

MINUTES OF THE EDDY COUNTY WATER RESOURCE BOARD
July 1, 2025

A regular meeting of the Eddy County Water Resource Board was held on July 1, 2025 at 9:00 AM at the Eddy County Courthouse. Board members Kenny Reis, Monty Schaefer, Mike Tweed, and Secretary/Treasurer, Travis S. Peterson, were present in the basement of the Eddy County Courthouse. The following Eddy County Landowners were also present: Paul Topp, Jessica Carlson, Kathy Erickson, Larry Erickson and Casey Weber.

The minutes of the regular June 3, 2025 meeting were presented. Reis made a motion to approve. Second by Tweed. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was presented and reviewed. Schaefer made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Tweed seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The following bills were presented for payment:

Apex Engineering (Columbia Township Cleanout cost share)	\$2,640.00
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Reis made a motion to pay the bills presented. Seconded by Schaefer. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Various correspondence was reviewed. Except as otherwise stated in these minutes no action required.

Old Business:

Upper Sheyenne Joint Water Resource Board: Schaefer reported that Austin Langley and Allan Howard continue to work on potential bank stabilization projects.

Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board: No report.

Garrison Diversion Conservancy District: No report.

Columbia Township Coulee Cleanout: Peterson informed the board that Jeff Topp mailed to him the Apex Engineering invoice (\$3,300), with checks from T-T Ranch (\$330) and Topp Herefords (\$330). As noted above, the board approved payment of the remainder based on discussion and approval at the May 6, 2025 meeting.

Paul Topp informed the Board that he toured areas of concern. Paul states that there is surface water that needs to be gone. The culvert in 81st Avenue seems to be a problem; as well as obstructions in Section 15 of Columbia Township. Paul Topp stated that he believes there are two issues to be addressed: 1) figuring out and completing the necessary cleanout work to get the water moving; and 2) permitting or delay permitting of additional subsurface drain projects. Paul Topp believes that it only makes sense to address the clean out work before additional subsurface drains add more water to the problem. Jessica Carlson added that it is important to get the coulee and culverts functioning and water moving. Then, after the water is moving begin with cattail spraying and approving subsurface drain applications. Paul indicated that it is necessary to have a meeting among landowners to come up with a comprehensive plan; and until there is a plan there is nothing for the water board to consider.

Paul Topp provided a letter with map from K2S Engineering, Inc; and his written request for the temporary delay of approving additional subsurface drain tile permits in Columbia Township, Sections 7-36. Because there are no subsurface drain applications pending, no action was required.

Glenn Walz: Peterson informed the Board that he found a USGS Binder that contained elevation maps for all of Eddy County and an old map that includes a culvert inventory near Glenn Walz’s area of concern. These resources were reviewed. Walz was not present. No action taken.

New Business:

Casey Weber Subsurface Drain Application: Casey Weber was present to discuss subsurface drainage in the SE1/4 of Section 7, Township 148, Range 66. Weber only had maps with him. The board explained that a subsurface drain application must be completed and submitted. Weber will discuss the application with the contractor, Agassiz Drain Tile. Peterson stated that Agassiz could contact him if they need direction.

2026 Budget: The board reviewed the 2025 budget, as approved, and discussed the budget request for 2026. Schaefer made a motion to submit the following budget request:

Insurance:	\$ 600.00
Dues:	\$ 4,000.00
Engineering:	\$ 3,000.00
Cleanouts & Miscellaneous Projects:	\$30,000.00
Per Diem:	\$ 8,200.00
Secretary & Legal:	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
Total:	<u>\$55,800.00</u>

Seconded by Reis. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2025 at 9:00 AM in the Eddy County Courthouse.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Travis S. Peterson, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:

Kenneth Reis, Chairman