

**LOWER NIOBRARA NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 6, 2020**

Chairman Baumeister called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. 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.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nominations for Chairman were called for by Baumeister. Holtgrew nominated Baumeister. Randa nominated Pavlik. (Kaczor entered at 1:03 P.M.) Motion by Klawitter and second by Uhlir that nominations cease and election by ballot be held. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Connell, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus, Naprstek). MOTION CARRIED. Baumeister-7 Pavlik-5. Baumeister will serve as Chairman for 2020.

Nominations for Vice Chairman were called for by Chairman Baumeister. Pavlik nominated Engelhaupt. (Naprstek entered at 1:05 P.M.) Motion by Pavlik and second by Connell that nominations cease and Engelhaupt be declared Vice Chairman by unanimous ballot. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Connell, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Baumeister called for nominations for Secretary. Naprstek nominated Liewer. Wendt nominated Kaczor. Motion by Uhlir and second by Morrow that nominations cease and election by ballot be held. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Connell, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED. Kaczor-7 Liewer-6. Kaczor will serve as Secretary for 2020.

Nominations for Treasurer were called for by Chairman Baumeister. Naprstek nominated Hoffman. Motion by Pavlik and second by Holtgrew that nominations cease, and Hoffman be declared Treasurer by unanimous ballot. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Connell, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Abstain: (Hoffman) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Baumeister called for nominations for NARD Representative. Wendt informed the Directors she would not accept this position this year. Pavlik nominated Liewer. Motion by Pavlik and second by Uhlir & Holtgrew that nominations cease, and Liewer be declared NARD Representative by unanimous ballot. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Connell, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Baumeister called for nominations for NARD Alternate. Wendt nominated Engelhaupt. Motion by Uhlir and second by Hoffman & Holtgrew that nominations cease and Engelhaupt be declared NARD Alternate by unanimous ballot. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Connell, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED.

Nominations for Niobrara Council Representative were called for by Chairman Baumeister. Pavlik nominated Connell. Motion by Pavlik and second by Hoffman that nominations cease and Connell be declared Niobrara Council Representative by unanimous ballot. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Abstain: (Connell) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Baumeister called for nominations for the Niobrara River Basin Alliance Representative. Pavlik nominated Morrow. Motion by Connell and second by Pavlik that nominations cease, and Morrow be declared the Niobrara River Basin Alliance Representative by unanimous ballot. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Connell, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Abstain: (Morrow) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Baumeister called for nominations for Northeast RC&D Representative. Naprstek nominated Pavlik. Motion by Connell and second by Uhlir that nominations cease and Pavlik be declared the Northeast RC&D Representative by unanimous ballot. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Connell, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Abstain: (Pavlik) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Baumeister called for nominations for North Central RC&D Representative. Uhlir nominated Connell. Motion by Wendt and second by Holtgrew that nominations cease and Connell be declared the North Central RC&D Representative by unanimous ballot. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Abstain: (Connell) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED.

INSURANCE RENEWAL

Kendra Reiser representing Butte State Agency presented policy comparisons from 2019 to 2020 for both the West Knox RWS and the NRD. She indicated there would be a 4% increase for building insurance, auto insurance increase of 7% and basically a 6% increase due to loss ratio. Good news is workmen's comp decreased by 5%. Basically overall increase for insurance is 3%. Questions were raised on what is covered under Inland Marine and where criminal damage to the WKRWS or NRD would be covered. After discussion Kendra indicated the Inland Marine insurance needs to be updated as there are things covered we no longer have. Motion by Wendt and second Naprstek to approve payment of the insurance as corrected by changes needed. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Connell, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Connell and second by Uhlir to approve the December 2, 2019 meeting minutes as circulated to Directors. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Connell, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Julesgard's report was mailed for Directors to review. Clarification was made regarding the Bazile GWMA Report and meeting minutes that were mailed. The No-Till, Cover Crop and Planned Grazing Workshop on February 12th from 9:00 – 3:30 at the Lifelong Learning Center in Norfolk was mentioned. Attention was called to the re-election notices in the packets. Manager Julesgard explained the frustration in dealing with all the FEMA personnel changes.

