

MINUTES

STUTSMAN COUNTY WATER RESOURCE BOARD

October 29, 2025

The regular meeting of the Stutsman County Water Resource Board was called to order by Chairman, Joel Lees, on October 29, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the County Commissioner's Room of the Stutsman County Courthouse. Members present were Dennis Clark, John Schock, and Greg Spenningsby.

Additionally present by phone was Arlyn Schmidt and Mike Guensch of Houston Engineering. Also present were multiple members of the public as indicated on the attached attendance sheet, in addition to 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 September 24, 2025, regular meeting minutes. Upon review, a motion was made by Dennis Clark and seconded by John Schock to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Next, was the review and approval of the joint meeting of the Stutsman County Water Resource Board and the Stutsman County Commission. Upon review, John Schock moved and Dennis Clark seconded a motion to approve those minutes. Motion passed.

REQUEST FROM GRACE STEIN FOR CRYSTAL SPRINGS LAKE GRADUATE THESIS STUDY

The first item on the agenda was the request from Grace Stein to conduct a graduate thesis program project on the Crystal Springs Lake watershed. The board indicated that they were interested in allowing Ms. Stein to have access to documentation. The questions and concerns were ensuring that the information she is requesting would not be burdensome from Houston Engineering, who is working on the project and also to see if the type of project she is proposing to do would provide any additional assistance or insight on the current feasibility study. That was the direction the board took and they would prefer to see additional information when Ms. Stein was available. Mike Guensch of Houston Engineering expressed a willingness to work with Ms. Stein and also expressed that he

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would be providing an update on the public informational meeting which occurred last week to the board members.

REQUEST FROM STUTSMAN COUNTY HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT - WEBER SLOUGH

Next, the board addressed the request from Jesse Christianson for a feasibility study on an area identified as Weber Slough. Jesse Christianson addressed the board indicating the request to look at alternative ways to move water into Beaver Creek and ultimately the James River system. There is a potential for utilizing five different routes. They all converge to Beaver Creek, which then would flow into the James River by Montpelier.

Mr. Christianson indicated that the main concern was the County Road 67 which is requiring significant grade raises and expense. In addition there has been a lot of crop land lost in the area. BJ Kratz from the North Dakota Game & Fish indicated that there would be some concern regarding moving the water into the James River, more so, from trying to contain the type of fish in the James River from moving upstream into any drainage. It was also noted that some of the property owners expressed concerns regarding the water levels on some structures that they own and the individuals present expressed a desire to see a feasibility study in the area.

Daren Peterka from Interstate Engineering indicated that the upon approval, it would likely take between six to eight months to determine which of the options would be feasible. At that point, they would look to be doing a preliminary engineering to engineer the proposed project.

The board expressed an interest in seeing a feasibility study. They did request Interstate Engineering to see if there was any potential cost share funding available, either through the Department of Water Resources or through other funding. Jesse Christianson indicated that they were able to secure some funding through the State finance through FEMA for Deer Lake, where they have received temporary drainage in the past and now they are seeking out permanent drainage in the area.

Based on this conversation, John Schock moved and Dennis Clark seconded a motion to authorize Daren Peterka of Interstate

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Engineering to explore funding opportunities with various State agencies for a feasibility study to drain Weber Slough. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Next, the board discussed the current status on the Crystal Springs Lake Feasibility Study and the public informational meeting which was held in Steele, North Dakota the prior week.

MISCELLANEOUS

Board members also noted that Joel Lees' appointment to the board will expire at the end of the term and Arlyn Schmidt will also have his term expire at the end of the year. Greg Spenningsby expressed an interest in taking over Arlyn Schmidt's position on the board and requested support by the board members for the position. John Schock moved and Dennis Clark seconded a motion to support Greg Spenningsby's application for an appointment to the Stutsman County Water Resource Board. Motion passed.

FINANCIALS

Next the board addressed the bills and financials. John Schock moved and Dennis Clark seconded a motion to approve the bills and financials. Ms. Geroux also noted that one of the C.D.'s will be up for renewal on November 6, 2025. She noted that the current 6-month C.D. rate will now be 3.80%. The board took no action based on this information.

CHECK NUMBERS

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|--|-------|
| 1. Dennis Clark - \$541.81 | #2992 |
| 2. Joel Lees - \$314.94 | #2993 |
| 3. Internal Revenue Service - \$103.28 | #2994 |
| 4. Dalsted & Ryan, P.C. - \$2,954.00 | #2995 |

Seeing no further business before the board, John Schock moved and Dennis Clark seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion

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passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

ABBAGAIL C. GEROUX
Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The board approved the minutes this ____ day of _____,
2025.

JOEL LEES, Chairman, or
ANTHONY ROORDA, Vice-Chairman