

**LOWER NIOBRARA NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019**

Chairman Baumeister called the meeting to order at 7:05 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.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 5, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Liewer and second by Uhlir to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2019 meeting as provided to the Directors. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Wendt, Baumeister, Connell, Engelhaupt, Higgins, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Marcellus, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir) Abstain: (Morrow) Absent: (Hoffman, Naprstek). MOTION CARRIED.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Julesgard's report was mailed for Directors to review. Directors asked for further explanation of the Bark Beetle, Verdigre Lagoon Pumping, who makes up the executive committee on the Bazile GWMA and the Hastings Well Field Restoration Project. Manager Julesgard gave further information to answer their questions and informed the Directors of the Public Records Request for information on the Spencer Dam by Charles Taylor Adjusting. He explained Attorney Blankenau had been contacted and mentioned some of the information being compiled by the NRBA. The Annual Meeting with DNR on the IMP was held and we have reached the 5-year time frame to do the Comprehensive Report, this is being developed. Status of the Spencer Dam was questioned – still trying to set a meeting for everyone to sit down to discuss.

WATER RESOURCES COORDINATOR REPORT

Wade's report was mailed prior to the meeting. He passed around a copy of the brochure on the Bazile Cover Crop Seeding Demonstration scheduled for September 20th beginning at 10:30 A.M. in the Creighton area. He drew attention to the 2019 Nebraska Water Conference cards in the packets and informed the Directors he has been asked to give a presentation there. The test hole drilling for the monitoring wells went well. Two applications totaling 30 acres were received for the new irrigated acres. Several phone calls were received but they were not eligible under the specifications. One of the applicants basically does not qualify, but he was insistent to apply, so it will be ranked according to the guidelines. There will be a committee meeting to discuss these applications prior to the next Board Meeting.

PROGRAMS ASSISTANT

Connie's report was also mailed prior to the meeting. She mentioned she was successful in getting one of the two remaining acre certifications. The other she has the completed forms but doesn't have the well information required. Question was raised on what the next step will be. Manager Julesgard indicated he had discussed this with DNR and we will proceed working with them as the wells are illegal wells. Connie drew attention to the new Fact Sheet in the packets. She explained she will need to leave the meeting early in order to attend an I & E Workshop early in the morning. She informed the Directors 8th Grade Conservation Day has been scheduled for October 24th. Dates of the Area & State Land and Range Judging Contests were discussed. The LNNRD is hosting the State Land Judging Contest on October 9th at the Niobrara State Park.

ASSOCIATION REPORT

Wendt reported most of the information received from the NARD pertained to the Conference on September 23rd & 24th in Kearney. There are two resolutions (copy of each is in the packets), these were explained and discussed. She mentioned the cover crop information around the state. The new NARD Public Relations person is doing the job well. Things are looking positive for the NRDs.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS—Jim Mathine distributed his report. He reported on the number of Cover Crop applications & acres involved along with the Animal Mortality Program under EQIP Disaster Practices. Jim's report broke down the practices/number/acres of the 46 new 2019 EQIP Contracts for Boyd County. Boyd County has one application for 134.3 acres for the Forest Stand Improvement Practice which is spread over a 6-year period due to the number of acres (labor intensive - basically all by hand). His office is doing follow-up work on EQIP Practices that have fallen behind – one problem is no contractors are in the Boyd County area.

Niobrara Council—A copy of the minutes was in the packets. Connell reviewed the Nebraska Land Trust; Resolution 259 regarding the Niobrara Forever Stamp; information pertaining to a new copy machine is being gathered; 5 Year Cooperative Agreement with the NPS is being reviewed; Susan Cook has been hired as the Chief

of Interpretation; Mountain Lion permits being issued; the next meeting is October 17th. Higgins mentioned the need for a Keya Paha Landowner and a Forestry replacement on the Council.

NE RC&D—A copy of the minutes was in the packets. Pavlik reported Jocelyn Osborne the Coordinator has given her resignation, so the RC&D is looking for someone to fill that position. Salary probably will be increased from \$14-\$15/hour to \$20/hour for the new employee. Some are upset the person that set up the website for the RC&D still has access to the website. There will not be a Household Hazardous Waste Collection in Niobrara, but there will be one in Neligh and Wayne on October 11th and 12th. The next meeting will be held at the home of Chris Krecyk on September 23rd at 7:00 P.M.

North Central RC&D—A copy of the minutes was in the packets. Connell mentioned the E-Stroyed payment that was questioned at the meeting; Lynn Sobotka is the new Treasurer; Inman Library Project; Electronics collection at Spencer this fall and Bylaws update.

