of the Southwest Water Authority for which the candidate is seeking election.

The petition must be accompanied by an affidavit substantially as follows:
State of North Dakota)

) ss.

City of _____)

I _____, being sworn, say that I reside in the city of _____ and State of North Dakota; that I am a qualified elector therein; that I am a candidate for the office of director of the Southwest Water Authority to be elected at the municipal election to be held on _____, _____, and I request that my name be printed upon the election ballot as provided by law, as a candidate for the office.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on _____, _____.

Notary Public

Upon receipt of the petition, the city auditor shall without fee place the name of the aspirant on the election ballot as a candidate for the office of director. The candidate or candidates, depending on whether one or two directors are being elected, receiving the highest number of votes are elected. The provisions of chapter 40-21 govern the election of directors from the city of Dickinson or Mandan for the Southwest Water Authority.

Missouri River Joint Water Board

Advisory Meeting

1:00 pm central time

Jan 29, 2026

At Offices of MCWRB and also by Zoom invite (sent separately by Greg)

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Special acknowledgement of SD Attendees
3. Discussion of State of Missouri Article (attached) with Draft Response (attached)
 - publication of response
 - signatures on response
 - use of article for ND Water Mag article
 - attendance of MRJWB at their Feb Meeting
4. K-12 Program update
 - possible contract with ND Water
5. Mountrail County Commission request
6. Activities planned for 2026
 - SD RW
 - ND RW
 - Legislative Water Topics Committee
 - Possible WEB Meeting
 - SD AWWA in Rapid City
 - ND League of Cities
 - ND Association of Counties
 - National Rural Water
 - County Commission presentations
 - On going water magazine articles
 - Possible exposure of program in NE, IA, KS, MS, MT
7. EAE Expansion in Upper Basin States
8. UMWA Project Insert (see attachment)
8. Manager Transition Update
9. Other Business

Note: Attachments noted are in email



01.15.26

HOEVEN SECURES \$50 MILLION FOR ENDAWS, \$100-\$120 MILLION FOR LOCAL COST SHARE OF RED RIVER VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION BOTH MEASURES GENERATE MILLIONS IN SAVINGS FOR NORTH DAKOTA TAXPAYERS

WASHINGTON – Senator John Hoeven, a member of the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Committee, secured two major provisions advancing critical water projects for eastern North Dakota in the appropriations legislation passed by the U.S. Senate today. These include:

- **\$50 million for the Eastern North Dakota Area Water Supply (ENDAWS) project, and ability to use existing infrastructure which will save \$200 million.**
- **Hoeven-sponsored legislation directing the Corps to apply \$100-120 million in federal savings to reduce the local cost share of flood protection in the Red River Valley.**

“By passing legislation to create the first-in-the-nation public-private partnership (P3) and providing the federal funding upfront, the federal portion of flood protection for the Red River Valley is ahead of schedule and under budget. With this legislation in place, those savings will go to the diversion authority, providing \$100-120 million that North Dakota taxpayers won’t have to pay,” said Hoeven.

“At the same time, we secured \$50 million to start ENDAWS, which combined with authority to use existing infrastructure will save taxpayers \$200 million. We are effectively bringing one historic effort, the Fargo-Moorhead Diversion, to a close while getting rolling on another project critical to the future of the region, and importantly with the legislation we secured today, we will save North Dakota taxpayer dollars on these projects without increasing federal costs. We look forward to reviewing these important provisions next week in Fargo with the Fargo Moorhead Diversion Authority and Garrison Diversion Conservancy District,” Hoeven said.

“On top of that, we secured support for important national security, water development and public safety initiatives across the state. This includes additional funding for the spillway safety project at the Garrison Dam, which is essential to the long-term integrity of the dam.”

Advancing ENDAWS

- Hoeven has been working to fully fund ENDAWS, which uses water from the Bureau of Reclamation’s (BOR) Snake Creek Pumping Station and the McClusky Canal to bring a more reliable, drought-resistant water supply to central and eastern North Dakota.
- The legislation enables North Dakota to use existing BOR infrastructure. The Garrison Diversion Conservancy District estimates that this alternative water supply would reduce project costs for the state-led Red River Valley Water Supply Project (RRVWSP) by \$200 million while also saving on operating costs.
- The funding secured today follows Hoeven’s efforts with the North Dakota delegation to secure a completed Environmental Impact Study (EIS) and a signed Record of Decision (ROD) for ENDAWS, which were issued in 2021.

