

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

The meeting of the Lower Niobrara Natural Resources District was called to order by Chairman Engelhaupt at 7:05 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:

Dwain Marcellus	Curt Morrow	Ray Naprstek	Kevin Randa
Larry Baumeister	Karl Connell	Deb Hansen	Shaun Higgins
Linda Hoffman	Don Holtgrew	Chuck Zegers	Brian Kaczor
Randy Klawitter	Jack Engelhaupt		

Directors Absent: J. J. Pritchett, Steve Mahlendorf, Shane Lechtenberg.

Staff Present: Wade Ellwanger Britanie Brewster Connie McCarthy Gary Richardson
Guests Present: Adam Nolan.

Approval of Agenda:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of the June 3, 2024 Minutes :

Motion was made to approve the July 1, 2024 minutes by Morrow seconded by Randa. **Aye:** Morrow, Naprstek, Randa, Baumeister, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Engelhaupt . **Nay:** Connell. **Abstain:** Marcellus, Hansen, Klawitter. **Absent:** Pritchett, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf. **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 the state audit was final, and a copy of the final letter was mailed to all directors. Governor Pillen requested a meeting with NRD Managers and one director from each district on July 30, 2024. Ellwanger stated he attended the meeting with Director Dwain Marcellus in Lincoln. There they discussed water usage and reporting, there is currently no reporting of real time water usage for the state. Discussion was held on water usage and what this process looks like for the NRD.

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 the BGMA teacher's flyer is almost complete. It will be sent out to all area teachers sharing the information that we have to offer to schools. She stated that in July she presented to 12 students from Omaha, sharing what the NRD does. Chemigation inspections will be completed this week. McCarthy stated the Annual Conference will take place September 23-24, 2024 in Kearney. Please consider registering and attending.

Water Resources Report: Richardson's report was mailed to directors prior to the Board meeting and a copy is attached to the official minutes. Richardson reported nitrate samples are 81% complete with 40 samples left to complete.

West Knox Rural Water Report: Ebel's report was included in directors meeting packets and a copy is attached to the official minutes.

BGMA Coordinator Report: Mailed to directors prior to the board meeting and a copy attached to the official minutes.

Association Report: Hansen reported legislators are currently in a special session to discuss property taxes and political subdivisions levy authority.

Agency Reports:

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Adam Nolan's report was included in the meeting packet and a copy attached to the official minutes.

Niobrara Council: Connell reported meeting was held to discuss the Budget and Personnel.

NE RC&D Report: No Report.

NC RC&D Report: No Report

Friends of the Missouri: No Meeting held.

Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition: Ellwanger reported the bedload collectors will arrive next week; they will begin sedimentation collection as soon as they have the all clear. Once collection begins they will hold a field day to observe the bedload collectors.

Committee Reports:

Budget Committee Report: Meeting held 7/24/2024 at the Lower Niobrara NRD Office. Ellwanger presented the 2024-2025 FY draft budget PowerPoint covering changes from the 2023-2024 FY Budget.

Approval of Additional 1% Board Approved Restricted Fund Increase Recommendation:

A motion was made to approve the Additional 1% Board Approved Restricted Fund Increase Recommendation by Hansen, seconded by Hoffman. **Aye:** Marcellus, Morrow, Naprstek, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Pritchett, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of FY 2024-2025 Draft Budget Recommendation:

A motion was made to approve the FY 2024-2025 Draft Budget Recommendation by Kaczor, seconded by Marcellus. **Aye:** Marcellus, Morrow, Naprstek, Randa, Baumeister, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** Connell. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Pritchett, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of FY 2024-2025 Budget Hearing:

A motion was made to approve the FY 2024-2025 Budget Hearing for September 4, 2024 from 2:00p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the NRD Office by Randa, seconded by Holtgrew. **Aye:** Marcellus, Morrow, Naprstek, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Pritchett, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of FY 2024-2025 Levy Hearing:

A motion was made to approve the FY 2024-2025 Levy Hearing for September 4, 2024 from 3:00p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the NRD Office by Higgins, seconded by Zegers. **Aye:** Marcellus, Morrow, Naprstek, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Pritchett, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf. **MOTION CARRIED**

Operations Committee Report: Meeting was held prior to the regular monthly meeting of the LNNRD. They discussed the vehicle proposals and the BGMA educator position.

Approval of Vehicle Purchase:

A motion was made to approve the recommendation to purchase the Ford Explorer from Moody Motors if it meets all criteria, if criteria is not met, to purchase the Chevy Tahoe from Billions by Kaczor, seconded by Higgins. **Aye:** Marcellus, Morrow, Naprstek, Randa, Baumeister, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** Connell . **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Pritchett, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf. **MOTION CARRIED**

NSWCP Activities:

McCarthy reported that we had 1 cancelation, and 19 completions. McCarthy requested the approval of application 2400 Kelly Reiser, 2401 Troy Reiser, and 2404 Jerry Zuhlke.

Approval of NSWCP activities:

A motion was made to fund contracts 2400,2401 and 2404 by Morrow seconded by Randa. **Aye:** Morrow, Naprstek, Randa, Hansen, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** Marcellus, Baumeister, Connell, Higgins, Klawitter. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Pritchett, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Treasurer Report:

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

Comment Period:

Excused absent Directors: Pritchett, Lechtenberg, Mahlendorf.

Chairman Engelhaupt declared the meeting adjourned at 8:49 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 August 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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