

Unapproved
Morton County Water Resource District
February 25, 2026

1. The Morton County Water Resource District met in regular session at 1pm on Tuesday, February 25, 2026, at the Missouri West Water offices at 2816 37t St. NW, Mandan, ND.
2. The following persons were present: Chairman Wade Bachmeier, Managers: James Wetsch, Todd Norton, Bruce Engelhardt, Jim, Schmidt, Brenda Winckler, Sec-Treas., Karen Garvie, MWWS, Bryan Ziegler, Katie Vasbinder, Bartlett & West, Cody Schnabel, MC Parks & Weed, Natalie Pierce, MC P&Z, Mike Gunsch, via go to meetings, Terry Trainer and Denise Cummings, Grid United Northern Plains Connector and Arlen Ruff, Kelsch Law Firm.
3. Chairman Bachmeier called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Minutes: Mgr. Engelhardt and Schmidt were seconded to approve January 28, 2026, minutes. MCU. Special Meeting Minutes from February 11, 2026, Mgr. Engelhardt moved and Mgr. Wetsch seconded the motion to approve. MCU.
5. MWWS: Mgr. Garvie reviewed the following items: Katie Vasbinder, Bartlett and West was present to discuss the new building and the change of numbers. The new opinion of probable cost for the building is \$2,742,400, \$346/square foot. SRF funding is a 2% loan which will be used for this project. Consensus of the Board is to have Bartlett & West find an estimate for a wood frame instead of steel frame and bring back to board. Mandan Master Meter. Seller of the land to MWWS for the master meter location wants to have a fence placed around it and the contractor wants to approve the fence. They also want us to review and approve the convenance. A steel vault building is taking an estimated 40 weeks for building so this project may not be completed in 2026. Next step is to hear back from the City of Mandan concerning the easements and how to tie in with them. Flasher tank project: Has a leak not on the seam but in the middle of the panel. This will be repaired but a new tank is in the discussion. Arlon Ruff prepared an Indemnification and Hold Harmless Agreement for MWWS and Schlosser Excavation. Mgr Wetsch moved to approve and allow chairman to sign the amended Indemnification and Hold Harmless Agreement between MWWS and Schlosser Excavation. Mgr. Norton seconded the amended motion. MCU. The Board reviewed the income, totaling \$183,847 and expenditures totaling \$162,882 of the MWWS for the month of January 2026. Mgr. Schmidt made a motion to accept and place these reports in file. Mgr. Norton seconded the motion. MCU.
6. Flasher Trail: Moore Engineering is building a pedestrian trail for the City of Flasher which is in the MCWRD jurisdiction. Consensus of the Board is to include MCWRD with the same info they sent to DWR. Currently there is no fill design, only removing 6 inches of topsoil and replacing with 6 inches of aggregate.
6. Morton County Parks: Cody Schnabel reported he received an application for a permit for buoys for idle speed permit at HL. Permit was submitted.
7. HL Beach sidewalk: There is a section of concrete that has failed. Suggested replacing with some pavers or a honeycomb design to fill with concrete. Will keep an eye on that this spring. Discussed

closing the trail when it starts thawing or putting a chain across the trail saying for safety reasons its closed until it dries up. Mgr. Engelhardt and Wetsch opened the drain about 2 inches.

8. Ron Schlosser has an 84-acre piece of land in the HL Inundation Flood Plain. Discussed if the Board should purchase the land or part of it to be justified by our constituents. This would allow O&M with the HL reservoir. Chairman Bachmeier will contact Schlosser.

9. BNSF Rail Trusses: Mike Gunsch looked at the analysis, and his concern was put in an obstruction. Culverts would slow the flow, but how does it impact flows downstream. Only concern Mike has is if they do the flood plain certificate, which should be formally stamped by an PA from ND. Downstream channel issues include widening and changing direction. He recommends a letter from the MCWRD stating this. The hydrology matches FEMA. Do we need a new PMP? When the trusses fail is it a concern for loss of life?

10. Colorado River: 7 states failed the negotiations deadline. It then turns into a federal decision. MRJWB is also in discussion with the Southern Missouri River States: The northern states of the Missouri River which includes ND, SD, Montana will meet with the Southern states on March 18th.

10. Grid United Northern Plains Connector Project: Terry Trainer, Denise Cummings presented an update on the developing HVDC line for North Plains Connector from Montana to Center and St. Anthony, connecting to a switch yard at St. Anthony hoping to start late 2027 for lines, roads, etc. We have an easement with Schwalbe Dam. Dam Safety requests a setback 100 feet from the spillway.

11. Willow Road project: The runoff does not disappear causing mosquitoes and getting worse every year. Will table until spring to discuss this. Culverts were also 70% iced up.
dis

Financial Reports: Discussion on the Annual payment to HL O&M savings account. Mgr. Schmidt moved to place a 10% increase from 2025 totaling \$33,000 into the DCB O&M Savings account. Mgr. Engelhardt seconded the motion. MCU. Mgr. Schmidt moved and Mgr. Engelhardt seconded the motion to approve and pay the following bills. MCU.

<u>CK#</u>	<u>NAME:</u>	<u>AMOUNT:</u>	<u>MEMO:</u>
1739	Brenda Winckler	\$1432.62	Salary, Microsoft 365 Subscription, 1099s filed
1740	Wade Bachmeier	\$436.35	Meetings
1741	Bruce Engelhardt	\$504.19	Meetings, mileage, convention Registration
1742	Todd Norton	\$208.60	Meetings, mileage
1743	James Schmidt	\$283.43	Meetings, mileage
1744	James Wetsch	\$244.42	Meetings, Dropbox subscription
EFT	IRS	\$505.20	Payroll taxes

There being no further business, motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Wade M. Bachmeier, Chairman

Brenda Winckler, Sec-Treas