

**Minutes of the Lower Niobrara Natural Resources
Board of Directors Meeting
September 7, 2023**

The meeting of the Lower Niobrara Natural Resources District was called to order by Chairman Engelhaupt at 7:01 P.M. at the Butte Community Center. Chairman Jack Engelhaupt called attention to the Open Meeting Law and statement of advertisement throughout our district.

Directors Present:

Linda Hoffman	Charles Zegers	Brain Kaczor	Randy Klawitter
Steve Mahlendorf	Dwain Marcellus	J.J. Pritchett	Kevin Randa
Larry Baumeister	Karl Connell	Deborah Hansen	Shaun Higgins
Jack Engelhaupt			

Directors Absent: Don Holtgrew, Shane Lechtenberg, Curt Morrow, Ray Naprstek

Staff Present: Wade Ellwanger Britanie Brewster Gary Richardson

Guests Present: Tom Christopherson

Approval of Agenda:

Motion was made by Hansen and seconded by Zegers to approve the September 7, 2023 agenda, **Aye:** Hoffman, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Holtgrew, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Naprstek. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of the August 7, 2023 Minutes :

Motion was made to approve the August 7, 2023 minutes by Pritchett seconded by Baumeister. **Aye:** Hoffman, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Holtgrew, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Naprstek. **MOTION CARRIED**

Groundwater Solutions Group, West Knox Rural Water Well # 2 Presentation: Tom Christopherson of Groundwater Solutions Group, reported on the status of West Knox Well 2. Christopherson reported on data that has been collected by Groundwater Solutions Group. He stated what work has previously been done to Well #2. He presented options for rehabilitation for West Knox Rural Water Well #2.

Staff and Agency Reports:

Manager's Report : Ellwanger's report was mailed to the directors prior to the Board meeting and a copy attached to the official minutes. Ellwanger stated a Hazard Mitigation Plan is in the discussion phase. Ellwanger presented the Nebraska Farm Bureau 2023 Policy Guides on NRD Taxing Authority. He reported on misinformation printed in Farm Bureau 2023 Policy.

Programs Assistant Report: McCarthy's report was mailed to directors prior to the Board meeting and a copy is attached to the official minutes.

Water Resources Report: Richardson report was mailed to directors prior to the Board meeting and a copy is attached to the official minutes. Richardson presented completed water samples throughout the district. He was able to show that on average Nitrates throughout the district have either remained stable or decreased over the last 26 years.

BGMA Coordinator Report: No Report

Association Report: Hansen reported the Annual Conference will be the last week of September. The schedule is out for the breakout sessions. If you want to attend please let someone in our office know.

Agency Reports:

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Report was handed out in the packets.

Niobrara Council: Connell reported the meeting was held on August 17, 2023. Connell stated they reviewed May- August bills. Approved trailhead improvement project to make more trails. Looked at grant for firebreak to remove cedar tress from draws and canyons. Next meeting will be September 21, 2023.

NE RC&D Report: Hansen reported the August 22, 2023 meeting discussed the cemetery tour Monday September 25, 2023. Looking at a grant for household waste.

NC RC&D Report: Nothing to Report. The next meeting will be September 13, 2023.

Friends of the Missouri: Ellwanger reported they are setting up a September 18, 2023 meeting to discuss the results of the grant application for an Executive Director.

Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition: Nothing to Report

Approval to Adopt 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget:

Motion was made by Marcellus seconded by Mahlendorf to approve the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget.

Aye: Hoffman, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Hansen, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** Connell, Higgins. **Abstain:** None **Absent:** Holtgrew, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Naprstek.

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Property Tax Resolution:

Motion was made by Randa seconded by Marcellus to approve the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Property Tax Resolution. **Aye:** Hoffman, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Pritchett, Randa,

Baumeister, Hansen, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** Connell, Higgins. **Abstain:** None **Absent:** Holtgrew, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Naprstek. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of West Knox Rural Water Minutes

A motion was made by Klawitter and seconded by Randa to acknowledge receipt of the West Knox Advisory Board minutes and approve the action items. **Aye:** Hoffman, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter,

Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Hansen, Higgins, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** Connell
Abstain: None **Absent:** Holtgrew, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Naprstek. **MOTION CARRIED**

NSWCP Activities: Ellwanger reported that we have received our NSWCP allocation in the amount of \$57,854.66.

Approval of NSWCP activities:

A motion was made by Mahlendorf and seconded by Zegers to approve the movement fund contracts 2367-2372. **Aye:** Hoffman, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None **Abstain:** None **Absent:** Holtgrew, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Naprstek. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Treasurer Report:

A motion was made by Randa seconded by Pritchett to approve the September 7th treasurer's report. **Aye:** Hoffman, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None **Abstain:** None **Absent:** Holtgrew, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Naprstek. **MOTION CARRIED**

Comment Period:

Excused absent Directors: Holtgrew, Lechtenberg, Morrow and Naprstek were excused.

Chairman Engelhaupt declared the meeting adjourned at 9:11PM.

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 7, 2023. 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.

Larry Baumeister, Secretary