

MINUTES

STUTSMAN COUNTY WATER RESOURCE BOARD

February 25, 2026

The regular meeting of the Stutsman County Water Resource Board was called to order by Chairman, Anthony Roorda, on February 25, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. in the County Commissioner's Room of the Stutsman County Courthouse. Members present were Anthony Roorda, Duane Andersen, Douglas Reimers, and Jordan Wanzek.

Additionally present were Jesse Christianson, Stutsman County Road Superintendent, BK Kratz of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Dale Mielke from the Stutsman County Road Department, Josh Loosemore of Peritiacon LLC, and 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 January 28, 2026, regular meeting minutes. Duane Andersen moved and Douglas Reimers seconded a motion to approved the minutes as presented. Motion passed.

STUTSMAN COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT

Next, the board addressed upcoming projects for the Stutsman County Road Department. Jesse Christianson presented a number of projects that he anticipated completing in 2027. First was a bridge replacement on a township road south of Ypsilanti, a grade raise on School Lake, and then anticipated work on Weber Slough. He also noted that they plan on doing an emergency grade raise on Weber Slough as well in 2027. Discussion was had relative to placing the Weber Slough project onto the 2027-2029 Department of Water Resource's biennium project list. Jesse Christianson indicated he would like to see this project listed on that paperwork. There was discussion as well regarding the current status of the project. It was noted that Interstate Engineering was working with the road department and is looking to conduct a feasibility study with an approximate cost of \$41,000.00. Currently, a request has been made to the Department of Water Resources for cost share, but we have not received an answer regarding the status of that yet.

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It was further noted that if the Stutsman County Water Resource Board authorize any funds or any funds that were expended prior to the authorization from the Department of Water Resources would not be eligible for cost share. Therefore, there was no action taken relative to any funding requests. However, a motion was made and seconded to authorize Abigail C. Geroux to work with Jesse Christianson and Daren Peterka to prepare and submit the Weber Slough drainage project onto the 2027-2029 Department of Water Resources biennium project list. Motion was made by Duane Andersen and seconded by Douglas Reimers. Motion passed.

BJ Kratz from the N.D. Game & Fish explained that the water in Weber Slough is currently being stocked. One of the items they want to be sure of is to maintain the integrity of the fishing area in this system. There was discussion of the likely requirement to place a pump or gate and at least a small portion of closed pipe in the initial drainage area in order to make sure that the quality of the fish species was maintained.

Jesse Christianson also explained that they received funding approval to replace a bridge near Beaver Creek between Highway 281 and Montpelier and as part of that process, they will be conducting a water study which could give them useful information for the Weber Slough project.

CRYSTAL SPRINGS LAKE FEASIBILITY STUDY

Next, Josh Loosemore of Peritiacon LLC, addressed the board. The board received an update regarding the current status of the Crystal Springs Lake Feasibility Study.

There appears to be ongoing discussions and work regarding Long Lake. The board members asked a number of questions relative to water quality in Stink Lake and the possibility of irrigation. They also discussed concerns regarding easements necessary for the project to move forward.

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FINANCIALS

Next the board addressed the bills and financials. Douglas Reimers moved and Jordan Wanzek seconded a motion to approve the bills, financials, and vouchers. Motion passed.

CHECK NUMBERS

1. Dalsted & Ryan, P.C. - \$2,111.00 #3007

REGULAR BUSINESS

Anthony Roorda then addressed the board regarding the Upper Sheyenne Board. He noted that both Sheridan and Benson Counties have pulled out of the Upper Sheyenne Joint Board. Shawn Fredricks, who is the Upper Sheyenne Joint Board attorney, noted that the Joint Board had no Bylaws and that they would potentially need to update the Joint Powers Agreement given the removal of two of the counties that pulled out. There was also some discussion that there is a different Joint Board located south of Baldhill Dam who may be interested in combining boards with the Upper Sheyenne, but that would be a discussion point that would happen further down the road.

Seeing no further business before the board, Douglas Reimers moved and Jordan Wanzek seconded a motion to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.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