

**Minutes of Meeting  
Souris River Joint Water Resource Board  
Thursday, August 7, 2025**

A regular meeting of the board of directors of the Souris River Joint Water Resource District was called to order by Chairman David Ashley at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 7, 2025, after announcing that a quorum was present. The meeting was held in Room 203 of the Minot Auditorium. Joint Board members in attendance were Jason Sorenson, Tom Klein, Dan Steinberger and Clif Issendorf.

The Joint Board discussed the proposed Agenda for the meeting. Ryan Ackerman added the personal appearances protocol resulting from recent changes in state law under Item 2a. Second, Jessica Mowbray Reimbursement was added under the Approval of Bills section of the agenda as Item 5a. Finally, Item 17a (Discussion under Precise Transport-Tim and Jodi Smith) was added to Item 9 (Phase MI-8/9) as Item 9a, and Item 17a was struck from the agenda.

**Clif Issendorf made a motion to approve the adjusted agenda for the meeting. Dan Steinberger seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.**

The Joint Board next reviewed protocol for personal appearances, including (1) 5 minutes maximum per person; (2) 30 minutes total; (3) state your name and area of residence; (4) topic must be relevant to the business of the Souris River Joint Board; and (5) protocol may be amended by motion of the Souris River Joint Board.

**Tom Klein made a motion to approve the protocol for personal appearance. Dan Steinberger seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.**

The draft minutes of the July 11, 2025 special meeting of the Joint Board were discussed.

**Dan Steinberger made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 11, 2025 special meeting. Clif Issendorf seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.**

Ryan Ackerman presented the Balance Sheet and Budget Report and the Joint Board reviewed the Budget Report included in the August Board Packet. Ryan Ackerman explained the Budget Report.

**Dan Steinberger moved to approve the Budget Report. Tom Klein seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.**

The Joint Board reviewed and discussed various bills set forth in the August Board Packet totaling \$4,506,331.72. Chairman Ashley opened it up for questions from the Board on each bill being considered for approval and advised the Verizon bill has been approved unilaterally and paid.

**Clif Issendorf moved to approve the payment of bills totaling \$4,506,331.72. Dan Steinberger seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.**

Under Item 5a (Jessica Mowbray Reimbursement), Ryan Ackerman indicated that as part of the construction easement agreements associated with Phase MI-6, there was a provision to participate in the construction of surveillance cameras around The Foundry building in downtown Minot. Jessica Mowbray, an owner of that building, submitted an invoice for \$493.65 for security cameras.

**Dan Steinberger moved to approve payment of the payment of \$493.65. Tom Klein seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.**

Jerry Bents updated on Phase MI-4 (Maple Diversion). A Project Status Report from Houston Engineering is contained in the August Board Packet. Jerry Bents indicated the 65% submittal package is scheduled to go in next Thursday.

Jerry Bents updated on Phase MI-5. A Project Status Report from Houston Engineering is contained in the August Board Packet. Jerry Bents advised a request for substantial completion is expected to be received from the contractor this week. The deadline for substantial completion is August 15, 2025 and final completion is mid-October. An inspection and punch list will be completed after substantial completion.

Jerry Bents updated the Joint Board on Phase MI-6. A Project Status Report from Houston Engineering is contained in the August Board Packet. Jerry Bents showed a drone video to depict the progress on Phase MI-6.

Jerry Bents provided an update to the Joint Board on Phase MI-8/MI-9. A Project Status Report from Houston Engineering is contained in the August Board Packet. Jerry Bents advised a presentation was given to the Minot City Council in July and Jerry Bents walked the Joint Board through that presentation. Individual impacted property owner meetings were conducted in May of 2025. A public meeting was held on June 5, 2025. A SRJB presentation was given on July 11, 2025. A city council presentation is scheduled for tonight. Current estimated construction cost is \$52.8 million. The project schedule estimates 90/100% design by Fall 2025 and Winter 2025/26 and project construction is TBD (likely 2026 or later).

Tim Smith of Precise Transport presented to the Joint Board to express his disappointment with the recent alignment change. Tim leased the property in 2014 with the understanding there would be flood protection and bought it in 2018 with the understanding that there would be flood protection. But now he recently found out there will be no flood protection. He operates a large business with 54 full-time employees.

Jason Westbrook of Barr Engineering updated the Joint Board regarding Phase MI-7. A Project Status Report is contained in the August Board Packet. Jason Westbrook showed a drone flight from July 25, 2025 which gives a good indication of progress on this phase.

Jason Westbrook provided an update to the Joint Board regarding WC-1. The Project Status Report is contained in the August Board Packet. Jason Westbrook indicated there has been email communication with CPKC but no formal response has been received from comments.

