

**Draft: These are DRAFT minutes subject to amendment before final approval by the
Dickey County Water Resource District.**

Dickey County Water Resource District
MEETING MINUTES
August 19, 2026

The Dickey County Water Resource District met at the courthouse in Ellendale at 8:00 am on Wednesday, August 19, 2026. Managers Steve Hansen, Keith Hauck, Don Zimbleman, Justin Gemar and John Quandt were all present at the meeting. Sean Fredricks, the board's attorney and Nathan Trosen, Moore Engineering Representative, joined via video conference.

Chairman Hansen called the meeting to order.

Public Comment Period

There were no comment cards submitted or any other requests for public comment.

Wilson Dam Erosion

Manager Hansen received a phone call from Dickey County Emergency Manager, Charlie Russel, that there was possible erosion at Wilson Dam. Mr. Hansen stated he traveled the dam recently and hadn't noticed any erosion. Mr. Hansen has not received any other inquiries pertaining to the matter as well.

Dickey County Drain #1 updates

Manager Gemar reported to the board that there continues to be beaver dam issues on the drain and Baker Trapping Services hired to manager the situation, is having a hard time controlling the beavers from damming areas. He will continue to do what he can to alleviate the issue. Mr. Gemar mentioned he has reached out to Dakota Improvement to clean out the dam. There is also very little water coming into or out of the drain. Mr. Gemar also mentioned that Hansen Ag Air, who was hired to spray the ditch, did a good job of controlling the weeds.

Manager Quandt made mention that the Oakes Pilot Drain has some beaver issues as well but with very little water coming into the drain, he will hold off on any maintenance as of now. He has reached out to trappers to try and control the situation.

Manager Quandt asked Manager Gemar if any more conversations with landowners in the assessment area of the Yorktown Maple Drain, to add a pumping site or extend the drain, have come up. Mr. Gemar said nothing new has transpired.

Other Business

Manager Hansen informed the board that County Commissioner Kasey Holm had contacted him regarding construction of the Applied Digital facility, and concerns regarding the dirt and

fill Applied Digital is installing. Applied Digital's property is within the City's municipal limits. Mr. Holm was inquiring about what entity would have jurisdiction over any potential water issue that might arise as a result of Applied's installation of fill on their facility site. Sean Fredricks, the board's attorney, informed the board that the city would have jurisdiction over activities within municipal boundaries, not the county or the Dickey County Water Resource District. The City previously annexed this property and the City's zoning authorities within city limits preempt the Dickey County Water Resource District's authorities over drainage or other activities within city limits. Fredricks will provide an outline of the jurisdictional issues for the Board.

Manager Hansen gave a brief legislative update of some new law changes that could be introduced in the next session. One bill under consideration would extend WRDs' borrowing capacity from 6 years to 10 years. Some legislators are also considering the possibility of raising the maximum annual maintenance levy for assessment projects to adjust with inflation; the maximum levy is currently at \$4 per acre and the last time that levy was raised by the Legislature was 2013. Another change could affect drain tile laws. Chairman Hansen will keep the Board apprised of possible water legislation under consideration.

Manager Quandt met with Grant Petersen and was approached by the County Commission to survey a county road that is being affected by water and what, if anything, can be done.

Meeting Minutes

Manager Gemar moved to approve the June 17, 2026 meeting minutes. Manager Zimbleman seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion passed unanimously.

Financial Statement and Bills

The board considered bills from Ohnstad Twichell of \$675.60, Baker Trapping Services of \$744.20, Hansen Ag Air LLC of \$1243.01(DC Drain #1) and Hansen Ag Air LLC of \$3749.62(Other areas sprayed-general)

Manager Hauck moved to approve the financial statement and bills. Manager Quandt seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

Steve Hansen, Chairman

Attest:

Judy Hansen, Secretary