WATER RESOURCES COORDINATOR REPORT

Wade's report was mailed prior to the meeting. He passed copies of the post cards that will be mailed to those individuals who have not completed the Phase II Reports and Flowmeter readings required. These also will be used to notify those needing to renew their Nitrogen Certification. The cost of the cards is much less than mailing letters. Bid packets were mailed out to well drillers on December 27th with a return date of January 17th for bids to be let on the 31st of this month. He will meet with Sue Lackey while attending the Conference to discuss the wells to be drilled this fall. Dates for Nitrogen Certification Classes are being developed for late February or early March.

PROGRAMS ASSISTANT

Connie's report was also mailed prior to the meeting. She reported she participated in the Media Marketing Workshop via a phone call. The Envirothon is coming together. She drew attention to the pictures she had submitted which were published in the Groundwater Quality Monitoring Report. Via conference call she voiced her opinion on areas that need clarification regarding the land judging contests.

ASSOCIATION REPORT

Wendt indicated there wasn't much going on this past month. Preparations are being made for the Legislative Conference and several of the NARD Board members are having health issues.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS—Jim's report was mailed prior to the meeting a little later than usual and he hoped all had received the report. The CRP sign-up period is now thru February 28th. The continuous CRP is ongoing once again.

12.5 million acres under CRP will expire in the next three years. He discussed the CRP Grasslands Program. Rates for the counties are as follows: Boyd-\$29.00, Holt-\$16.00, Knox-\$35 and KP-\$21.00. These rates are based on the productivity of dryland acres. Currently there is still no cut-off date for 2020 EQIP applications.

Niobrara Council—Connell reported there was no meeting. Les Hall was submitted to fill the KP landowner position on the council. He also mentioned the 5-year Cooperative Agreement with the NPS and their protocol to rescue people; star viewing designated area; instream flow; US Fish & Wildlife-elk; Mountain Lion transmitters and prescribed burns.

NE RC&D—Pavlik reported the Executive Committee met in December. They are in the process of looking for a new Director.

NC RC&D—Connell indicated there was no meeting.

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 EXTENDED IRRIGATED ACRE APPLICATIONS

Copies of the two applications were in the packets. Wade explained both ranked rather high as the minimum score is 20 and these ranked at 52.5 and 51. They both met the requirements of the expanded acres. Motion by Uhlir and second by Holtgrew to approve the Expanded Irrigated Acre Applications for John Krueger for 22 acres and Don Adamson for 4 acres. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Connell, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED.

SCHOOL LAND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

A listing of the Knox and Holt County Agreements were in the packets. Directors in the respective counties signed the applications.

NSWCP ACTIVITIES

A copy of the NSWCP Report was available. Motion by Pavlik and second by Hoffman to approve Jody Kaczor's application in the amount of \$176.75 for trees. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Connell, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Hoffman reviewed the expenditures prior to the meeting. Explanation was given on the reissuance of checks under both the NRD & WQ Reports. Apparently the checks for payment of the credit card billings are lost in the mail somewhere. Stop payments on those checks were requested from the respective banks and checks were reissued so late payment charges could be removed. Payment for the home treatment system was questioned and explained. Motion by Pavlik and second by Klawitter to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented along with paying the standard predetermined mileage for directors also paying the mileage for Wendt to attend the NARD meeting along with her lodging. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Connell, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir, Wendt) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Liewer, Marcellus). MOTION CARRIED.

A copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached to the official copy of the minutes.

OPEN COMMENTS

Randa asked if purchase of a drone had ever been considered and suggested checking into purchase of one. There is a session at the Conference dealing with this. Uhlir mentioned considerations of easement for access to the river.

MILEAGE RATE DECREASE TO .575/MILE FOR 2020

Vivian informed the directors she would need to decrease the mileage paid on their expense vouchers from the .58/mile on the form to the .575/mile.

EXCUSE ABSENT DIRECTORS

Higgins is at his winter home. Marcellus is busy preparing for appointments. Engelhaupt indicated loader and water problems. Liewer is spending the winter at his daughter's in Scottsbluff.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 2:49 P.M. by Chairman Baumeister.

ATTENDANCE

Directors: Larry Baumeister, Karl Connell, Linda Hoffman, Don Holtgrew, John Janzing, Brian Kaczor, Randy Klawitter, Curt Morrow, Ray Naprstek, Kent Pavlik, Kevin Randa, Jeff Uhlir, Diana Wendt

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

Visitors: Jim Mathine, Kendra Reiser

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 January 6, 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.

Brian Kaczor, Secretary