On the PER update, Jason Westbrook indicated there has not been any movement and a discussion needs to take place on the path forward. A PER Update Memo is contained in the August Board Packet.

Ryan Ackerman provided the SRJB with a Rural Program Update. An Update Memo is contained in the August Board Packet. Ryan Ackerman advised authorization was sought for advertisement of bids for demolition and site restoration. The previously acquired property in Brook's Addition is ready to be demolished and the site restored. The advertisement for bids for demolition and site restoration are contained in the August Board Packet.

**Dan Steinberger moved to authorize the advertisement for bid and authorize the chairman to sign the resale agreement on behalf of the SRJB. Tom Klein seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.**

Luke Rogers of HDR Engineering provided an update regarding Rural Bridges. A Project Status Report is contained in the August Board Packet. On Velva, Luke Rogers directed the Joint Board to Page 164 in the Board Packet. The Joint Board considered VE-1 Change Order No. 1. Industrial Builders is proposing Change Order No. 1 for revisions made in response to USACE Section 408 permit comments. The primary change involved shifting levee alignment north and adjusting the profile to meet required elevation criteria, impacting earthwork, over excavation, sheet pile location, dry utility realignment, and cross sections. Dan Steinberger asked whether this is predictable. Kyle Rieth of Moore Engineering responded that the changes themselves resulted from comments from USACE on the 408 permit application.

**Dan Steinberger moved to approve Change Order No.1 in the amount of \$248,036.20 and authorize the Chairman to sign the change order on behalf of the SRJB. Tom Klein seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.**

On the Mouse River Park Bridge, the Joint Board next considered RC-1 award of bids, presented by Steve Eberle. A bid opening for the RC-1 Bridge was conducted on July 22, 2025. The project was bid as eight separate bid packages and as a single prime bid. Bid coverage for the eight separate bid packages did not obtain enough bids to combine the packages for a complete project bid. Two bids were received for the single prime bid package. Additional details are contained in the August Board Packet.

**Tom Klein moved to accept the low bid of Industrial Builders in the amount of \$5,969,693.30 and authorize the chairman to sign the agreements on behalf of the SRJB. Dan Steinberger seconded the motion. A roll call vote was cast. The motion passed without opposition.**

The Joint Board took note of future meetings and events as set forth in the August Board Packet. The next regular meeting of the Joint Board is September 4, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. in Minot, North Dakota.

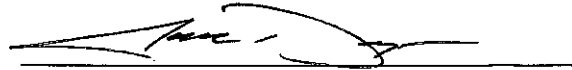
A Personal Appearance was made by Billi Gunderson of Minot, North Dakota. Billi Gunderson expressed that it has been addressed that safety is paramount but her experience is that production is paramount. Further, where Park Construction is a pedestrian path was completed in fall of 2024 but it was not opened until spring of 2025 and there was heavy traffic with construction throughout Minot parks and the pedestrian crosswalk was not open until the spring. This spring it was usable for a month before there were severe cracks that left it unsafe for persons in a wheelchair. On Burdick Expressway, where Wagner Construction is, the west sidewalk was blocked where heavy traffic and trucks enter and exit. Finally, the north trail of Souris River (7<sup>th</sup> Street) was not completed since 2023. Billi Gunderson referenced ADA requirements for equal access and enjoyment. The lack of signage, accessibility on sidewalks and various other issues do not create safety for persons in a wheelchair according to Billi Gunderson. Billi Gunderson agreed to follow up with an email and photographs to the SRJB to properly document her concerns.

In Other Business was Levee Maintenance - Ward County Water Resources Board. Dennis Reep with HDR Engineering discussed budgeting for 2026. Ryan Ackerman set some historical context dating back to the SRJB being created by a Joint Powers Agreement in August of 1984 to address flooding issues in Renville, Ward, McHenry and Bottineau Counties. The entity has been functioning for 41 years. Over time, several sub agreements have amended the agreements and Ryan Ackerman reviewed those with the Joint Board. Ryan Ackerman proposed SRJB retaining regular inspection responsibilities and maintain status quo

responsibilities until a new agreement is in place with the chairman appointing a committee to work on the details of a new agreement for operations and maintenance.

Finally in Other Business was North Prairie Rural Water – Velva Levee Concerns. Jack Dwyer of Dwyer Law Office, PLLC, updated the Joint Board on legal processes in place and discussions with Monte Rogneby, the attorney for North Prairie Rural Water.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Dwyer", is written over a horizontal line.

Jack Dwyer  
Legal Counsel