

**Minutes of the Lower Niobrara Natural Resources
Board of Directors Meeting
July 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:

Curt Morrow	Ray Naprstek	J.J. Pritchett	Kevin Randa
Larry Baumeister	Karl Connell	Shaun Higgins	Linda Hoffman
Don Holtgrew	Chuck Zegers	Brian Kaczor	Shane Lechtenberg
Jack Engelhaupt			

Directors Absent: Steve Mahlendorf, Dwain Marcellus, Deb Hansen, Randy Klawitter.

Staff Present: Wade Ellwanger Britanie Brewster Connie McCarthy Gary Richardson

Guests Present: Amy Timmerman, Maddy Melcher

Approval of Agenda:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of the June 3, 2024 Minutes :

Motion was made to approve the June 3 , 2024 minutes by Connell seconded by Holtgrew. **Aye:** Morrow, Baumeister, Connell, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Lechtenberg, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** Naprstek, Pritchett, Randa. **Absent:** Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Hansen, Klawitter.

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 reviewed legislative changes that were passed and went into effect this year. Ellwanger stated that conflict of interest forms were handed out and will need to be completed by all Directors. Ellwanger reported the findings of the 2022-2023 audit, no action is required at this time and all inquiries have already been addressed.

Programs Assistant Report: McCarthy's report was mailed to the directors prior to the Board meeting and a copy attached to the official minutes. McCarthy reported she attended the Niobrara Healthy Living Expo, the Basset Ranch Expo, and ACE camp 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 discussed building information.

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. Ellwanger stated the West Knox Advisory Board met on June 18, 2024 meeting minutes were included in Director's meeting packets a copy is attached to the official minutes. Steve Jacot was appointed to the board, Bob Skokan was appointed Chairman, Nolan Sucha Vice-Chairman. Bernard Jorgensen was recognized for 40 years of service.

Approval of the West Knox Rural Water June 18, 2024 Minutes :

Motion was made to recognize receipt and approve action items of West Knox Rural Water June 18, 2024 minutes by Holtgrew seconded by Naprstek. **Aye:** Morrow, Naprstek, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Lechtenberg, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** Connell. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Hansen, Klawitter. **MOTION CARRIED**

BGMA Coordinator Report: Included in meeting packet and a copy attached to official minutes.

UNL Extension: Amy Timmerman introduced Maddie Melcher as the summer intern. Timmerman discussed the multiple trials they are working on this year.

Association Report: Ellwanger stated the NARD passed the 414 contributions change unanimously.

Approval of the 414 Contribution Resolution:

Motion was made to approve the NARD 414 Contribution Resolution by Lechtenberg seconded by Holtgrew. **Aye:** Morrow, Naprstek, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Lechtenberg, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Hansen, Klawitter. **MOTION CARRIED**

Agency Reports:

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Adam Nolan's report was included in the meeting packet. Ellwanger reported that the RCPP application was submitted.

Niobrara Council: Connell reported that the meeting was held and discussed the State Audit that was completed on the Niobrara Council.

NE RC&D Report: No Report.

NC RC&D Report: Connell reported that the Lick tub challenge was held at the Bassett Ranch Expo. The winner was a robot created from up cycled lick tubs. Next meeting will be July 17, 2024.

Friends of the Missouri: No Meeting held.

Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition: No Meeting Held. Ellwanger stated that there was email discussions on flooding at Lazy River Acres.

Committee Reports:

Budget Committee Report: Meeting held prior to the regularly scheduled Board meeting. Reviewed current budget for fiscal year 2024-2025. Will hold a meeting on June 24, 2024 to review more in depth.

Building Report: Ellwanger reported that information was covered in Richardson's report.

NSWCP Activities:

McCarthy reported that we had 1 cancelation, and 2 extensions. McCarthy requested the approval of application 2405 for David Beck. He had a livestock water line that was damaged during recent rain events.

Approval of NSWCP activities:

A motion was made to approve the motion to fund contract 2405 and extend contracts 2369,2368 by Connell seconded by Higgins. **Aye:** Morrow, Naprstek, Pritchett, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Lechtenberg, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Hansen, Klawitter. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Treasurer Report:

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

Comment Period:

Excused absent Directors: Mahlendorf, Marcellus, Hansen, Klawitter.

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

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 July 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