

**LOWER NIOBRARA NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 3, 2020**

Chairman Baumeister called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. in the Lower Niobrara NRD Office located in Butte, Nebraska. He called attention to the Open Meeting Law poster on the wall in the meeting room and stated notices of the meeting were published in newspapers of general circulation throughout the District.

**APPROVAL OF JANUARY 6, 2020 MEETING MINUTES**

Motion by Pavlik and second by Uhlir to approve the January 6, 2020 meeting minutes as circulated to Directors. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Hoffman, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt, Baumeister, Connell) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Holtgrew, Liewer) Abstain: (Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Julesgard's report was mailed for Directors to review. He passed information to Directors he gathered at the GMDA Conference and expressed it was an excellent Conference. He also passed to Directors notes he'd taken at the Nitrogen Strategy Meeting in Lincoln. The Directors were questioned if they would like to receive a copy of Dean Edson's Weekly Legislative Report. Directors in the Holt County area were informed of the Local Work Group Meeting to be held in the UENRD Office this Thursday at 10:00 A.M. (Engelhaupt entered at 1:07 P.M.)

**WATER RESOURCES COORDINATOR REPORT**

Wade's report was mailed prior to the meeting. He mentioned Adamson had called and wished to thank the Board for his acre approval. Wade reported Flow Meter and Phase II reminders have been sent. 1073 Phase II Reports have been received as of this morning. In the future wording in the Plan may need to be changed in order to see who is complying with regulations. He discussed the bid situation for drilling of wells – none received. Currently discussing with Grosch and Downey (Downey preferred by Sue Lackey). Wade mentioned attendance at the Conference and he also attended the Manager's Meeting and the NRBA Meeting.

**PROGRAMS ASSISTANT**

Connie's report was also mailed prior to the meeting. Connie also attended the Conference and mentioned the sessions she attended. Volunteers are needed for the Envirothon. She also attended the NARD I & E Committee Meeting held in conjunction with the Conference. She called attention to the 3 banners purchased by the District through the I & E Committee. New NRD Brochures are being developed along with Videos & PSA's that can be used by all NRDs. During 2019 there were a lot of new faces at the I & E Committee Meetings. The next meeting will be at the Upper Big Blue NRD. She mentioned presenters at the I & E Committee Meeting. The Land Judging Contest will be changed to individuals rather than teams as they previously were. There is a push for tree sales. She will try to set up some Arbor Day plantings in the LNNRD.

**ASSOCIATION REPORT**

Manager Julesgard indicated he was unable to attend the meetings on Monday and half of Tuesday due to the funeral of his uncle. He gave information to the Board from the Who'll Stop the Rain Session. The forecast is to be flooding much the same as last year only maybe a little later. Engelhaupt discussed LB 1072 dealing with Bonds for the NRDs. He also reported on the signing of the Agreement between the NRCS and NRDs. He reported on the Monday morning session and status of the bills. NRD Bonding was discussed.

**AGENCY REPORTS**

NRCS—Jim's report was included in the Directors Packets on the table. Jim explained the Grassland Conservation Initiative (GCI). No EQIP cut-off date has been set, but it's expected to be in March. He explained the new EQIP Ranking Process through the CART Program. The Local EQIP Workgroup Meeting is scheduled for March 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 A.M. here in the NRD Office.

Niobrara Council—A copy of the minutes was in the Directors Packets. Connell mentioned the Keya Paha County Landowner name was submitted for appointment, but no response has been received. The Council will retain the same CPA through June 2022. Prescribed Burn Applications were approved. Manager Julesgard mentioned the Hearing on LB855 was held with one person testifying against. This bill would eliminate legislative approval of certain Council Members.

NE RC&D—Pavlik reported future meetings will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday not the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday. The Job

Description for the Director is being reviewed and it is unsure if there will be funding available to hire a new Director. Inventory of office supplies and equipment is being conducted as some things may not have gotten to the new location. The members are working on projects and grants to raise funding. The next meeting will be February 25<sup>th</sup> at Winside. Pavlik reported there was a lot of discussion on how to continue moving forward for the NE RC&D at that meeting. A copy of the minutes was included in the Directors packets.

NC RC&D—Connell mentioned the paper shredding schedule along Highway 12. A copy of the locations was in the Directors Packets. Also being considered is electronics collection. The new Bylaws were approved. Election of Officers was held with the same officers being re-elected. The next meeting will be February 12 at Bassett. A copy of the minutes was included in the Directors Packets.

Friends of the Missouri—Manager Julesgard reported no meeting has been held

Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition—Manager Julesgard reported no meeting has been held.

