

**Minutes of the Lower Niobrara Natural Resources
Board of Directors Meeting
March 3, 2025**

The meeting of the Lower Niobrara Natural Resources District was called to order by Chairman Lechtenberg at 2:00 P.M. at the Butte Community Center. Chairman Shane Lechtenberg called attention to the Open Meeting Law and statement of advertisement throughout our district.

Director's Present:

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

Directors Absent: Ray Naprstek, J.J. Pritchett, Larry Baumeister, Brenda Wendt

Staff Present: Wade Ellwanger Britanie Brewster Connie McCarthy Gary Richardson

Guests Present: Angela Schaecher, NRS and Stacy Fletcher, SCT

Approval of Agenda:

Motion was made by Hansen and seconded by Engelhaupt to approve March 3, 2025, agenda, **Aye:** Morrow, Randa, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Engelhaupt, Marcellus, Lechtenberg. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Naprstek, Pritchett, Baumeister, Wendt.

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of February 3, Minutes:

Motion was made to approve February 3, 2025, minutes by Holtgrew seconded by Zegers. **Aye:** Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** Morrow, Randa, Klawitter, Marcellus, Lechtenberg. **Absent:** Naprstek, Pritchett, Baumeister, Wendt. **MOTION CARRIED**

Baumeister Arrived at 2:04pm

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 noted the change in meeting times starting April 7, 2025. Ellwanger stated Boyd and Holt County have both committed a letter of support and a monetary contribution to the WSF Grant to Fly the LNNRD District. Ellwanger discussed current appropriation on the Niobrara River. Ellwanger stated we have hired a Natural Resource Technician who will be starting at the end of March.

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 she attended the Nebraska Environmental Conference and has started school presentations.

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 on current nitrate levels and phase II data.

Richardson gave an update on building designs. There will be a **LNNRD Operations Committee** meeting on **March 18, 2025**, at **1:00pm** at the LNNRD Office.

NARD Association Report: Hansen stated the next meeting will be March 9 -10, 2025. They have had a lot of legislative discussion; the March meeting will be discussing the NARD Budget.

West Knox Rural Water Report: Ebel's report included in the director's meeting packet, and a copy is attached to the official minutes. Ellwanger reported that WKRW has hired Clint

BGMA Coordinator Report: Included in the directors' meeting packet.

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 that a meeting was held on February 27, 2025. Connell stated they discussed the 2025 budget and funding.

NE RC&D Report: Meeting was held on February 25, 2025

NC RC&D Report: No Meeting held; the next meeting will be April 9, 2025

Friends of the Missouri: No Meeting held.

Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition: No Meeting held

Additional Items of Business:

Erosion and Sediment Committee Report:

Ellwanger reported that a complaint has been filed by Greg Sandman Knox Co against Glen Rudloff. Ellwanger and Richardson met with Mr. Rudloff on February 26, 2025, at the area of concern. NRCS will be consulting with the landowner.

Public Hearing for Private Parcel Purchase:

A motion was made to set a public hearing for private parcel purchase for **March 26, 2025**, at **1:00pm** at the LNNRD by Holtgrew seconded by Higgins. **Aye:** Morrow, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Engelhaupt. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Naprstek, Pritchett, Wendt, Marcellus. **MOTION CARRIED**

Purchase Agreement for Public to Publix Transfer of Part of Block 9, Butte, Nebraska:

A motion was made to approve the purchase agreement for Public-to-Public transfer of part of Block 9, Butte, Nebraska by Higgins seconded by Klawitter. **Aye:** Morrow, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Engelhaupt, Lechtenberg. **Nay:** None. **Abstain:** Marcellus. **Absent:** Naprstek, Pritchett, Wendt. **MOTION CARRIED**

NSWCP Activities:

Approval of NSWCP activities:

Motion was made to approve contract 2412, 2413, and extend contract 2398 by Engelhaupt, second by Hansen. **Aye:** Morrow, Randa, Baumeister, Connell, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Klawitter, Engelhaupt, Marcellus **Nay:** Nope. **Abstain:** Higgins. **Absent:** Pritchett, Randa, Marcellus, Morrow, Lechtenberg. **MOTION CARRIED**

Treasurer Report:

Approval of Treasurer Report:

A motion was made by Baumeister seconded by Holtgrew to approve the March 3, 2025, treasurer's report. **Aye:** Morrow, Randa, Baumeister, Hansen, Higgins, Hoffman, Holtgrew, Zegers, Kaczor, Engelhaupt, Lechtenberg **Nay:** Connell, Klawitter. **Abstain:** Marcellus. **Absent:** Naprstek, Pritchett, Wendt. **MOTION CARRIED**

Comment Period:

Excused absent Directors: Naprstek, Pritchett, Wendt.

Secretary Larry Baumeister declared the meeting adjourned at 3:10PM.

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 March 3, 2025, 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