

**Minutes of the Lower Niobrara Natural Resources
Board of Directors Meeting
February 5, 2024**

The meeting of the Lower Niobrara Natural Resources District was called to order by Chairman Engelhaupt at 2:00 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:

Don Holtgrew	Charles Zegers	Brain Kaczor	Randy Klawitter
Shane Lechtenberg	Curt Morrow	Ray Naprstek	J.J. Pritchett
Kevin Randa	Larry Baumeister	Karl Connell	Deborah Hansen
Shaun Higgins	Linda Hoffman	Jack Engelhaupt	

Directors Absent: Steve Mahlendorf, Dwain Marcellus

Staff Present: Wade Ellwanger Britanie Brewster Connie McCarthy Gary Richardson

Guests Present: Adam Nolan, and others in attendance.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion was made by Hansen and seconded by Lechtenberg to approve the February 5, 2024 agenda,
Aye: Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Naprstek, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Mahlendorf, Marcellus. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of the January 3, 2024 Minutes :

Motion was made to approve the January 3, 2024 minutes by Holtgrew seconded by Pritchett. **Aye:** Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** Naprstek **Absent:** Mahlendorf, Marcellus . **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 stated that Incumbent Candidate Filing Forms are due February 15, 2024. He reported on the Legislative Conference that was held January 22-24, 2024. There will be a joint Water Committee meeting with Upper Elkhorn February 12, 2024 at 1:30pm.

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 reported on the BGMA Winter Meeting that was held in Orchard on January 31, 2024. Dan Snow presented to the group of 78 attendees. McCarthy stated she had been on the KBRX Morning Show discussing Nitrate water testing. ACE camp will be held this year in Burwell.

Water Resources Report: Richardson report was mailed to directors prior to the Board meeting and a copy is attached to the official minutes. Richardson reported that he is working on the hard reboot that

is required on Telemetry monitoring wells due to software. He is finishing Phase II reports and delinquent notices are being sent.

West Knox Rural Water Report: Ebel report was mailed to directors prior to the Board meeting and a copy is attached to the official minutes.

BGMA Coordinator Report: Included in meeting packets. Ellwanger discussed the Wild Nebraska Habitat information.

Association Report: Hansen reported that she has a list of Bills that will be presented to the Legislature if anyone would like a copy.

Agency Reports:

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Nolan reported the NRCS will be hiring a Soil Conservationist in Spencer, an Agronomist out of the O'Neill office to serve Boyd and Holt County, and a Program Assistant in Spencer. They are working on EQIP and CSP applications that are IRA eligible. The staff is working on tree plans for the spring. FSA is currently taking applications for Continuous CRP.

Niobrara Council: No Meeting Held. Next meeting will be February 15, 2024.

NE RC&D Report: No Meeting Held.

NC RC&D Report: No Meeting Held. Next meeting will be February 14, 2024

Friends of the Missouri: Meeting was held on January 26, 2024

Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition: Nothing to Report

NSWCP Activities: McCarthy reported that we have two Prescribed Grazing and two Shelterbelts. We have funding for all plans.

Approval of NSWCP activities:

A motion was made by Baumeister and seconded by Morrow to approve the motion to fund contracts 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378. **Aye:** Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Naprstek, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** **Absent:** Mahlendorf, Marcellus. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Treasurer Report:

A motion was made by Randa seconded by Holtgrew to approve the February 5, 2024 treasurer's report. **Aye:** Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Naprstek, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** Klawitter, Connell. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Mahlendorf, Marcellus. **MOTION CARRIED**

Comment Period:

Discussion on Nitrogen Management training, class schedule is on Website. Discussed West Knox Rural Water and town of Verdigre Water position.

Excused absent Directors: Mahlendorf, and Marcellus were excused.

Chairman Engelhaupt declared the meeting adjourned at 3:07PM.

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 February 5, 2024 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

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