### **APPROVE WEST KNOX RURAL WATER SYSTEM JANUARY 30, 2020 MEETING MINUTES**

A copy of the minutes was in the Directors Packets. Manager Julesgard reported on highlights from the meeting including: nitrate results from the wells; working with Bartlett & West and Micro Comm to be sure nitrate levels are kept at the acceptable levels; development of the Well Head Protection Program is proceeding; new computer is being purchased; tank inspection is being coordinated along with the Village of Verdigre tank inspection; checking into purchase of a generator from the US Forestry Service through the local Fire Department. Motion by Uhlir and second by Pavlik to approve the WKRWS January 30, 2020 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Hoffman, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Marcellus, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt, Baumeister, Connell, Engelhaupt) Absent: (Higgins, Holtgrew, Liewer). MOTION CARRIED.

### **NSWCP ACTIVITIES**

A copy of the NSWCP Report was available. Motion by Pavlik and second by Engelhaupt to approve the Applications for: James Liewer-trees, mulch-\$,1702.16 and Dewey Peterson-trees, mulch-\$832.00, also approve the Extension for Michael Beelaert and approve the Extension & Additional Funding for Robert Fuelberth-additional \$467.04 (total application \$5,000.00). Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Hoffman, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Marcellus, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt, Baumeister, Connell, Engelhaupt) Absent: (Higgins, Holtgrew, Liewer). MOTION CARRIED.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Hoffman and Klawitter reviewed the expenditures prior to the meeting. Vivian explained the information on the pink sheet attached to the Treasurer's Report. The explanation indicated the process needed for Directors to approve their expense vouchers after visiting with the presenter after the Accountability & Disclosure Session during the Conference. Vivian also mentioned the checks that need to be added to the Treasurer's Report to cover bills received after the Treasurer's Report was printed. Considerable discussion was held with the question if our By Laws could allow approval and approving mileage once every 6 months. Motion by Uhlir and second by Engelhaupt to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented excluding approval of all Directors Expense Vouchers, but to approve the addition of \$36.76 to the Springview Herald for Phase II Ads to the Water Quality Report; \$2.75 to the Holt Co. Independent & \$10.50 to the Butte Gazette along with \$6.28 to the Springview Herald for meeting notices to the NRD Report and add \$39.20 to the Springview Herald for NACD Technician Help Wanted Ad to the NACD Report. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Hoffman, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Marcellus, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt, Baumeister, Engelhaupt) Nay: (Connell) Absent: (Higgins, Holtgrew, Liewer). MOTION CARRIED. A copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached to the official copy of the minutes.

Motion by Naprstek and second by Kaczor to approve payment of the expense vouchers for Baumeister, Hoffman and Holtgrew as listed on the Treasurer's Report. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Marcellus, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Abstain: (Baumeister, Engelhaupt, Hoffman) Nay: (Connell) Absent: (Higgins, Holtgrew, Liewer). MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Naprstek and second by Uhlir to approve payment of the expense vouchers for Janzing, Kaczor and Klawitter as listed on the Treasurer's Report. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Hoffman, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt, Baumeister, Engelhaupt) Abstain: (Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Marcellus, Morrow) Nay: (Connell) Absent: (Higgins, Holtgrew, Liewer). MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Klawitter and second by Engelhaupt to approve payment of the expense vouchers for Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir and Wendt as listed on the Treasurer's Report. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Hoffman, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Marcellus, Morrow, Baumeister, Engelhaupt) Abstain: (Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Nay: (Connell) Absent: (Higgins, Holtgrew, Liewer). MOTION CARRIED.

#### **SPENCER HYDRO FACILITY**

Manager Julesgard informed the Board that DNR Director Fassett will be retiring the end of February. Jesse Bradley has been appointed Interim Director. Plans are to proceed with filing the application. The Interim Director cannot sign, but the possibility has been discussed of taking the application to the Governor and he could direct the Interim Director to sign.

#### **OPEN COMMENTS**

Manager Julesgard mentioned he had been contacted by a Keya Paha County Commissioner regarding a bridge that was taken out and replaced with culverts. The Commissioner has contacted the engineering firm of HDR for assistance. There is so much debris that can't move through the culverts which is causing problems. A lot of this debris is still from the fire several years ago. A bridge would allow the debris to flow through more freely.

#### **EXCUSE ABSENT DIRECTORS**

Higgins is at his winter home. Liewer is spending the winter at his daughter's in Scottsbluff. Holtgrew contacted the office and is not feeling well.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 2:20 P.M. by Chairman Baumeister.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

**Directors:** Larry Baumeister, Karl Connell, Jack Engelhaupt, Linda Hoffman, John Janzing, Brian Kaczor, Randy Klawitter, Dwain Marcellus, Curt Morrow, Ray Naprstek, Kent Pavlik, Kevin Randa, Jeff Uhlir, Diana Wendt

**Staff:** Terry Julesgard, Vivian Frasch, Wade Ellwanger, Connie McCarthy

**Visitors:** Jim Mathine

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Lower Niobrara Natural Resources District hereby certify the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings had and done by the Board of Directors on February 3, 2020. That all subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting. The minutes of the Chairman and Board of Directors were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body. All news media requesting notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting were notified.

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Brian Kaczor, Secretary