Friends of the Missouri—Manager Julesgard attended the last meeting and reported they gave a recap of the Annual Meeting held at Lake Yankton, which didn't work out well. Next year the Annual Meeting will be held separately the second week in September. They are having trouble getting volunteers to assist with the Yankton Missouri River Events and are hoping to join with the Friends of the Missouri to gain more volunteers. Minutes from the meeting held in Niobrara were mailed, this group is discussing ways to draw tourists to the area.

OFFICE BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE

The committee met prior to the meeting to discuss new office signs, pickup replacement and the cargo trailer. Two bids were received for new office signs. Love Signs from Norfolk - \$1,166.86 and Rocket Signs from Spencer - \$907.50. Motion by Higgins and second by Holtgrew to accept the Committee recommendation to purchase two new office signs from Rocket Signs in Spencer. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Wendt, Baumeister, Connell, Engelhaupt, Higgins, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Marcellus, Morrow, Randa, Uhlir) Abstain: (Pavlik) Absent: (Hoffman, Naprstek). MOTION CARRIED.

The 2014 F-150 has reached the 60,000-mile range where normally vehicles are traded. The committee recommends the Manager gather price quotes for replacement of the pickup. They also discussed and recommended having Krotter's install the 2" lift on the front of the 2017 Chevy to raise the underside.

The insurance company totaled the cargo trailer due to hail damage. Purchase price was \$6,400 and they would allow \$6,200 or would offer \$2,800 and we would have a salvage title. The trailer doesn't look bad, just has a few hail dents. Motion by Marcellus and second by Klawitter to accept the committee recommendation of accepting the lesser amount from the insurance company and have a salvage title for the cargo trailer. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Wendt, Baumeister, Connell, Engelhaupt, Higgins, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Marcellus, Morrow, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir) Absent: (Hoffman, Naprstek). MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF 2019-2020 BUDGET

A copy of the 2019-2020 Budget was mailed for review. It was discussed at the Budget Hearing held earlier this evening. Comments were made on the change of the Budget Form. Motion by Higgins and second by Engelhaupt to adopt the 2019-2020 Budget as advertised and presented. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Wendt, Baumeister, Connell, Engelhaupt, Higgins, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Marcellus, Morrow, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir) Absent: (Hoffman, Naprstek). MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVE RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST

The Special Hearing to set the Final Tax Request was held at 7:00 P.M. prior to the meeting. Motion by Higgins and second by Marcellus to adopt the Resolution Setting the Property Tax Request at \$439,953.98, which differs -1% from last years total assessed value and the levy will be set at \$.014279/\$100 (copy attached to official minutes). Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Wendt, Baumeister, Connell, Engelhaupt, Higgins, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Marcellus, Morrow, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir) Absent: (Hoffman, Naprstek). MOTION CARRIED.

NSWCP ACTIVITIES

A copy of the NSWCP Report was available. Vivian reviewed the two applications and four cancellations received. Motion by Pavlik and second by Uhlir to approve the applications for: Ross Nielsen-pipeline, tank-\$3,304.00 & Shaun Higgins-pipeline-\$1,860.00 and the cancellations for: Dewey Peterson, Greg Reiser, Kent Classen &

Calvin Kilmurry. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Wendt, Baumeister, Connell, Engelhaupt, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Marcellus, Morrow, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir) Abstain: (Higgins) Absent: (Hoffman, Naprstek). MOTION CARRIED.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Higgins reviewed the expenditures. Motion by Uhlir and second by Engelhaupt to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented with the additions to the Water Quality Fund Report-Krotter Home & Auto-\$763.47-fuel pump for 2017 Chevy and the LNNRD Report for Koenig Lumber-\$319.69-paint for the office & Office Depot-\$117.23 for calendars, paper, office supplies. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Wendt, Baumeister, Connell, Engelhaupt, Higgins, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Marcellus, Morrow, Pavlik, Randa, Uhlir) Absent: (Hoffman, Naprstek). MOTION CARRIED. (A copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached to the Official Copy of the Minutes).

COMMENT PERIOD

Wendt mentioned there are good breakout sessions at the Conference this year. Baumeister commented on the good price received for sale of the two drills, both in the \$9,000.00 range.

EXCUSE ABSENT DIRECTORS

Naprstek is with his wife after broken ankle surgery. No word was received from Hoffman.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:36 P.M. by Chairman Baumeister.

ATTENDANCE

Directors: Larry Baumeister, Karl Connell, Jack Engelhaupt, Tom Higgins, Don Holtgrew, John Janzing, Brian Kaczor, Randy Klawitter, Marvin Liewer, Dwain Marcellus, Curt Morrow, 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 September 9, 2019. 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.

Marvin Liewer, Secretary