



SWANN

Board of Directors Meeting

MAR 19, 2026

Chairman J.W. Geiser called the March 19th, 2026 Board of Director's meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. at the SWANN Administrative Conference Room, 1122 E. Niobrara Ave., Chadron, NE. Mr. Stewart took a few minutes to acknowledge staff members who attended the inaugural meeting of the new SWANN conference room for BOD meetings. Members were present for roll call: Chadron, Proxy George Klein; Clinton, Roy Retzlaff; Crawford, Chris Dean; Dawes Co., Vic Rivera; Gordon, Doug Woodbeck; Harrison, proxy Jesse Vance; Hay Springs, Chuck Toof; Hemingford, Richard Wacker; Rushville, Barbara Stava; Sioux County, J.W. Geiser and Whitney, Fred Raben. Quorum was reached with members present. Members absent: Sheridan Co. Dan Kling. Open Meetings Act posted in the rear of the room was pointed out the. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Geiser presented the March 19th, 2026 agenda. Exec. Dir. Stewart identified Agenda was ready to go as presented, Member Woodbeck from Gordon. moved to approve the agenda as presented. Member Wacker from Hemingford seconded the motion. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Public Hearing on Pending Assessments on Delinquent Account

Chairman Geiser opened the floor to those residents of the Agency who had received notices of delinquent accounts who wanted to contest the charges; no public persons were present to contest the account charges. Director Stewart read the official assessment proceedings process information prior to discussion. An updated report of delinquent accounts was distributed to all members present. Director Stewart informed the Board that each delinquent person was provided with an initial letter stating the account was in arrears. Any accounts that were still delinquent received a notice of Hearing Letter. It was noted that the Assessment report provided for review was broke out by area this year, and Board members were asked to review delinquent listings for accuracy, and other situations that need reviewing. Ex. Director Stewart read the resolutions for all counties connected with these processes. Public Hearing was closed, with Chairman Geiser continuing with BOD Meeting Agenda items.

Assessment Resolution 2026-04 – Dawes County

Director Stewart noted that this resolution and assessment listing is for the purpose of certifying the delinquent accounts to the County Treasurer of Dawes County to be assessed against the premises served, and that the same should be collected and returned in the same manner as other taxes are certified, assessed, collected and returned. Chairman Geiser entertained motion of approval of resolution, Member Retzlaff of Clinton moved to approve the assessment list. Member Woodbeck of Gordon seconded. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Assessment Resolution 2026-05 – Sheridan County

Director Stewart noted that this resolution and assessment listing is for the purpose of certifying the delinquent accounts to the County Treasurer of Sheridan County to be assessed against the premises served, and that the same should be collected and returned in the same manner as other taxes are certified, assessed, collected and returned. Chairman Geiser entertained motion of approval of resolution, Proxy Member Klein of Chadron moved to approve the assessment list. Member Dean of Crawford seconded. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Assessment Resolution 2026-06 – Sioux County

Director Stewart noted that this resolution and assessment listing is for the purpose of certifying the delinquent accounts to the County Treasurer of Sioux County to be assessed against the premises served, and that the same should be collected and returned in the same manner as other taxes are certified, assessed, collected and returned. Chairman Geiser entertained motion of approval of resolution, Member Dean of Crawford moved to approve the assessment list. Member Wacker of Hemingford seconded the motion. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Approval of January 15th, 2026 Minutes

Mr. Geiser presented the January 15th, 2026 BOD meeting minutes. With no additions or corrections to the minutes as presented, Member Retzlaff of Clinton moved to approve the minutes. Member Stava of Rushville seconded the motion. Quorum was reached with voting members present. Abstention was made by Chadron proxy representative. Motion carried.

Approval of Claims/Budgets EOM January & February 2026 Results

With this meeting covering 2 months of claims/budget, Executive Director, Jake Stewart reviewed the claims/budget for both EOM results with the Board. At the end of the EOM Jan. 2026, the Agency's revenue closed slightly ahead of budget projections at 70% with Agency budget completion at 67% for the fiscal year. Expenses closed at 77%, just over expected monthly projections for the 25-26 fiscal year. Stewart pointed out areas of review on the budget sheets e.g. expenses – Fuels, New Tires, Motorized Equip & Repair. Ending the month of January with positive cash for the month as well as year-to-date. For the EOM February 2026, the Agency's revenue was at 79% of projections for the 25-26 fiscal year. Expenses finished at 88%, ahead of expected projections for the fiscal budget, with 75% of projected completion of the fiscal year. Stewart discussed areas on the budget sheets e.g. expenses – engineering, motorized Equip & Repair. Topics were reviewed by Exec. Director and Board members as questions arose. For each respective EOM, Stewart discussed the money markets/reserve accounts showing the deposits in the bonding, disposal and collection equipment accounts. Stewart reviewed the paid bills and tonnage report for each month. With no additional questions and comments, Member Woodbeck of Gordon moved to approve the January and February 2026 EOM respective Claims and Budgets. Harrison proxy member Vance seconded the motion. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Health Benefits Update / New Costs w Dental Provider Review

