

**BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 3, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by President Vavra at 10:00 a.m. Present in the District Office: Linda Vavra, Doug Dahlen, Steven Deal, Scott Gillespie, John Kapphahn (arrived later), Steven Schmidt, and Allen Wold. Absent: Jason Beyer, Ben Brutlag. Also present: Administrator Jamie Beyer, Attorney Lukas Croaker, District Engineer James Guler, Engineer Chad Engels, and Engineer Technician Troy Fridgen.

**PERMIT APPLICATIONS**  
**#25-109**  
**ELDORADO TWP**  
**#26-070**  
**DOLLYMOUNT TWP**  
**#25-059**  
**ELDORADO TWP**

District Engineer James Guler stated that the purpose of the special meeting was to consider action on Permit Application #25-109, #26-070, and #26-059 as the proposed projects relate to Bois de Sioux Watershed District policies, Rules, and standard practices. District Engineer James Guler provided a summary of the conditions pre-permit, which included: flow paths of drainage, spring flood overtopping areas on 630<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 640<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and 140<sup>th</sup> Street; the location of a private levy between the SW1/4 and NW1/4 of Section 19, Eldorado Township that prevents flow from going north on the east side of 640<sup>th</sup> Avenue; the location of a private farmstead in the SE1/4 of Section 19 that is occasionally threatened by floodwaters; and the location of a DNR designated public watercourse in the SE1/4 of Section 24, Dollymount Township.

Board Manager John Kapphahn arrived at the meeting.

The project area is unique in that spring flows can split three ways – west, south, and north – and that road elevations have significant influence on flood damage outcomes in this area during larger snowmelt events.

Engineering staff presented maps of the related project areas described in the three permits, identifying North-South 640<sup>th</sup> and 630<sup>th</sup> Avenues and East-West 140<sup>th</sup> Street, and the general locations of proposed and after-the-fact permit features. Overall, engineering recommendations were intended to replicate pre-road raise water flow directions – to preserve base flows to the DNR public water in Section 24 of Dollymount Township, discourage rerouting of flows south of 140<sup>th</sup> more directly into Twelvemile Creek, and to mitigate increased flood damage risk to the farmstead in Section 19. Existing and proposed elevations of project features and the project areas were discussed. Culvert installations proposed were compared against the District's BTSAC Culvert Sizing standards under scenarios that included the ability, and inability, to right-size/enlarge the downstream 36" culvert located at the outlet to the DNR designated public waters in Section 24.

For discussion on the permits, the features of each permit were broken down as follows:

**#25-109 ATF (After-the-Fact), Eldorado Township Road Raise and Ditch Work**

- Feature 1: North Ditch – ditching along the western edge of SW1/4 of Section 19 and the southern edge of Sections 19 & 20 north of 140<sup>th</sup> Street in Eldorado Township; material was used to create a berm in the field adjacent to the ditch.
- Feature 2: South Ditch – ditching along the western edge of NW1/4 of Section 30 and the northern edge of Sections 30 & 29 south of 140<sup>th</sup> Street in Eldorado Township; material was used to create a berm in the field adjacent to the ditch.
- Feature 3: 140<sup>th</sup> Street; up to a 3' Road Raise – between Sections 19/30 and 20/29 in Eldorado Township.

**#26-070, Dollymount Township Road Raise**

Proposed road raise of 640<sup>th</sup> Avenue, between Section 24, Dollymount Township and Section 19, Eldorado Township

**#26-059, Eldorado Township Culverts (referenced in March 2026 Wulff Tiling Plan)**

- Feature 1: 140<sup>th</sup> Street 18" Centerline Culverts and Field Approaches
- Feature 2: 630<sup>th</sup> Avenue Culverts (30" CSP North of 140<sup>th</sup> Street & 42" CSP South of 140<sup>th</sup> Street)

Feature 3: 48" centerline culvert at NW Corner of Section 30 under 140<sup>th</sup> Street

Next, District Engineer James Guler presented engineering recommendations and possible conditions for each of the Permit Applications and respective Permit Application Features.

The meeting was recessed for a 10-minute break.

The meeting was reconvened. Board managers discussed the permit applications, and identified areas in which decisions within each permit application could contradict conditions in other permit applications. Board managers also discussed what project area features were unlikely to change – for example, the elevation of the farmstead and/or possible ring dike protection in Section 19 becomes a limiting factor for downstream road raises.

