

August 13, 2020
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Vice-Chair Mike McDonald called the five hundred forty-second meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 8:07 p.m. Thursday, August 13, 2020, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:	Lisa Beethe	Doug Iske	Don Siske
	Rob Bohling	Jon Keithley	Mike Speece
	Randy Fox	Robert Lassen	Dan Stukenholtz
	Jim Gerweck	Michael McDonald	Duane Sugden
	Orval Gigstad	Russel Moss	
	Dan Hodges	Alan Romine	

DIRECTORS ABSENT:	Jessica Donnelly	William Niedfeldt	Kevin Thorne
	Tim Loseke	Eldon Snoke	

STAFF PARTICIPATING:	Bob Hilske, Manager
	Scott Nelson, Assistant Manager
	Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant
	Jill Rogman, Administrative Assistant

GUESTS PRESENT:	Tim Knott, Wachiska Audubon Society, Lincoln
	Martha Shulski, Lincoln
	Chris Schiebur, Adams

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence, McDonald announced that the Open Meetings Act was posted at the back of the room.

2. **PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

Proof of Publication was presented and is on file.

3. **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

Beethe moved, seconded by Lassen, to approve the excused absences requested by Jessica Donnelly, Tim Loseke, Bill Niedfeldt, Eldon Snoke, and Kevin Thorne. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

NRD directors and staff introduced themselves.

5. **MINUTES**

Sugden moved, seconded by Gigstad, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried on consent agenda.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Siske moved, seconded by Beethe, to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Motion carried on consent agenda.

7. **STAFF REPORTS**

Hilske reviewed his report.

8. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

A written report was distributed to all members.

B. Five Rivers RC&D

Sugden reported that they had been approved for weed management and household hazardous waste grants. Their annual report was also distributed. They are working on another NETF grant for an electronics collection. Their next meeting is August 20.

C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reported that a committee is working on finding new office space. The status of the annual conference was still unknown.

D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

McDonald reported they met in Kearney and that they only received eight applications totaling \$9.8 million. The Governor still has not appointed the seven members needed, and six more members will be up in December. They will meet in September to award the grants.

9. **STANDING COMMITTEES**

A. Programs & Projects Committee

1. *Well Permit Applications:* None.

2. *Agreement with Andy Wellensiek on Mittelberg Dam:* Nelson reviewed the agreement, which had been signed by Wellensiek. The committee asked to add a liability waiver to the agreement.

Sugden moved, seconded by Gerweck, to approve the agreement with Andy Wellensiek to provide cost-share for repairs to the Mittelberg dam with the addition of liability waiver language. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Moss, Romine, Siske, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden

ABSENT: Donnelly, Loseke, Niedfeldt, Snoke, Thorne

3. **Steamboat Trace Trail Debris Cleanup Bids:** Bids received were as follows:

Bidder	Total Bid
Lumberjack Company	\$30,200
Borrenpohl Excavating	\$31,000
Nebraska Tool Land Management	\$37,450
Greenwade Tree Service	\$40,000

Sugden moved, seconded by Lassen, to approve the low bid of \$30,200 from Lumberjack Company for debris cleanup on the Steamboat Trace. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Moss, Romine, Siske, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden

ABSENT: Donnelly, Loseke, Niedfeldt, Snoke, Thorne

4. **Agreement with Jason Othmer to Irrigate from MBN 88:** Gerweck reported that the committee took no action on this. Hilske added that this would probably come up again at a future meeting.
5. **Adams Community Park Drainage Project Request:** Chris Schiebur, representing the Village of Adams, reported that because of COVID, they would probably wait until next spring to proceed. They will get more definite numbers and information for the board to review then. No action.
6. **2020 Master Plan:** Gerweck reported that they briefly discussed the plan. No action.

B. Operations & Education Committee

1. **2020 Master Plan Update:** Romine reported the committee had time to review one section and will continue to work on it.
2. **Audubon Society Request to Assist with Native Prairie Maintenance Project:** Tim Knott explained the NET grant they are requesting and the pledges requested from our NRD and others. Romine reported that the committee recommended pledging \$6,000 in a lump sum, which would be budgeted next year if the grant is approved. Lassen asked what the money would be funding, and Knott explained that the NRD share would be for maintenance of the prairies, signage, etc., but not for salaries.

Romine moved, seconded by Fox, to approve a \$6,000 pledge to the Audubon Society to be included in the FY22 budget, if the Society's NET grant is approved. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Moss, Romine, Siske, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden
ABSENT: Donnelly, Loseke, Niedfeldt, Snoke, Thorne

C. Executive Committee

1. ***Sponsoring a Mesonet Weather Station in the NRD:*** Iske reviewed the weather station and the opportunity to get a used station. This would be a five-year agreement. They discussed the many opportunities for data the station would provide.

Iske moved, seconded by Gerweck, to approve sponsoring a Mesonet weather station with the exact location to be determined. Martha Shulski reviewed the other stations and what kind of data they are getting from them. Sugden asked where the money for this is coming from, and Hilske replied that the funds were held back in the budget. McDonald explained some other uses for the data. After further discussion, **motion carried.**

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Moss, Romine, Siske, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden
ABSENT: Donnelly, Loseke, Niedfeldt, Snoke, Thorne

2. ***NARD Annual Conference & Voting Delegates:*** Hilske explained that there could be a limitation on the number of people who could attend, if the contest were to be held in person. The general consensus was to wait until we know if the conference will go on to choose delegates. No action.
3. ***2020 Master Plan Update:*** Iske reported that their committee is looking at the plan and suggesting changes and additions.
4. ***Staff Wellness Program:*** Iske reported that the committee is looking at some voluntary programs for both staff and board members.

10. FY2021 BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

Hilske reviewed the budget summary and the major items in the budget.

Iske moved, seconded by Lassen, to advance the budget as presented to the budget hearing. After further discussion, **motion carried.**

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Moss, Romine, Siske, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden
ABSENT: Donnelly, Loseke, Niedfeldt, Snoke, Thorne

Iske moved, seconded by Gigstad, to set the budget hearing on September 10, 2020.
Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Moss, Romine, Siske, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden

ABSENT: Donnelly, Loseke, Niedfeldt, Snoke, Thorne

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETING DATE/TIME & AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS

The next meeting will be September 10, 2020, at 8:00 p.m. with committee meeting schedules to be announced. Budget hearings will precede the meeting(s).

12. CONSENT AGENDA

Sugden moved, seconded by Hodges, to approve the consent agenda. Consent agenda items: Excused Absences, Minutes, Treasurer's Report. **Motion carried.**

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Moss, Romine, Siske, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden

ABSENT: Donnelly, Loseke, Niedfeldt, Snoke, Thorne

13. ADJOURNMENT

Gerweck moved, seconded by Gigstad, to adjourn. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Moss, Romine, Siske, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden

ABSENT: Donnelly, Loseke, Niedfeldt, Snoke, Thorne

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Approved September 10, 2020

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District