Board Chairman JW Geiser introduced agenda item, health benefits; Ex. Director Stewart explained to the SWANN Board of Directors; by identifying how competitive bid process was completed with health care organizations, and then subsequent rate discussions Amber Anderson of Olson group worked with companies to get the best rates possible for the Agency based on benefits with the lowest possible deductibles for employees enrolling. UHC provided rate relief to retain the plan with SWANN and provided 7.3%+/- increase for the plan. Mr. Stewart discussed Dental and Vision benefits, vision provider Ameritas/VSP will be retained with no changes in policy/expense. Dental providers were researched and presented to the BOD, for review and discussion. It was noted that dental providers in the area were not accepting Delta dental insurance, causing staff to seek out-of-area providers at significant distance, in turn causing staff to take days away from work for care. Following research, Aflac Dental was found to be the best alternative option for dental insurance provider. With minimal increase in cost to the employee and with all dental providers being considered in-network, these options were provided for review and discussion. BOD reviewed and discussed dental insurance situation with member Vance of Harrison making the motion to switch Dental provider to Aflac Dental. Member Wacker of Hemingford seconded the motion. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Chairman Geiser opened the floor to members of the public who attended. With no comments, the open session was closed, with continuance of BOD Meeting Agenda items.

Director's Report

Exec. Dir. Stewart began the report with conversation regarding the following topics.

Ready to Serve: Exec. Dir., Jake Stewart provided details related to the "snowbird" program and how that was causing additional work and actions needed by city/village utilities staff, inconsistency of use across the service area and loss of revenues to the Agency. Stewart discussed how a "Ready-To-Serve" policy and procedure should be recognized and put into action with the new budget year rates beginning in July of 2026. BOD members provided input into the general discussion revolving around Ready-To-Serve meaning that customer dumpsters were ready for use at any moment it was needed. Stewart also identifies that infrastructure such as dumpsters, collection trucks, mechanized equipment, supplies, labor, administrative and more would benefit by moving to this process. BOD Member Woodbeck from Gordon entertained the motion of moving to Ready-To-Serve in SWANN service area, with proxy Member Vance of Harrison seconded the motion. Following additional discussion, roll call was taken with all members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Budget - Budget 1st Draft handout: Exec. Dir. Stewart noted how he has been supplying budget report materials to the members for their review. Stewart encouraged the BOD to review, highlight, notate and ask questions as any time as to how the budget is developed and what areas need further review. Rate analysis information was provided for review and consideration. Discussion ensued; with no action taken other than to encourage members to provide feedback and information toward development of the FY 26—27 -year budget and customer rates. Stewart discussed how the budget would be reviewed for the next couple of meetings. Stewart noted that he was traveling to city/village clerk offices to review 1:1 with clerks' processes for rates. No action was taken, beyond discussion of details and procedures.

MOU to Land Lease: Exec. Dir. Stewart that discussed how SWANN is working with the City of Chadron Manager, Tom Menke to establish an amicable plan to work/complete the City Impound Lot following the new construction of North Transfer Station. MOU would be developed to finalize the processes need to complete the lot which is satisfactory to both entities. Discussion focused on the safety and security of the lot itself, limiting access to impounded vehicles. No action taken, continued on with agenda.

Executive Session

With there being no need, the Board of Directors did not find it necessary to enter into executive session for the present meeting.

Board of Directors Comments

With no other Agency business; BOD Comments were asked for; Director Stewart presented questions from Scottsbluff regarding landfill costs and availability. No action was taken, other than to make BOD members aware of the topic. Community site chaos photos were presented to the members, with request that members please continue education and to visit with respective community members about appropriate disposal. Announcement made of Refreshment/reception available for BOD and Public. Next Meetings will be April 16, 2026 and May 21, 2026 to finalize budget proceedings.

Adjourn

There being no further business before the Board at 8:25 p.m., Chairman Geiser declared the meeting adjourned.


Secretary/Treasurer


Chairman