**#26-070  
DOLLYMOUNT TWP  
ROAD RAISE**

Wold motioned, seconded by Kapphahn to approve Permit Application #26-070 with the following conditions:

- The existing 36" culvert under 640<sup>th</sup> Avenue must be replaced with a larger culvert or combination of culverts that meet BTSAC sizing.
- Installation of flood protection measures around the farmstead in the SE1/4 of Section 19, Eldorado Township, as needed.
- Alterations to private levee in Section 19 to prevent increasing flow to the North, as needed.
- Installation of ditch block adjacent to 640<sup>th</sup> Avenue to prevent increasing flow South of 140<sup>th</sup> Street, as needed.
- The project plans to be submitted by Dollymount Township included; proposed road elevation, culvert replacement, and other features required in the conditions.

Kapphahn – yes; Schmidt – yes; Dahlen – yes; Vavra – no; Wold – yes; Deal – yes; Gillespie – yes. Motion carried.

**#25-109  
ELDORADO TWP  
ROAD RAISE &  
DITCHES**

Gillespie motioned, seconded by Dahlen, to approve Permit Application #25-109 ATF with the following conditions:

Feature 1: North Ditch - approved with following conditions:

Stabilize banks, addressing erosion and establishing vegetation.

- Lower berm, or sections of berm, to 6" below the shoulder of the road to provide breakouts into field in Section 19 before 640<sup>th</sup> Ave overtops.
- Permit requires signature/approval from landowner(s) along the length of the North Ditch.

Feature 2: South Ditch - approved with the following conditions:

- A ditch block to be installed downstream of the most downstream culvert in the NW1/4 of Section 30 (north or west edge) to direct the baseflow North toward Section 19, Eldorado Township, at a top elevation of 1061'.
- Stabilize banks, addressing erosion and establishing vegetation.
- Permit requires signature/approval from landowner(s) along length of South Ditch.

Feature 3: The Road Embankment - approved with the following conditions:

- An area (+/- 100' in length) of the 140<sup>th</sup> Street road raise to be lowered to match the estimated elevation (1062.6') where the water would overtop the ridge in Section 30 before the road raise was constructed. This is to ensure spring flood flows are directed towards Twelvemile Creek similar to the pre-construction condition. (this would result in a 100' of road length being lowered by approximately 1.6' but is still 1.5' above the original road elevation);
- OR an agreement/statement from the farmstead owner(s) in Section 19, Eldorado Township, that states they understand the existing risk of flooding during large events and, due to the road raise of 140<sup>th</sup> Street, this risk may have increased and that preventative measures to protect buildings and property may be required.
- Permit must include signature from landowner in the SW1/4 and SE1/4 of Section 19 and the SW1/4 and SE1/4 of Section 20.

Kapphahn – yes; Schmidt – yes; Dahlen – yes; Vavra – yes; Wold – yes; Deal – yes; Gillespie – yes. Motion carried.

**#26-059  
ELDORADO TWP  
CULVERTS**

Gillespie motioned, seconded by Kapphahn, to approve Permit Application #26-059 with the following conditions:

Feature 1: 140<sup>th</sup> Street 18" Centerline Culverts and Field Approaches – approved as submitted.

Feature 2: 630<sup>th</sup> Avenue Culverts (30" CSP north of 140<sup>th</sup> Street & 42" CSP south of 140<sup>th</sup> Street) - approved with the following conditions:

- 630<sup>th</sup> Avenue culverts to not exceed BTSAC sizing requirements.

| Culvert Location | Applicant Proposed | BTSAC Option Approved |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Near Farmstead   | Ex. 48" RCP        | 36" CSP               |
| North Ditch      | 30" CSP            | 30" CSP               |
| South Ditch      | 42" CSP            | 36" CSP               |
- 640<sup>th</sup> Avenue 36" RCP culvert capacity to be increased to match BTSAC requirements.

Feature 3: 48" centerline culvert at NW Corner of Section 30 under 140<sup>th</sup> Street - approved with the following conditions:

- Proposed 48" centerline culvert at NW corner of Section 30 to not exceed a 36". Goal is to allow for the passage of the base flow from Section 30 to Section 19.
- Requires ditch block described in conditions of Permit #25-109 ATF to be located immediately downstream in south ditch. Ditch block elevation at 1061'.

Kapphahn – yes; Schmidt – yes; Dahlen – yes; Vavra – yes; Wold – yes; Deal – yes; Gillespie – yes.  
Motion carried.

Upon motion by Kapphahn, seconded by Wold and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned.