

**BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 23, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by President Vavra at 1:00 p.m. Present in the District Office: Linda Vavra, Jason Beyer, Doug Dahlen, Steven Deal, John Kapphahn, and Steven Schmidt. Absent: Ben Brutlag, Scott Gillespie, and Allen Wold. Also present: Administrator Jamie Beyer, District Attorney Lukas Croaker, and District Engineer Technician Troy Fridgen.

AGRICULTURAL LEASES: RENEWAL OF REDPATH & MOONSHINE FOR 2026 CROP YEAR Administrator Jamie Beyer stated that she had been contacted on January 16, 2026, by Mr. Truman Raguse regarding renewal terms for the existing 2024 – 2026 Redpath and Moonshine agricultural leases. He stated that he would not like to renew two of the three Moonshine leases and two Redpath leases. Administrator Jamie Beyer invited Mr. Raguse to a special meeting of the Board on January 23, 2026, but Mr. Truman Raguse was unable to attend. Upon consultation with Attorney Lukas Croaker, Administrator Jamie Beyer stated that the leases require thirty (30) days' written notice prior to December 31, annually, of the intent not to renew the leases for an additional year. Attorney Lukas Croaker discussed the applicable lease terms and presented several options for Board consideration, including: (1) take no action and allow the leases to run for the final year upon the previously agreed to terms and conditions; (2) grant the request to terminate the respective leases and allow the tenant to rebid on the 2026 leases; or (3) terminate the respective leases and require the tenant to execute a waiver preventing the tenant, and his immediate family members, from participating in public bidding for the terminated leases for the 2026 crop year.

Board managers discussed Mr. Truman Raguse's willingness to provide strong agricultural bids for District leases in the past, and that he is up-to-date on rent payment obligations. Board Manager John Kapphahn stated that uncertainty with current crop prices, and the possibility of a new Farm Bill, may limit interest by bidders.

Upon motion by Beyer, seconded by Kapphahn and carried unanimously, the second option was approved, allowing the termination of the requested leases and to bid on the terminated leases in 2026.

AGRICULTURAL LEASES: 2026 LEASE TERM Upon motion by Schmidt, seconded by Vavra and carried unanimously, if Mr. Truman Raguse declines this offer, which was requested by him, the leases will be terminated and Mr. Raguse, and his immediate family members, will be required to execute a waiver preventing participation in public bidding for the terminated leases for the 2026 crop year. Attorney Lukas Croaker discussed common real estate transaction prohibitions in cases of terminated leases or default. Upon motion by Dahlen, seconded by Schmidt and carried unanimously, the waiver will prohibit Mr. Truman Raguse and immediate family members, consisting of his parents and/or siblings, from having bids considered for the terminated leases for the 2026 crop year.

Attorney Lukas Croaker provided a draft of the new North Ottawa Impoundment farmland leases. Board managers discussed potential lease term, termination, and renewal clauses. Upon motion by Schmidt, seconded by Beyer and carried unanimously, all leases bid in 2026 will have a one-year term.

The meeting was adjourned.