\$100-120 Million for Red River Valley Flood Protection

- This is the **17th piece of legislation** passed by Hoeven to advance flood protection for the Fargo-Moorhead region. Previously, Hoeven passed legislation to construct comprehensive flood

protection utilizing a first-in-the-nation, public-private partnership (P3) and secured the full \$750 million federal cost share up front in 2022, enabling the Army Corps to complete its work ahead of schedule and under budget.

- The Army Corps estimates the cost for the federal portion of the project will be significantly lower than \$750 million, and any remaining balance is to be transferred to the local sponsors, but not until the project is closed out in 2031.
- Accordingly, Hoeven's legislation passed today accelerates this funding. The goal is to get \$100-120 million in federal support to the diversion authority this year, reducing the cost to construct the local side of the project.

The legislative package includes the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 appropriations bills for Energy and Water Development (EWD); Commerce, Justice and Science (CJS); and Interior-Environment. In addition to the funding for eastern North Dakota, Hoeven worked as a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee to advance the following priorities in these bills:

Water Development

- \$18.5 million in Planning, Engineering and Design (PED) funding to support the Garrison Dam Safety Modification Project. Hoeven has secured \$45.7 million for the project's design phase to date.
- \$14.1 million for the Army Corps Section 594 program, which supports small water infrastructure projects like sanitary sewer systems in rural areas.

National Security

- Includes \$1.91 billion to advance nuclear modernization on systems which will be deployed at Minot Air Force Base, including developing the warheads for:
 - The Air Force's Long Range Stand Off (LRSO) missile.
 - The Sentinel intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).

Public Safety

- A total of \$5.5 million for the continued operation and expansion of the Advanced Training Center (ATC) at Camp Grafton and address law enforcement needs in Indian Country.
- Continues Hoeven's SURVIVE Act, which sets aside \$97.5 million, or 5 percent, from the U.S. Department of Justice Crime Victim Fund to assist with tribal victim services.
- \$44 million for the Regional Information Sharing System (RISS) Program, which supports secure communications and information sharing services to combat multi-jurisdictional crime.

Commerce

- National Rural Export Center: Maintains \$1 million for the National Rural Export Center in Fargo and up to \$1 million for the Rural Export Centers nationwide.



AGDAILY

Op-ed: It is time to take Missouri River water transfers seriously

By Shane Kinne, Coalition to Protect the Missouri River Published: January 22, 2026

Recent legislative action is putting farmers' access to ag markets at risk, not to mention drinking water supplies and energy production.

Appropriations bill **HR 6939**, recently passed by Congress, includes a measure that provides \$50 million dollars to the state of North Dakota to complete a project that will move water out of the Missouri River basin. The bill is now sitting on President Donald Trump's desk waiting for his signature. We can't control rain, but we can control how we manage what has been given to us. As the drought-stricken Missouri River Reservoir System places increasing strain on its users, it is clear that the consequences extend far beyond the region.

Currently, low winter flows threaten the utility and drinking water supplies from the Omaha region all the way to the mouth of the river in St. Louis. Access to water is crucial for maintaining our electric grid and ensuring the continuous flow of drinking water, particularly during periods of peak demand, such as the coldest weeks of the year.

Although spring forecasts indicate that basin runoff is returning closer to normal, years of cumulative deficits have left the reservoir system significantly depleted and slow to recover. Current projections for spring indicate the navigation flow support season will begin 5,000 cubic feet per second below full service, the lowest starting level since the 2023 navigation season. This poses a serious challenge for shippers attempting to move affordable agricultural inputs into the region and transport grain and other commodities to market.

With the agricultural economy already reeling from economic pressure, every available route to market is essential.

Unfortunately, HR 6939 will make the situation worse. North Dakota justifies the move to address its need to access a reliable, drought-proof water supply for its growing population. However, taking water from one drought-stricken basin to solve the needs of another is hardly a sustainable solution. This is water that will never return to a system that desperately needs it.

