

MINUTES

STUTSMAN COUNTY WATER RESOURCE BOARD

January 28, 2026

The regular meeting of the Stutsman County Water Resource Board was called to order by Vice-Chairman, Anthony Roorda, on January 28, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. in the County Commissioner's Room of the Stutsman County Courthouse. Members present were Anthony Roorda, Duane Andersen, Lucas Torgerson, Douglas Reimers, and Jordan Wanzek.

Additionally present was Levi Taylor, Chairman of the Stutsman County Commission, Tim Brenner of the Crystal Springs Camp, Elayne Patzner, and Josh Loosemore of Peritiacon LLC. Additionally present was Abbagail C. Geroux from Dalsted & Ryan, P.C., as the secretary/treasurer of the Stutsman County Water Resource Board.

MINUTES

The first order of business was to review and approve the minutes of the December 30, 2025, regular meeting minutes. Lucas Torgerson moved and Duane Andersen seconded a motion to approved the minutes as presented. Motion passed.

MISCELLANEOUS

Next was the board reorganization. Anthony Roorda opened nominations for the position of Chairman. Lucas Torgerson nominated Anthony Roorda as Chairman of the Water Resource Board. Seeing no further nominations, nominations were closed. All voted in favor of electing Anthony Roorda as Chairman of the board. Anthony Roorda then opened nominations for Vice-Chairman. Lucas Torgerson nominated Duane Andersen as Vice-Chairman of the board. Seeing no further nominations, nominations were closed. All voted in favor of electing Duane Andersen as Vice-Chairman of the board.

Duane Andersen moved and Jordan Wanzek seconded a motion to appoint Dalsted & Ryan, P.C. as the Secretary/Treasurer and legal counsel for the board. All voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

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Next was discussion relative to signing authority of the board. Ms. Geroux explained that all checks are signed by the treasurer and a member of the Water Resource Board, particularly the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are authorized signers on the account. A motion was made by Jordan Wanzek and seconded by Douglas Reimers to appoint Duane Andersen as a signer on the Unison Bank account and remove Joel Lees from the bank account. All members voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Next, the board addressed committee and board appointments, in particular, for the Upper Sheyenne Board. Anthony Roorda indicated he would be willing to serve as the representative for the first year of the board until other members had more time to familiarize themselves with the board. Lucas Torgerson moved and Jordan Wanzek seconded a motion to appoint Anthony Roorda as the representative to the Upper Sheyenne Board. Motion passed.

Next, discussion was had regarding the Steering Committee for the Crystal Springs Lake Feasibility Project. Duane Andersen moved and Douglas Reimers seconded a motion to appoint Anthony Roorda as the board representative on the Steering Committee.

Next was a presentation by Michael Gunsch on the Crystal Springs Lake Feasibility Project. Mr. Gunsch indicated he hoped to provide a draft feasibility project for review in the coming weeks. However, during the feasibility project stage, two other important items of research were identified, including additional research relative to Long Lake which would increase the cost of the feasibility study. Mr. Gunsch noted that the current project plan calls for the installation of a 30 inch pipe placed approximately 8 feet deep and running 83,000 lineal feet and requiring a 450-500 GPM pump, which could pump water approximately 180 days out of the year. Currently, the goal elevation for Crystal Springs Lake would be to maintain it at 1750 feet. The rough number of the annual cost for maintaining this would be between \$200,000.00 and \$300,000.00. Mr. Gunsch noted that farmers in Dickey County had expressed a desire to potentially tap into this project to use the water for irrigation purposes. Mr. Gunsch explained that if this is something that those farmers desire, they would need to formally make the request and pay for the cost of the portion of the feasibility study to determine if use of any other water would be feasible for their fields.

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Mr. Gunsch also noted at this time they do not anticipate doing an assessment district to help pay for the cost of the project, hoping that other partners and grant opportunities will permit the project to be constructed without an assessment district. However, to identify these partners and grant opportunities is still ongoing.

The conversation then turned to providing information to the Department of Water Resources for the next legislative biennium on special projects that would be moving forward. The board expressed interest on placing a few projects on the list, including Crystal Spring Lake Project and the Weber slough project. Mr. Gunsch indicated that his firm would be willing to prepare the application for that process and to present that paperwork at the board's next Water Resource Board meeting for approval and submission.

The board then discussed a desire to have Jesse Christianson of the Stutsman County Highway Department present at the next board meeting regarding potential projects that might come the board's way currently under development.

Department of Water Resources Drainage Complaint Appeal in the NE1/4 of Section 33, Township 143 North, Range 68 West, Stutsman County, North Dakota submitted by Cindy Schultes, Power of Attorney for Erika Schultz.

Department of Water Resources Drainage Complaint appeal in the SE1/4 of Section 16, N1/2 of Section 21, and NW1/4 of Section 22, all in Township 140 North, Range 68 West, Stutsman County, North Dakota submitted by Mark Staloch and Tim Staloch.

Next, the board discussed two decisions from the Department of Water Resources denying appeals from complaints of unauthorized drainage. The complaints were about tiling projects. The Department of Water Resources denied those appeals because they determined that the Department of Water Resources does not have jurisdiction to hear the appeal. The board discussed these appeals and did not take any further action at this time.

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FINANCIALS

Next the board addressed the bills and financials. Duane Andersen moved and Lucas Torgerson seconded a motion to approve the bills, financials, and vouchers. Motion passed.

CHECK NUMBERS

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|--------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Dennis Clark - \$683.82 | #3004 |
| 2. IRS - \$285.35 | #3005 |
| 3. Dalsted & Ryan, P.C. - \$1,548.00 | #3006 |

Seeing no further business before the board, Douglas Reimers moved and Lucas Torgerson seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

ABBAGAIL C. GEROUX
Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The board approved the minutes this ____ day of _____, 2026.

ANTHONY ROORDA, Chairman, or
DUANE ANDERSEN, Vice-Chairman