Minutes of Special Meeting
Souris River Joint Water Resource Board
Monday, November 2, 2026

A special meeting of the board of directors of the Souris River Joint Water Resource District was held at the Minot City Council Chambers on Monday, November 2, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. as part of a special meeting of the Minot City Council. The topic of the meeting was local financing strategy for the Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection Project. SRJB Chairman David Ashley, SRJB Director Jason Sorenson, and SRJB Administrator Ryan Ackerman were in attendance to present information to the city council.

Ryan Ackerman presented to the Minot City Council, starting with the bottom line. Ryan Ackerman advised that Minot area taxpayers are currently contributing 1.08% of sales tax to legacy water projects – NAWS and flood control. As NAWS completes construction, flood control can be constructed and financed without raising sales tax contributions beyond the 1.08% currently collected (i.e. no tax increases). The maximum sales tax collection required to exclusively fund flood control is 1.00%.

Ryan Ackerman indicated the requested city council actions for a follow up meeting are to: (1) adopt a project footprint of updated preliminary engineering report, and (2) consider amending the agreement between the City of Minot and the SRJB to reflect the proposed sales tax collection plan.

Ryan Ackerman offered a deeper dive into any of the topics discussed at the meeting and provided contact information for Ryan Ackerman, David Ashley, or Jason Sorenson.

Ryan Ackerman presented the following topics to the Minot City Council:

1. Previous actions including adoption of 2012 Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) and agreements between City of Minot and the Souris River Joint Board.
2. Comparison of the Preliminary Engineering Reports (2012 vs. 2026), including a summary of key changes.
3. The 14-year plan presented to legislature in 2025 at the request of legislators/executive branch.
4. Funding sources (federal, state and local).
5. Local financing strategy (sales tax projections, debt service pro forma and key assumptions).

City of Minot Finance Director David Lakefield talked about Northwest Area Water Supply (NAWS) and presented a spreadsheet prepared by Department of Water Resources staff five or six months ago to come up with an estimate of what is remaining to fund NAWS to completion. David Lakefield indicated that the spreadsheet contains a number of assumptions. The funding breakdown reflected future RTF funding needs totaling $96,000.000.

Minot City Council Alderman Rob Fuller asked Jason Sorenson when we are going to see NAWS water. Jason Sorenson indicated the plan had been to get water by mid-2026 and summarized events that caused delay. Jason Sorenson indicated the last schedule he saw now estimates water between August of 2027 and January of 2028.

Minot City Council Alderman Scott Samuelson indicated he feels the NAWS water timeline needs to be taken more seriously and he is tired of waiting for NAWS water. Alderman Samuelson questioned whether the intake is done. Jason Sorenson indicated that in June there was lake water flowing into the front end of the biota plant, so the pump station and everything inside the Snake Creek pump station is nearing substantial completion. The work going on now is related to the permanent intake, but a temporary intake

is in place right now. Jason Sorenson estimated next spring or summer as the completion date on the permanent intake.

Mayor Mark Jantzer concluded the meeting advising the meeting was informative and recommendations will likely follow at the November 16, 2026 meeting. There being no other business to discuss, the Minot City Council special meeting was adjourned.

Jack Dwyer
Legal Counsel