

MINUTES OF THE EDDY COUNTY WATER RESOURCE BOARD
July 7, 2026

A regular meeting of the Eddy County Water Resource Board was held on July 7, 2026 at 9:00 AM. Board members Mike Tweed, Monty Schaefer, Brady Richter (via telephone), and Secretary/Treasurer, Travis S. Peterson, were present in the jury room of the Eddy County Courthouse.

The minutes of the regular June 2, 2026 meeting were presented. Tweed made a motion to approve. Second by Schaefer. 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.

Schaefer made a motion to pay \$2665.44 to Hager Excavating as a result of the Greg Hegland 80/20 cost share project. Mike Tweed made a motion to pay Monty Schaefer \$805.85 for January through May meetings and mileage. Seconded by Richter. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Various correspondence was reviewed. Discussed was the letter received from Upper Sheyenne River Joint Water Resource Board promoting the value of county water board membership. No further action required.

Old Business:

Columbia Township Coulee Cleanout: Schaefer suggested that the Board consider cost share participation to remove cattail root balls and tubers from the bottom two miles of the coulee; and also to remove blowout sediment downstream of the seven culverts identified in Brian Schmilfenig's August 2, 2025 site inspection. Schaefer proposed that this bottom-end cattail maintenance be initially limited to the Jason Otto property in Sections 25 and 31; and the ND Trust Land property rented by Ryan Topp in Section 36. It was noted that cattail maintenance on the Otto property will likely require USDA/NRCS approval and USFWS authorization. Further, it will be necessary to ensure that ND Department of Trust Lands is agreeable to work proposed in Section 36. After discussion, Schaefer made the following motion: Contingent upon approval from USDA/NRCS and authorization from USFWS and there being no objection from ND Department of Trust Lands, the water board will provide 80% cost share funding for cattail maintenance (removal of root balls and tubers, and cleanout of other obvious obstructions) within the blue line stream on the Otto property (Sections 25 and 31) and the ND Trust Land property (Section 36). Brady Richter seconded the motion. During discussion it was clarified that all approvals and authorizations must be obtained by the landowners or tenants. Upon vote, motion unanimously passed.

Cleanout of blowout sediment downstream of the seven culverts was further discussed. Schaefer offered to contact Jeff Topp for his assistance to ensure that all property owners immediately downstream of the seven culverts agree to removal of the blowout sediment. This work and cost share participation to be considered further at future meetings.

Greg Hegland – Cost Share Application: Peterson presented the Hager Excavating bill, in the amount of \$3,331.80. Hegland paid his 20% share direct to Hager Excavating. As noted above, the water board approved payment of 80% of this bill. The original cost estimate was \$4000.

Upper Sheyenne Joint Water Resource Board: Schaefer reported that the next regular meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2026 at 4:00 PM in Devils Lake.

Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board: Tweed summarized the business conducted at the June 11, 2026, meeting. Agency reports were given. The current Devils Lake elevation is 1450.35 feet. The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 8, 2026 at 8:00 AM.

Garrison Diversion Conservancy District: Tweed took part in the executive board meeting in preparation for the next regular quarterly board meeting scheduled on July 16-17. Tweed further reported that the Red River Supply Pipeline is going well with crews now approximately one mile west of Glenfield.

New Business:

2027 Budget: The 2027 budget was discussed. Tweed made a motion to submit a total budget request in the amount of \$50,150. Seconded by Schaefer. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 4, 2026 at 9:00 AM in the jury room on the second floor of the Eddy County Courthouse.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Travis S. Peterson, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:

Michael Tweed, Chairman