

**Minutes of the Lower Niobrara Natural Resources
Board of Directors Meeting
April 1, 2024**

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:

Brain Kaczor	Randy Klawitter	Shane Lechtenberg	Curt Morrow
Larry Baumeister	Karl Connell	Shaun Higgins	Linda Hoffman
Don Holtgrew	Jack Engelhaupt		

Directors Absent: Steve Mahlendorf, Dwain Marcellus, Ray Naprstek, J.J. Pritchett, Kevin Randa, Deb Hansen, Chuck Zegers.

Staff Present: Wade Ellwanger Britanie Brewster Connie McCarthy

Guests Present: None.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion was made by Morrow and seconded by Higgins to approve the April 1, 2024 agenda, **Aye:** Kaczor, Klawitter, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Baumeister, Connell, Higgins, Holtgrew, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek, Pritchett, Randa, Hansen, Hoffman, Zegers. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of the March 4, 2024 Minutes :

Motion was made to approve the March 4 , 2024 minutes by Holtgrew seconded by Higgins. **Aye:** Kaczor, Klawitter, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Baumeister, Connell, Higgins, Holtgrew, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek, Pritchett, Randa, Hansen, Hoffman, Zegers. **MOTION CARRIED**

Hoffman Arrived 7:10

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 discussed West Knox Rural Water by laws that were mailed to directors prior to the Board meeting. He stated the Water Sustainability Funds Grant was submitted for irrigation management technologies including flow meters, soil moisture probes, and other infield technologies. Ellwanger reported on DC Conference held March 18-21.

Programs Assistant Report: McCarthy's report was included in the meeting packet and a copy attached to official minutes. McCarthy reported that she has been working with Mark Graf Water Well Specialist at the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) on a well north of Lynch. Nitrate levels were recorded at 2.85ppm after allowing the pump to run for 10 days straight. A second test was taken after 10 days of no use, and it tested over 35ppm. Tests have been sent to the state for additional testing. Mark Graf will be conducting an additional test this week. We are still waiting on the results of the isotope test.

Water Resources Report: Richardson report was mailed to directors prior to the Board meeting and a copy is attached to the official minutes. Ellwanger excused Richardson from attendance

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: Nothing to report.

Association Report: Ellwanger reported that the basin tour will be June 10-11, 2024 out of McCook. NARD held officer Elections and appointed Committee Chairs.

Agency Reports:

Natural Resources Conservation Service: was included in the meeting packet.

Niobrara Council: No meeting Held

NE RC&D Report: Ellwanger reported they did not receive the requested grant.

NC RC&D Report: Connell reported that the Tire Amnesty is running from April 1-3 in Newport. They discussed the Ranch Expo; they have booths reserved. Discussed changes to the Lick Tub Challenge. Due letters will be mailed this month. The next meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2024.

Friends of the Missouri: No meeting held.

Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition: No meeting held

Operations Committee Report: Meeting held prior to the regularly scheduled Board meeting. Discussed the purchase of LNNRD four-wheeler from Mitchell's in Atkinson. Ellwanger reported on current building expansion options. The Committee had no formal recommendations.

NSWCP Activities:

McCarthy reported that we have 13 applications. We have funding for all plans.

Approval of NSWCP activities:

A motion was made by Morrow and seconded by Holtgrew to approve the motion to fund contracts 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395 and up to \$1000.00 for Katie Shook. **Aye:** Kaczor, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Baumeister, Connell, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** Klawitter. **Absent:** Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek, Pritchett, Randa, Hansen, Zegers. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Treasurer Report:

A motion was made by Holtgrew seconded by Klawitter to approve the April 1,2024 treasurer's report. **Aye:** Kaczor, Klawitter, Lechtenberg, Morrow, Baumeister, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** Connell. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek, Pritchett, Randa, Hansen, Zegers. **MOTION CARRIED**

Comment Period:

Excused absent Directors: Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Naprstek, Pritchett, Randa, Hansen, Zegers were excused.

Chairman Engelhaupt declared the meeting adjourned at 8:26PM.

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 April 1, 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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