And this is just the start.

This is not a new issue, but it represents the latest and most troubling development in a fight the state of Missouri and its stakeholders have waged for years. It sets a dangerous precedent that Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, and Kansas must take seriously, and one that the upper basin states should not ignore.

Imagine a frigid winter night in your home with your family. Your electricity flickers, and your phone buzzes with a notification that your area is experiencing brownouts or blackouts due to low Missouri River flows and associated ice jams impacting a utility's ability to properly cool its generators.

You are experiencing an emergency that impacts your family's safety and farm livelihood, all while knowing that critical water is being exported for use in another basin. This is a game of inches, and every inch matters.

It is short-sighted to transfer water out of the Missouri River basin to solve water challenges in another basin. You've heard the old saying "robbing Peter to pay Paul" — and that is exactly what this is. What happens when our neighbors to the west decide to make big moves, attempting to solve their water challenges with Missouri River water? Then it isn't only the lower basin states that would have concern. It would lead to major allocations of water leaving our system before any state the Missouri River flows through can access it.

This is not merely a regional concern. During periods of low water, the Missouri River can supply 70 percent or more of the flow to the Middle Mississippi River, one of the nation's most critical shipping corridors. On average, 65 million metric tons of bulk agricultural commodities move by barge through this system to New Orleans-area terminals, yet it has faced repeated low-water challenges in recent years.

With every inch of water being critical, it is nonsensical to allow water to leave a system that is a vital part of the U.S. supply chain.

Congress has recently invested significantly in repairing the Missouri River navigation channel. This has led to increased reliability and increased shipping on the river, even in low-water years. All users benefit from this resiliency.

It would be a shame to throw away that momentum and opportunity by ignoring the threat of water being transferred out of the Missouri River basin. It is a threat to the economy, to drinking water, and to anyone who relies on electricity for their daily life.

It is time for the leaders of the lower Missouri River basin states to take this issue head-on before it is too late. We stand ready to work with the governors of the states of Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, and Kansas and their Congressional delegations as they protect those who live, work, and rely on the Missouri River for life and sustenance.

Shane Kinne is Executive Director of the Coalition to Protect the Missouri River. CPMR is a diverse organization that represents those that live and work on and adjacent to the Missouri River. Its membership includes Missouri River ports, navigation interests, energy production, water supply, and agriculture groups.

**North Dakota Water Education Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting
Via Zoom or at ND Water Education Foundation's offices
Wednesday, January 28, 2026
1:00 p.m.**

Via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85349106876>

or by telephone: 1-253-205-0468

Meeting ID: 853 4910 6876

Agenda

- I. Introductions - Chairman Dennis Reep
- II. Minutes
- III. Board of Directors
- IV. Dushinske/Jamison Scholarship Update
- V. Proposed 2026 Agreement with Dwyer Hanson
- VI. Financial Reports
 - A. 2025 Financial Report
 - B. 2026 Proposed Budget
 - C. CD Renewal
- VII. North Dakota Water Magazine
 - A. Subscriptions
 - B. Advertisers
 - C. Docket
- VIII. Water Directory
- IX. North Dakota WaterCourse
 - A. North Dakota Water Tours
 - a. 2025 Report
 - b. 2026 Ideas
 - B. Week In Water
 - C. Water Day at the State Fair
- X. Project WET—invited
- XI. AWWA Student Chapter Introduction and Update—invited
- XII. Other/Adjourn

2025 Water Tours Report

Another great summer of tours! Participants included elected and appointed officials; staff from city, county, state and federal agencies; along with North Dakota water managers, engineers, educators, irrigators, environmentalists, students, researchers and the general public.

