

**Minutes of the Lower Niobrara Natural Resources
Board of Directors Meeting
November 6, 2023**

The meeting of the Lower Niobrara Natural Resources District was called to order by Chairman Engelhaupt at 7:00 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	Don Holtgrew	Brian Kaczor	Randy Klawitter
Curt Morrow	J.J. Pritchett	Kevin Randa	Larry Baumeister
Karl Connell	Deborah Hansen	Shaun Higgins	Jack Engelhaupt

Directors Absent: Charles Zegers, Shane Lechtenberg, Steve Mahlendorf, Dwain Marcellus, Ray Naprstek.

Staff Present: Wade Ellwanger Britanie Brewster Connie McCarthy Gary Richardson

Guests Present: Adam Nolan, John Kreiger

Approval of Agenda:

Motion was made by Hansen and seconded by Pritchett to approve the November 6, 2023 agenda, **Aye:** Hoffman, Holtgrew, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Zegers, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek.

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of the September 7, 2023 Minutes :

Motion was made to approve the October 2, 2023 minutes with corrections by Baumeister seconded by Randa. **Aye:** Hoffman, Holtgrew, Kaczor, Morrow, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** Klawitter. **Absent:** Zegers, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek. **MOTION CARRIED**

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 reported West Knox Rural Water started rehab on Well #2. The bentonite has been poured to seal Well #2. They will need to wait 30 days before they can begin testing. Ellwanger stated that the Lower Niobrara NRD now has real-time static water levels available on their website Lnnrd.org. Ellwanger reminded Directors those whose term ends in 2024 will need to file for re-election. The Lower Niobrara NRD meeting will be moving to 2:00pm starting in December.

Programs Assistant Report: McCarthy's report was mailed to directors prior to the Board meeting and a copy is attached to the official minutes. McCarthy stated 8th Grade conservation day was held at the Butte Golf Course on October 16, 2023. Students from Boyd County, Burke, Niobrara, Verdigre and Stuart were in attendance. Photos of the event were shared with the Directors.

Water Resources Report: Richardson report was mailed to directors prior to the Board meeting and a copy is attached to the official minutes. Richardson stated that the HydroVu link would be live starting

Tuesday November 7, 2023. Richardson explained what information would be on the HydroVu dashboard.

BGMA Coordinator Report: Included in meeting packets.

Association Report: Hansen reported that they had met Monday November 6, 2023. They discussed the NRD retirement plan. They are discussing changes in the coming months.

Agency Reports:

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Nolan reported the NRCS has been certifying EQIP contracts and working with protentional 2024 applicants. Nolan started the 2024 EQIP deadline is November 17, 2023. They have been checking practices and implementation of active CSP, and CRP contracts. Nolan reported that Angela Schaecher started as the Natural Resources Specialist in October.

Niobrara Council: Connell reported the Park Service held an award ceremony on October 20,2023 for the Quietest Park. Discussion was held on how this award would impact tourism in Cherry County.

NE RC&D Report: Hansen reported that they met last week.

NC RC&D Report: Connell reported that met on October 11, 2023. Connell stated they are working on the 2024 Tire Amnesty for 600 ton, planned for late March early April will know if the grant was approved in December. The paper shredding truck collected 12,740lbs of paper on HWY 20 on, and 5,200lbs of paper on HWY 12. The next meeting will be held November 8, 2023.

Friends of the Missouri: Ellwanger reported they did not receive the grant to fund their executive director. They are currently working on a membership drive.

Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition: Nothing to Report

Approval of Variance Recommendation to Approve Mark V Farm Inc.:

Motion was made by Holtgrew seconded by Pritchett to approve the recommendation of the Variance committee to approve the application of Mark V. Farm Inc. **Aye:** Hoffman, Holtgrew, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Engelhaupt **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Zegers, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Long-Range Implementation Plan with corrections:

Motion was made by Conell seconded by Holtgrew to approve The Long-Range Implementation Plan with changes. Page 20 will have "land rights" changed to "land purchases". **Aye:** Hoffman, Holtgrew, Kaczor, Morrow, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Engelhaupt **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** Klawitter. **Absent:** Zegers, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek. **MOTION CARRIED**

NRBA and NGPC Interlocal Agreement to Administer Subordination Agreements: No action was taken as the legal council is currently engaged in discussions.

Approval of Water Leader Academy Gary Richardson:

Motion was made by Morrow seconded by Hansen to approve Gary Richardson to attend Water Leaders Academy. **Aye:** Hoffman, Holtgrew, Kaczor, Morrow, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Hansen, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** Klawitter, Connell, Higgins. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Zegers, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Pickup Purchase Bid:

Motion was made by Holtgrew seconded by Baumeister to approve Pickup Purchase Bid through Krotter's. **Aye:** Hoffman, Holtgrew, Kaczor, Morrow, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Hansen, Higgins, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** Connell. **Abstain:** Klawitter. **Absent:** Zegers, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek. **MOTION CARRIED**

NSWCP Activities: McCarthy reported that they had one cancelation.

Approval of NSWCP activities:

A motion was made by Klawitter and seconded by Morrow to approve the motion to fund contract #2361. **Aye:** Hoffman, Holtgrew, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** Higgins. **Absent:** Zegers, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Treasurer Report:

A motion was made by Randa seconded by Prichett to approve the November 6, 2023 treasurer's report. **Aye:** Hoffman, Holtgrew, Kaczor, Morrow, Prichett, Randa, Baumeister, Hansen, Higgins, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** Klawitter, Connell. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Zegers, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf, Marcellus Naprstek. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Revolving Line of Credit:

A motion was made by Randa seconded by Prichett to approve the Chairman, Treasurer, and General Manager to enter into a \$110,000 revolving line of credit with Butte State Bank. **Aye:** Hoffman, Holtgrew, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Zegers, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf, Marcellus Naprstek. **MOTION CARRIED**

Comment Period:

Ellwanger stated that he has received the preliminary audit information. Donita will be presenting the full Audit at the December meeting.

Excused absent Directors: Zegers, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf, Marcellus, and Naprstek were excused.

Chairman Engelhaupt declared the meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.

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 November 6, 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