

Cavalier County Water Resource Board

***901 Third Street, Suite 8
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September 24th, 2026

Cavalier County Water Resource Board held a regular session meeting on October 8th, 2026 in the Commission Meeting Room in the County Courthouse. Chairman Brian Hardy called the meeting to order at 8:27 AM. Shauna Schneider, Bruce Roder, Ordale Morstad, Craig Borgen & Secretary Karen Kempert present. Also in attendance were Dan Fischer, Derek Roppel, Mike Roppel, Terry Ropel, Matt VanThuyne, Bob Blake, Stanley Dick, and Nick Moser.

Shauna Schneider made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Nathan Howatt in regards to recreation area and the tree trimming/removal. Second by Ordale Morstad – Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Shauna Schneider and 2nd by Craig Borgen to approve September 24th, 2026 minutes. Motion approved unanimously.

Old Business – There is no movement on getting the designation of Mt Carmel Dam from Medium Hazard to Low Hazard.

No movement on Dresden 2 drain. Dan is to meet with Houston Engineering later today.

New business:

Derek Roppel presented copies of his presentation to Brian Hardy, Chairman & Matt VanThuyne of his presentation along with complaint 1, against US Fish & Wildlife; Obstruction by plugs-plugs lowered to natural channel height. Complaint 2, regarding Bob Cote land and the removal of a plug in 2023 but no ability to clean out the debris that is still causing flooding issues. Derek asked that the meeting be recorded. He began recording. Explaining his complaint regarding 160-62 sections 11 & 2 & Section 24 on 160 62, sec 35 and 159 62 section 2, and the issues that they have had with water causing loss of crops or the inability to even get to their land. He feels that the problem is with dikes 1 among others, and that sediment needs to be cleaned out or other mitigation measures that would alleviate the flooding of his and other family agricultural land. The flooding has been a multi-year problem. Full recording is available in the Water Resources Board Office.

Derek also presented an open records request and questions this document is attached to these minutes.

Part of his request was for 1992 field books and Sheet 1&2 along with a 97 petition. Any documents mentioning Project 1272 from year 1999.

Following discussion and Q&A Derek, Mike and Terry left the meeting at 10:13.

Discussion on easement options, what programs are available not necessarily just in regard to Roppel complaints, also tiling setbacks, and Safe Harbour.

Starkweather CD is due soon. It is a Joint Water Board CD. **Shauna Schneider made a motion to approve renewal of the CD at the best going rate. Second by Ordale Morstad. Motion passed unanimously.**

DL Basin assessment was discussed and a **motion was made by Craig Borgen and second by Bruce Roder to leave the assessment at .07 per acre as it was last year. Motion passed unanimously.**

Nathan Howatt has requested to move a larger than allowed trailer into a part of the recreation area where 42' is the largest. Since the rules are a bit ambiguous it will have to be checked if a larger trailer will fit.

Shauna Schneider gave a report from Taylor Benneweis regarding the Rec Area. Water is to be shut off on Sunday and docks out of the water. Closing the gates October 4th. Taylor reported to Karen that while Norm Economy was doing trees there have been damages to a shed and its contents. Norm Economy will talk to owners and get the information that he needs to make an insurance claim.

Shauna Schneider made a motion to approve the vouchers. Second by Ordale Mostad. Motion passed unanimously.

Mark Schneider had entered the meeting at approximately 9:10 AM and left, returning later to ask about progress on Dresden 1 since the residents had been contacting him. Craig Borgen gave him an update.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 AM by Shauna Schneider, 2nd by Craig Borgen. Motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting is October 22nd at 8:30.

Action items: Contact Mikkelsen Brothers (Karen), Invoices to RCWRD for Starkweather Coulee repairs in Banner Township.

Vouchers 09/24/2026	
REA	1396.95
Karen Kempert	1585.54
Taylor Benneweis	2282.78
Basys	39.00
Austin Roberts	705.94
Taxes Intuit	1378.39
Banner Twp.	3443.50
Transys	105.88
NE Water	1230.25

Action Items

Open Records request investigation for documents with Dan Fischer.

Work with ND State Water Commission to determine Waterway vs Watercourse.

Send Derek Roppel flash drive for recording.

Check on Cypress (Sillers widening issue).