2025 Tour locations and dates:

- The Future of Flood Protection (39 Attendees) – Fargo area
- The Rising Impacts of Water (69 Attendees) – Devils Lake area
- Innovative Irrigation in Oakes (81 Attendees) – Oakes area
- Water, Wind and Weather Modification (39 Attendees) – Bowman area
- Up for the Challenge (29 Attendees) – Williston area

2025 Tour Sponsors:

AE2S
Apex Engineering Group
Bartlett & West
Cavendish Farms
Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board
Ellingson Companies
FARMS
Garrison Diversion Conservancy District
Hess Corporation
Houston Engineering, Inc.
Moore Engineering, Inc.
N.D. Department of Water Resources

N.D. Natural Resources Trust
N.D. Water Resource Districts Association
Southwest Water Authority
Western Area Water Supply Authority
N.D. Game and Fish Department
Ackerman-Estvold
Basin Electric Power Cooperative
HDR
Barr Engineering Co.
Image Printing, Inc.
MVI-Bismarck
N.D. Rural Water Systems Association
Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.

2026 Tour ideas:

Watford City (will coincide with the summer meeting)

- Confluence Center
- Mike Dwyer's place
- Fairview Bridge
- Trenton-Buford Irrigation District

Other Tour Places:

- Turtle Mountain
- Red River Valley Water Supply Project
- Baldhill Dam
- GDCC
- Wahpeton (could coincide with the 2027 summer meeting)



Tentative Agenda

Tuesday - February 10, 2026

8:00 am Registration Opens - Crystal Courtyard
9:00 am - Noon Pre-Conference Session: Cyber and Physical Security Best Practices, CISA
9:00 am - Noon Northern Pipe Products Tour (Requires separate, no-cost registration.) - Crystal Courtyard
2:00 pm NDRWSA Annual Board Meeting and EXPO Opening Session
Keynote Speaker: Jay Gubrud - Jumping in the Driver's Seat - Symphony Hall
3:00 pm Exhibit Hall Opens and Meter Change-Out Competition: Preliminary Round - Exhibit Hall
5:00 pm Exhibitor Appreciation Social - Exhibit Hall
6:00 pm Exhibit Hall Closes for Evening

Wednesday - February 11, 2026

7:30 am Breakfast in the Exhibit Hall and Exhibit Hall Opens
8:30 am Concurrent Sessions

- Board & Management Track
 - Roundtable and Legislative Discussions with Special Guests
- Operations & Maintenance Track
 - Exhibit Hall Demonstrations

9:00 am Water Taste Contest
11:00 am Meter Change-Out Competition: Final Round and Exhibit Hall Drawings

Noon Exhibit Hall Closes and Buffet Luncheon

1:00 pm Concurrent Sessions

- Board & Management Track
 - Jay Gubrud: Change Management - Shifting Gears & Changing Lanes
 - Bartlett & West: The Use of AI in Rural Water System Management
- Operation & Maintenance Track I
 - AE2S: The Importance of Electrical Systems Maintenance
 - AE2S: Membrane Technology Basics and Applications in ND Water Systems
 - HDR: High Performance Graphics - Enhancing your SCADA System
- Operation & Maintenance Track II
 - Fougner Engineered Solutions: Lagoon Challenges from Influent to Effluent
 - LiquidTEK, LLC: Solving the Pond Puzzle
 - Team Laboratory Chemical: Bio Augmentation and Aquatic Plant Management

3:00 pm Concurrent Sessions

- Board & Management Track
 - Jay Gubrud: Change Management: Relationships & Team Building
- Operation & Maintenance Track I
 - Apex Engineering Group: Phosphate for Corrosion Control Treatment in Drinking Water
 - Bartlett & West: A Fresh Take on Old Tanks: Efficiency Through Innovation
- Operation & Maintenance Track II
 - CPI Construction Technologies, Inc: Solving Infiltration and Corrosion in Water/Wastewater Structures

- Dakota Supply Group: Beyond Smart Meters - Finding the Later Loss You Cannot See

5:00 pm Awards Banquet

- Awards Social
- Awards Ceremony - Honoring the Best in the Business
 - Emcee: Jay Gubrud
- Corporate Elite & Diamond Sponsor Recognition
- 2026 Water Taste Contest Final Judging
- Scholarship "Live" Auction

