

**LOWER NIOBRARA NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 4, 2021**

Chairman Pavlik called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. at the Community Center located in Butte, Nebraska. An agenda of the minutes to be considered at such time, date, and place is kept continually current and is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the District Office in Butte. Chairman Pavlik called attention to the Open Meeting Law poster on the table. He stated notices of the meeting were published in newspapers of general circulation throughout the District.

APPROVAL OF MAY 3, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Holtgrew and second by Hoffman to approve the May 3, 2021 Meeting Minutes as circulated to the Board. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Kaczor, Morrow, Pavlik, Baumeister, Connell, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing) Abstain: (Liewer) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Klawitter, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek, Randa, Uhlir). MOTION CARRIED.

PAM BERGSTROM FORESTER

Pam introduced herself and gave background information about herself. (Klawitter & Uhlir entered at 7:05 P.M.) She discussed forestry management & improvement, agro-forestry, urban/community forestry, etc. Foresters are unsure of why the cedars are dying. Cankers could be the cause. She mentioned the areas where emerald ash borer are present. She responded to the question on oaks and thanked the Board for allowing her to be present and visit with them.

MANAGER'S REPORT

A copy of the Manager's Report was mailed to the Directors prior to the meeting for their review. The questionnaire regarding the LR23 Interim Study of Natural Resources Districts has been received and will be responded to. The RCPP Application was explained. An NRBA meeting update was given.

WATER RESOURCES COORDINATOR REPORT

Wade's report was mailed prior to the meeting for Directors to review. No reports have been received from Green even though his agronomist thought forms may be coming from CVA. He reviewed the Spring Static Water Report and indicated the hydrologic units probably give the best information of what is happening within the District. He pointed out the transducer information. Wade asked the Groundwater Management Committee to meet with him for a few minutes after the meeting. He passed out the New Irrigated Acre Parameters that were used last year for the Board to review.

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT – ACCEPT NEW IRRIGATED ACRES?

Pavlik reported the Committee met on the 18th and the recommendation of the Committee was to allow up to 1,000 new irrigated acres. It was mentioned the ranking process worked as it was hoped and the rules are working well. Motion by Holtgrew and second by Uhlir the District allow up to 1,000 new irrigated acres. Question was raised as to the unused acres from last year. Those acres are gone. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Morrow, Pavlik, Uhlir, Baumeister, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing) Nay: (Connell) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek, Randa). MOTION CARRIED.

PROGRAMS ASSISTANT REPORT

Connie's report was also mailed to the Directors prior to the meeting. She informed the Directors she changed the outline of her report to reflect more of what she is doing. The Water Warriors are working with the Farm Journal on a Field Day. She assisted with the test hole drillings. She reported on the visits in the school classrooms. She has been working with the PCS group on the new program.

ASSOCIATION REPORT

Liewer reviewed LB406 and read Senator Gragert's report regarding recreational areas in the area. The NARD meeting and Basin Tour will be in the Papio NRD on Monday.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS—Jim Mathine mailed his report to the Directors. Jim reported EQIP slippage dollars have been received and they are working on the contacts to allocate those dollars. His office has been working on the HEL Reviews and they are down to the last one. With the amount of unused NSCWP dollars remaining Jim suggested the Board consider utilizing the Brush Management Practice under that program. Jim explained the practice. The priority system developed in the past was also discussed. Motion by Kaczor and second by Uhlir to utilize the Brush

Management Practice under NSWCP. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Morrow, Pavlik, Uhlir, Baumeister, Connell, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek, Randa). MOTION CARRIED.

Niobrara Council—Connell reported there is an upcoming meeting this month.

NE RC&D—Uhlir mentioned he had no report as he is not getting any response to his requests for information. This will be checked into.

NC RC&D—Connell reported tire collection and electronic collections were held. Paper shredding is being planned for this fall. The RC&D will have a booth at the Ranch Expo. They have joined the NE Recycling Council. Hazardous Waste Collection is being explored. There will be a meeting on the 9th.

