

North Prairie Regional Water District

August 26, 2025 - Regular Meeting Minutes

Directors Present: Kelly Drevecky, Dan Ruby, Darrel Loftesnes, Mike Rudnick, Daryl Lies (via video conference call), Crystal Hendrickson. Directors Absent: Austin Hanson. Also present: General Manager Craig Haskins, Office Manager Karla Anderson, Operations Manager Joddy Meidinger, and Wade Senger of Interstate Engineering.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Ruby. Anderson called the roll.

Public Comments

No one wished to speak.

Meeting Agenda

The 2026 preliminary budget was added to the agenda by Ruby. Moved by Loftesnes, seconded by Rudnick to approve the amended agenda. Voice vote; all voted yes.

Meeting Minutes

Moved by Hendrickson, seconded by Rudnick to approve July meeting minutes. Voice vote; all voted yes.

Financials

The audit report was presented by Brady Martz. Moved by Rudnick, seconded by Loftesnes to approve the audit. Roll call; Drevecky, Ruby, Loftesnes, Rudnick, Lies, Hendrickson voted yes. Haskins presented the financial report. Moved by Loftesnes, seconded by Drevecky to approve financial report. Roll call; Drevecky, Ruby, Loftesnes, Rudnick, Lies, Hendrickson voted yes.

Vogel Law

Monte Rogneby of Vogel Law (via video conference) provided updates of outstanding items to the board. Brady Carpenter agreed to dismiss his case against NPRWD. It has been dismissed without prejudice.

Velva Dike

Wade Senger estimates that it will cost about \$50,000 to address the 200' of pipe that was bored under the Velva Levy. Costs are higher today than they would be if the work had been done in the original plan. Items to consider are the mobilization charge, inflation costs, pipe, lost grant revenue, legal fees. We initially paid \$8,400 for the boring. (\$42/foot x200')

(Lies left the meeting at 10:44 am.)

Moved by Rudnick, seconded by Loftesnes to sign a 2-year extended agreement (July 31, 2027) with Velva and to have Rogneby look at the numbers. Roll call; Drevecky, Ruby, Loftesnes, Rudnick voted yes. Hendrickson voted no.

Water Cents Program

Rogneby stated that former President Krueger had asked him to “legalize” the program. He went on to provide the following background information: At an annual meeting in 2012 a stipend program was created by the members. In 2015 it was modified by the members at an annual meeting and gave the board the ability to grant scholarships. Since 2015 about 76 scholarships have been awarded. It was recently expanded to include various community events such as after-prom parties, 4-H, playgrounds, backpack buddies, reading programs, etc. There are about 66 community event donations totaling about \$23,000. The stipend program was supposed to be overseen by a committee. No committee ever met and there were no minutes in the record. It appears these community expenditures were never approved by the board or a committee. The Attorney General (AG) considers them public funds and is working on an opinion on how these funds can be used. The community event donations started in 2018, apparently without authorization. There is a criminal statute called Misapplication of Entrusted Property. That statute contains the following elements: Disposal use or transfer (66 expenditures), Disposal of interest or property entrusted to a public servant as a fiduciary, public servant knows it is not authorized. Moved by Rudnick, seconded by Hendrickson to turn the water cents matter over to the State’s Attorney. Roll call; Drevecky, Ruby, Loftesnes, Rudnick, Hendrickson voted yes.

New Business

Liebelt Update – Lane is turning the bill for his equipment into his insurance company.

(Short recess between 11:55 am-12:02 pm)

2025 Financial Audit Proposal (North Dakota State Auditor)

Moved by Hendrickson, seconded by Rudnick to accept the State Auditor’s proposal for the 2025 Audit. Roll call; Drevecky, Ruby, Loftesnes, Rudnick, Hendrickson voted yes.

Customer Water Rates

Haskins presented a power point and explained the different water base rates and water rates for each customer.

Preliminary Budget

Haskins presented the preliminary budget.

Interstate Engineering - Pay Request #2

Moved by Hendrickson, seconded by Loftesnes to approve pay request #2 in the amount of \$1,932,302.28 to Abbott, Arne, Schwindt, Inc. Roll call; Drevecky, Ruby, Loftesnes, Rudnick, Hendrickson voted yes.

General Manger's Report

Haskins reviewed water production numbers. About 40 million gallons were produced this month.

Adjournment

Next meeting will be September 23 at 10am at the Minot Public Works Building. Moved by Loftesnes, seconded by Rudnick to adjourn. Voice vote; all voted yes. Meeting was adjourned at 1:08 PM.

Minutes by Crystal Hendrickson, Secretary.