Thursday - February 12, 2026

7:30 am Breakfast Buffet

8:30 am Concurrent Sessions

- Board & Management Track
 - Stroh & Associates: 2026 Health Insurance and Employee Benefits Changes, Options and Compliance
 - Widmer Roel: Beyond the Numbers - Government Accounting and Auditing
 - AE2S: Navigating Financial Shifts - Funding Water Projects in a Changing Landscape
- Operation & Maintenance Track I
 - Northern Pipe Products, Inc: ABC's of PVC Pipe
 - KLM Engineering: Lifecycle of Coatings on Towers
 - ISCO: Solving Rural Water Problems with HDPE Solutions
- Operation & Maintenance Track II
 - Regal Chlorinators: Chlorinators - Operation, Maintenance, and Troubleshooting
 - AE2S: GIS for National Environmental Policy Act Compliance
 - In Control, Inc: Maintaining Your Control & SCADA System - How to Extend the Investment

10:30 am Concurrent Session

- Board & Management and Operation & Maintenance Tracks
 - Burian & Associates: Ensuring Industrial Water Supplies for Rural Central and Eastern North Dakota
 - Missouri River Joint Board: Our Missouri River in North Dakota - Using It and Protecting It
- Operation & Maintenance Tracks
 - ND Dept. of Environmental Quality: Regulatory Update

11:45 am Closing Session: Grand Prize Drawing (Must Be Present to Win)



Dear NRWA Supporting Member,

Thank you for your support of the National Rural Water Association (NRWA) and our mission to help rural America's communities provide safe drinking water and clean wastewater services to their citizens. Since our inception in 1976, NRWA's Supporting Members have helped to ensure small and rural utilities have a voice in Washington D.C. and to strengthen NRWA's efforts to train, assist, and promote water and wastewater professionals in rural America. Today, you are continuing to keep this effort going through your support!

Our mission is to strengthen State Associations. Over the past year, Supporting Memberships enabled NRWA to:

- Obtain a historic level of funding for the infrastructure and sustainability of small and rural water and wastewater systems.
- Represent Rural Water in Washington DC, with testimony from State Associations and our leadership on critical issues facing small and rural water systems in the United States, including the Farm Bill and cybersecurity.
- Expand the first—and only—nationwide registered apprenticeship program dedicated to water and wastewater professionals to over 600 active apprentices
- Continue the NRWA PFAS Cost Recovery Program, providing legal representation for hundreds of systems across the country dealing with PFAS contamination, lowering the risk of health issues in consumers. Settlements to water utilities now total over \$14.5 billion.
- Increase assistance for small and rural systems impacted by natural disasters through the Disaster Recovery Circuit Rider Program.
- Successfully challenging EPA's overbroad cybersecurity rule, while protecting small and rural communities from cyberattacks by creating new partnerships with WaterISAC, SANS and Def Con, and standing up a pilot Cybersecurity Circuit Rider Program.
- Conduct the first Rural Water Industry specific workforce survey to gain invaluable knowledge about the challenges we face now, and what it will look like in the near future.

With your Supporting Membership, enjoy benefits that include:

- Exclusive access to the Supporting Member Group in the new NRWA Online Community.
- Subscription to the new e-newsletter, NRWA Unfiltered.
- Discounts at the NRWA online store and on registration for NRWA events that provide networking opportunities and training to water and wastewater professionals.
- Notifications for and access to industry-specific online training sessions.
- Discounts on registration for NRWA events that provide networking opportunities and training to water and wastewater professionals, including WaterPro Conference and the Rural Water Rally

Every dollar of your Supporting Membership dues is used for NRWA lobbying efforts to represent rural and small utilities and are not tax-deductible.

At the National Rural Water Association, we take pride in our mission and accomplishments. With your help, we can continue providing safe, affordable drinking water and wastewater sanitation to rural America.

Sincerely,



Matthew Holmes
NRWA CEO



Rural Water Rally 2026

National Rural Water Association > Rural Water Rally 2026

Event Agenda

All Rally events will take place on the lower level of the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, 400 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001. Schedule subject to change.

Date	Event	Time
Monday, February 2	Registration & GAWTT Drop off	1:00 pm – 5:30 pm
	Opening Reception	5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Tuesday, February 3	Registration & GAWTT Drop off	7:30 am – 11:00 am
	Opening Session w/ Keynote Speaker	8:00 am – 10:00 am
	Congressional Appointments	10:30 am – as needed
Wednesday, February 4	Congressional Appointments	8:00 am – 5:00 pm
	Great American Water Taste Test & Lunch	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
	Closing Reception	5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Thursday, February 5	Congressional Appointments	As needed

NOTE: If you are shipping your Great American Water Taste Test samples, they can be brought to the registration desk during Registration hours. If you have any questions about the Great American Water Taste Test, please contact [Dena Powell](#).



