

PPB Radio Issues-Programs List for January-March, 2023

Energy

Prairie Public Broadcasting | By [Dave Thompson](#)

Published March 28, 2023 at 11:52 AM CDT; 1:20

A federal judge in Bismarck has ordered the federal Bureau of Land Management to resume quarterly oil and gas lease sales in North Dakota.

Judge Daniel Traynor ruled those sales had been illegally cancelled by the BLM.

The dispute began in 2021, when President Biden issued an executive order pausing the sales, which were required by the Mineral Leasing Act.

In his ruling, Traynor said BLM needs to comply with federal law, and do what Congress told BLM to do.

Flooding; Emergency Preparation

Prairie Public Broadcasting | By [Danielle Webster](#)

Published March 23, 2023 at 3:10 PM CDT; 1:15

Spring flood outlook; likelihood of moderate to major flooding increases in Red River basin

Several points along the mainstem Red River have been elevated to a 50 percent or greater probability of major flooding.

The latest spring flood outlook for the Red River and Devils Lake Basins shows yet another increase in probability for moderate to major flooding in the region.

Amanda Lee is service hydrologist with the National Weather Service in Grand Forks.

"Most places are seeing chances above long-term historical averages for the basin; not everywhere, especially parts of the upper Sheyenne and Minnesota tribs, and far northeastern North Dakota. The biggest areas of concern right now look to be the mainstem, and the southeast North Dakota tributaries."

Politics; Abortion

Prairie Public Broadcasting | By [Dave Thompson](#)

Published March 16, 2023 at 2:58 PM CDT; 1:29

The North Dakota Supreme Court has decided not to remove a preliminary injunction against the state's abortion law.

The state's laws on restricting abortion services had a "trigger" mechanism, so they would take effect when "Roe V. Wade" was overturned. But the state's lone abortion clinic filed a lawsuit saying the state's Constitution provides a "fundamental right" to an abortion. The clinic asked a district court for a preliminary injunction – and that was granted.

Labor; Government

Prairie Public Broadcasting | By [Dave Thompson](#)
Published February 21, 2023 at 2:27 PM CST; :59

The state Senate has passed a measure to keep the “defined benefit” plan for new state employees – but giving the new hires a chance to choose a “defined contribution” plan.

The current plan has a \$1.9 billion liability, and is about 65 percent funded.

The House is considering a measure to close the defined benefit plan to new state employees hired after Jan. first, 2025.

Ethics and Government

Prairie Public Broadcasting | By [Dave Thompson](#)
Published November 27, 2022 at 3:09 PM CST; 1:07

In the wake of the deletion of e-mails from former Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, ordered by his former deputy, current Attorney General Drew Wrigley said he’s putting the finishing touches on an e-mail retention policy for his office.

Wrigley said there are state government provisions in place for record retention. But he said they're more "guidance" for record preservation, and individual agencies can have their own policies.

Wrigley said it is perfectly permissible to delete some, if not a majority, of e-mails.

"Everyone is sensitive to the fact that you can't pay to store every e-mail," Wrigley said. "About 95 percent of e-mail is not very important, anyway."

But Wrigley said e-mails with substantive work, or something you feel should be kept, should be retained.

NPR pieces aired between 6 and 8 am.

Agriculture and Environment

NPR; 02/27/2023 0:03:42 Losses from U.S. weather and climate disaster events are getting more costly.

Agriculture; Health

NPR; 02/06/2023 0:05:36 Your Health: Eggs prices drop, but the threat from avian flu isn't over yet

Business, Economics and Finance

NPR; 02/07/2023 0:03:45 A preview of the economic backdrop for this year's State of the Union address

Aging and Retirement

NPR; 01/30/2023 0:06:30 An older person's money management errors may be a sign of some sort of dementia

Agriculture and Environment

NPR; 01/18/2023 0:06:42 Seeds developed over thousands of years may help farmers adapt to climate change