

**These are DRAFT minutes, subject to amendment before final approval by
the Pembina County Water Resource District**

January 20, 2026

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
PEMBINA COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT BOARD OF MANAGERS
WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT OFFICE, CAVALIER ND

Those present were Managers William Gunderson, Randall Emanuelson, Donald Kemp, Ted Juhl (electronic), and LuAnn Kemp, secretary. Attorney Robert Fleming also present. A motion as made by Randall Emanuelson, seconded by William Gunderson, by vote unanimously carried to approve the minutes of January 6, 2026.

The public comment period was held at 8:15 am. No public comments were received.

A motion was made by William Gunderson, seconded by Ted Juhl, by vote unanimously carried to approve the bills as presented:

14354	Cavalier Chronicle	519.12
14355	Pembina County	54.12

A motion was made by Ted Juhl, seconded by William Gunderson by vote unanimously carried to approve the Final Report of the Request for Qualifications for Engineering Services.

The board reviewed the request from Morten Airspray in Larimore for providing spraying services. An appointment will be scheduled. Discussion on spraying this past fall – no spraying was done. A letter will be sent to Dakota Helicopter regarding the lack of spraying in Fall 2025 and ask for status update. Spray list for 2025 was acknowledged on July 11, 2025 but work was not completed.

The board reviewed the correspondence from Mark Deraney – AMKO regarding the bond payment agent fees and duties. Fees paid to US Bank for the 2018 and 2020 bonds have continued to go up the past few years. A motion was made by Randall Emanuelson, seconded by William Gunderson, by vote to direct the secretary to work with AMKO regarding options for changing the bond payment agent agreement with US Bank.

The board reviewed the dam maintenance soft bid from Kendall Construction – Kendall Gemmill also present. Discussion followed on inclusion of Willow Coulee (Hensel) dam in the bid. Discussion also was held on the tree/brush description. There are some larger trees On Willow Coulee Dam that may be done as a separate bid project in the future. A motion was made by William Gunderson, seconded by Randall Emanuelson, by vote unanimously carried to approve awarding the soft-bid to Kendall Construction for \$36,300 which includes maintenance/operation for all 11 dams as well as Option A for spraying at the 11 dams. There was only the one bid.

Attorney Fleming updated on several complaints. The board reviewed the memo prepared regarding the ND DWR drainage standard and removal of culverts. No action was taken at this time. Fleming also reviewed the process of Drain 5 Assessments – a memo will be provided in the future.

Zach Herrmann and Mike Ferrie – Houston Engineering arrived at this time.

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The board attended the Pembina County Commission meeting. Updates were given.

- Tongue River Dams and the need to investigate the condition of the slip-liners after the ND DWR inspections last fall. WRD plans to request cost-share from ND DWR and the RRJB for help with the project.
- Snagging and Clearing – a drone flight will be scheduled for late spring
- Manager Kemp discussed his appointment to the Red River Basin Commission. WRD has requested a Commission seat as well and put Commission Becker's name forward.

The board returned to its office and Attorney Fleming left at this time.

Updates were given by Houston Engineering:

- Drain 78 FEMA – there may be a possibility of requesting additional rip rap since the project as underbudget. Extra rip rap would allow connection of the outlet rip rap with the upstream rip rap to fully armor the channel. Estimate of about \$35,000. Ferrie will work with ND DES to determine eligibility of the additional rip rap.
- Drainage complaints – summary letter has been provided to Mr. Fleming regarding the Section 3 – Walhalla complaints, Johnson Farms vs Johnson Farms has been surveyed
- Drain 67-E – the costs of the possible reconstruction project were reviewed – 2024 cost was estimated at \$1.1 million with 2026 cost likely around \$1.5 million. Discussion held on options to fund the project and financial status of Drain 67. A motion was made by Randall Emanuelson, seconded by William Gunderson, by vote unanimously carried to place the Drain 67E project on hold and review in the future when drain finances allow.
- Drain 64 – the four proposed crossing updates were reviewed, total cost is expected to be around \$300,000 if poly coated pipe is used; discussion on financial assistance from Enbridge as they are requesting three crossings to be repaired, other crossing belongs to Minkota power. Meeting will be scheduled for March with Enbridge and Minkota. Discussion held on having one long run of pipe versus three separate crossings for Enbridge. Houston will visit with ND DOT regarding any length restrictions.
- Drain 4 – the sheet-pile proposal was reviewed; project currently is showing about 30% reduction in flow rate which will help with downstream erosion.
- Tongue River Dam Outlet Pipe Inspection and Feasibility – board reviewed the ND DWR and RRJB applications for assistance on the project; A motion was made by Randall Emanuelson, seconded by Ted Juhl, by vote unanimously carried to approve the Tongue River Dams - Dam Safety Compliance Feasibility Study ND DWR and RRJB Cost-share applications.
- Olga Dam – the low spot on the road is causing some erosion due to run-off; this will need to be repaired this summer
- Drain 67A culvert inventory – discussion was held on the expectations of the project and the prioritizing of repairs
- Herzog/Bourbanis Rehabilitation plan – Meeting with NRCS later this month

No meeting will be planned for February 3 due expected lack of quorum.

Attest:

LuAnn Kemp, Secretary

Donald Kemp, Chairman