The 36th Annual Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting February 19-21, 2026

The Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting welcomes waters from more than a dozen countries, and states as far away as California on Saturday, February 21, 2026. Held at The Country Inn in the historic spa town of Berkeley Springs, West Virginia, it is the largest and longest-running water tasting in the world, dubbed by BuzzFeed and The Week "the world's most prestigious water tasting."

Tasting of municipal waters, followed by purified drinking water and sparkling waters begins at 2:30pm. Non-carbonated bottled waters are tasted at 6:30pm. The public can watch the judges and have an opportunity to vote for the People's Choice award for best packaging. Winners in all categories are announced at 8pm.

AGENDA

Perkins County Rural Water System Board Meeting

Date: January 8th, 2025 Time: 4:30 PM

PCRWS Office, Bison, SD

- 1. Call to Order.....President**
 - A) Additions and Approval of Agenda**Board**
 - B) Minutes of December 11th, 2025**Board**
- 2. Financial Report.....**
 - A) Approve paid and unpaid bills**Board**
 - B) Financial Reports**Board**
- 3. Delegations**
- 4. Bartlett & West.....Nathan Danner**
- 5. Managers Report.....Staff**
- 6. Directors Reports.....Board**
- 7. All Other Matters.....Board**

Adjournment

Next Meeting

Date: February 12th, 2025 Time: 4:30 pm

****BOARD ACTION NECESSARY**

Perkins County Rural Water System, Inc.
104 West Main Street PO Box 160 Bison, SD 57620-0160
Tele: (605)244-5608 Fax: (605)244-5926
E-MAIL: pcrws@sdplains.com WEBSITE: www.pcrws.com

December 11, 2025

The regular monthly meeting was called to order by President Don Melling (telephone) at 4:28 PM MT at the Perkins County Rural Water Sys. Inc. boardroom in Bison, SD. Other directors present were Pat Dalzell (telephone), Brian Morris, Luke Clements and Lynn Frey. Board members absent were none. Also in attendance were Nathan Danner (telephone), Bartlett & West, Shiloh Baysinger and Brandi Baysinger, staff.

Agenda

Motion by **Lynn Frey**, seconded by **Brian Morris**, to approve agenda, motion passed.

Minutes

Motion by **Don Melling**, seconded by **Pat Dalzell**, to approve the November 13th, 2025, minutes, motion passed.

Financial Report

Motion by **Luke Clements**, seconded by **Brian Morris**, to approve paid and unpaid bills, motion passed.

Motion by **Don Melling**, seconded by **Luke Clements**, to approve financial reports, motion passed.

Delegations

Rosebud Church delegation was not in attendance, potential claim was turned into insurance company.

Bartlett & West

Nathan Danner called into the meeting to review how the contracts would work moving forward. The project would be broken into two tasks: 1. Elevated tank and 2. Pipeline replacement with having the preliminary work done and ready to submit by November 2026 and ready to bid for the 2027 construction year. Reviewed items that the system will need to work through.

Managers' Report

Shiloh Baysinger reported on the leak at Rosebud Church. Shiloh spoke with Attorney Melling and she recommended turning it into insurance which has been done. One of the pickups needed a repair and the repair caused another issue which they sent a part down and staff fixed it. Butler Cat will be working on our generators and try to make a snow guard and service them. No news from USDA RD. Subsurface mapping has been trying to help get the accuracy better before the final purchase.

Director's Report

Luke reported on ATC attendance and WaterPro attendance is encouraged. At the SDARWS quarterly meeting there happened to have an insurance person speak about water failure issues that do fall back on to the system. Lynn will be introducing one of the speakers during ATC.

All Other Matters

- a. Policy 105 – Lynn Frey moves to change the mileage rate to \$0.70, seconded by Brian Morris, motion passed.
- b. Policy 414 – no change
- c. Appendix I – Motion by Luke Clements, seconded by Lynn Frey to accept Appendix I as presented by with changes for 2026, motion passed.