Friends of the Missouri—A meeting is being set up, but no information has been received.

Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition—The Annual Meeting was held but Terry was unable to attend.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE ANNUAL SALARY REVIEW

A summary was mailed out to the Board for review. Pavlik reported the Committee met on May 19th and reviewed the Personnel salaries. Connell questioned the cost-of-living proposal. Pavlik explained the Committee did not go with that option. Pavlik reviewed the individual salary recommendations. Motion by Morrow and second by Holtgrew to accept the recommendations of the Personnel Committee regarding salary increases. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Kaczor, Liewer, Morrow, Pavlik, Uhlir, Baumeister, Hoffman, Holtgrew) Nay: (Connell, Higgins, Janzing, Klawitter) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek, Randa). MOTION CARRIED.

2020-2021 AUDIT DANA F COLE & CO.

The proposal from Dana Cole was reviewed. Vivian provided the cost of the audit for 2019-2020 and the upcoming 2020-2021 audit which basically was around a \$220.00 increase for both the RWS and the NRD. Motion by Holtgrew and second by Baumeister to approve Dana F Cole and Co. LLC to perform the 2020-2021 Audit for the LNNRD. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Morrow, Pavlik, Uhlir, Baumeister, Connell, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew) Abstain: (Janzing) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek, Randa). MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION – 30 x 30

It was explained the NRDs would jointly submit the Resolution which will probably be discussed at the fall conference. This was a proposal provided for the Districts. Morrow strongly suggested the Directors read the entire Presidential Order. After considerable discussion the next agenda item was moved to.

NSWCP ACTIVITIES

A copy of the NSWCP Report was available on the reverse side of the agenda. Motion by Morrow and second by Uhlir to approve the applications for: Harry Helenbolt-dam-\$7,000.00, Vivian Fransch-pipeline, tank-\$4,103.83, Jerrold Carr-tanks-\$4,018.50, Shaun Higgins-well, solar pump, tank-\$7,000.00, Hagberg Feed Yard LLC-pipeline, tank-\$7,000.00. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Morrow, Pavlik, Uhlir, Baumeister, Connell, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing) Abstain: (Higgins) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek, Randa). MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

A copy of the Treasurer's Report was available in the packets. Vivian explained there is an amount for NNTC on the report which was for last month and this month the bill of \$174.94 needs to be added. Motion by Uhlir and

second by Hoffman to approve the Treasurer's Report with the addition mentioned. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Morrow, Pavlik, Uhlir, Baumeister, Connell, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Janzing) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek, Randa). MOTION CARRIED.

COMMENT PERIOD

Brad Mahon was present and wanted to call attention to the time frame for completing newly irrigated acres with the situation of not being able to get the parts and contractors not being able to get needed supplies. He is ok as he had

started early enough, but others may run into problems meeting the timeline for completion. Wade explained all cooperators need to do is contact us and explain their situation. Mahon also mentioned he is unsure of wanting/needing the second well he applied for. Wade explained he just needs to contact him and in his situation, he could apply for the well permit and have that time for completion of the second well.

EXCUSE ABSENT DIRECTORS

Engelhaupt is guarding for the gun show tomorrow. Mahlendorf is having cattle and tractor issues. Marcellus is attending his son's wedding. Randa is on vacation. Naprstek did not contact the office (Monday he made us aware he forgot the meeting had changed).

REMINDER: THE JULY MEETING WILL BE HELD JULY 6TH AT 7:00 P.M. DUE TO THE 4TH OF JULY HOLIDAY.

Chairman Pavlik declared the meeting adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Directors: Larry Baumeister, Karl Connell, Shaun Higgins, Linda Hoffman, Don Holtgrew, John Janzing, Brian Kaczor, Randy Klawitter, Marvin Liewer, Curt Morrow, Kent Pavlik, Jeff Uhlir **Staff:** Terry Julesgard, Vivian Frasch, Wade Ellwanger, Connie McCarthy **Visitors:** Jim Mathine, Pam Bergstrom, Brad Mahon

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 June 4, 2021. 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