Appendix I

Rural Headquarters Water Rate Schedule:

Minimum bill: \$65.00 per month
Water charge: \$9.59 per 1000 gallons

Seasonal Headquarters Tap:

Minimum bill: \$375.00 per year due annually
Water charge: \$9.59 per 1000 gallons

Livestock Users:

Minimum bill: \$375.00 per year annually
Water charge: \$9.59 per 1000 gallons

Bulk Water Rates: \$30 per 1000 gallons

a.

- d. Policy 204 – Motion by Don Melling, seconded by Pat Dalzell to change the returned check fees to \$50. Motion passed.
- e. Policy 207 – Motion by Luke Clements, seconded by Brian Morris to updated fees per recommendation. Motion Passed.

207. Charges for Equipment

I. Equipment rates are established by the Board of Directors each year. These rates are based on the System's non-profit status.

II. Equipment listed with operator:

1999 Cat 416C Backhoe \$300.00 per hour

Skid Steer \$200.00 per hour

Dump Truck \$180.00 per hour

Service Call \$75.00 per hour (one hour minimum)

\$50.00 per hour after one hour

- f. Rate and Fee Schedule – Motion by Luke Clements, seconded by Lynn Frey with changes. Motion passed.
Rate and Fee Schedule

Hookup Fee: \$3,500.00 and 100% of construction costs

Includes any tap – residential, livestock or seasonal

Service Location Request: \$300.00

Water Rates:

Rural Residential: \$65.00 per month and **\$9.59** per 1,000 gallons

Livestock (Pasture) and Seasonal: \$375.00 per year billed annually or \$31.25 monthly and **\$9.59** per 1,000 gallons

Bulk Water Rates: **\$30.00** per 1,000 gallons

Fees:

Late Charge: \$10.00 or 2% on balances of \$500.00 on any outstanding bill not received in our office by the 15th

Suspension of Service/Delinquent Disconnect Fee: **\$50.00** plus mileage (round trip)

Reconnect Fee: **\$50.00** plus mileage (round trip)

Customer Request Disconnect and Reconnect: **\$25.00**

Returned Check Fee: **\$50.00**

Service Call: **\$75.00** minimum plus mileage (round trip) then \$50.00 every hour after one hour

Meter Reading: equal to Reconnect Fee plus mileage (round trip)

Automatic Meter Reading Fee: **\$2.50** per meter billed monthly or \$30 billed annually

Equipment Fees:

Backhoe: **\$300.00** per hour with operator

Skid Steer: **\$200.00** per hour with operator

Dump Truck: **\$180.00** per hour plus mileage (round-trip) with operator

Vehicle Mileage: **\$2.50 per mile** (round-trip)

Amended: December 11, 2025

Effective January 1, 2026

Meeting adjourned at **5:15** pm MT

Next meeting January 8th, 2025, at 4:30 pm MT.

**Southwest Water Authority
Board of Directors**

**Parking Lot
February 2, 2026**

Item

Date put on Parking Lot

Agenda Date

Planning Agenda

DATE: Monday, March 2, 2026 TIME: 9:00 A.M. MST LOCATION: SWA O&M Center Office
ASSIGNMENTS

☐ Director Eaton ☐ Wendy Serhienko ☐ _____ ☐ _____

Scribe/Flip Chart

Minutes

Reporter

☐ _____ ☒ Director Engelhardt ☐ _____ ☐ _____

Timekeeper

Process Observer

Warm-up

MEETING OBJECTIVE _____

PLAN		ACTUAL CLOCK	AGENDA ITEMS	WHO	METHOD	DESIRED OUTCOMES
TIME	CLOCK START					
			Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance			Meeting readiness
			Review Agenda			Additions, focus meeting
			Consent Agenda		Voice Vote	Meet legal requirements
			Policy III. General Governance Commitment		Monitoring	
			Policy III.F. Annual Board Planning Cycle		Monitoring	
			Policy II.A. Executive Limitations-Staff Treatment		Roll Call	
			Review issues pending / Parking Lot / Plan next agenda			
			Monitoring			
			Adjourn			