

January 9, 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 thirty-fifth meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 7:05 p.m. Thursday, January 9, 2020, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

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| <b>DIRECTORS</b> | Lisa Beethe      | Doug Iske        | Don Siske       |
| <b>PRESENT:</b>  | Rob Bohling      | Jon Keithley     | Eldon Snoke     |
|                  | Jessica Donnelly | Robert Lassen    | Dan Stukenholtz |
|                  | Randy Fox        | Tim Loseke       | Duane Sugden    |
|                  | Jim Gerweck      | Michael McDonald | Kevin Thorne    |
|                  | Orval Gigstad    | Russel Moss      |                 |
|                  | Dan Hodges       | Alan Romine      |                 |

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|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>DIRECTORS</b> | William Niedfeldt |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Mike Speece       |

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| <b>STAFF</b>    | Bob Hilske, Manager                    |
| <b>PRESENT:</b> | Scott Nelson, Assistant Manager        |
|                 | Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant    |
|                 | Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager |

|                 |                                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>GUESTS</b>   | Roger Reichmuth, NRCS, Tecumseh |
| <b>PRESENT:</b> | Lori Gottula, Elk Creek         |

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. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Bohling reported on behalf of the nominating committee that Bill Niedfeldt had agreed to run again for Chair. The floor was opened for additional nominations for Chair, but none were offered. It was moved and seconded that nominations cease. Following a secret ballot vote, Bill Niedfeldt was elected Chair with 19 votes.

Bohling reported that Mike McDonald had agreed to run again for Vice-Chair. The floor was opened for additional nominations for Vice Chair, but none were offered. It was moved and seconded that nominations cease. Following a secret ballot vote, Mike McDonald was elected Vice Chair with 17 votes.

Bohling reported that Doug Iske had agreed to run again for Secretary/Treasurer. The floor was opened for additional nominations for Secretary/Treasurer, but none were offered. It was moved and seconded that nominations cease. A secret ballot vote resulted in Doug Iske elected Secretary/Treasurer with 18 votes.

Bohling reported that Orval Gigstad and Don Siske had agreed to serve as the NARD representative and alternate, respectively. It was moved and seconded that nominations cease. Upon secret ballot, Orval Gigstad was elected NARD representative and Don Siske NARD alternate with 19 votes each.

4. **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

**Siske moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve the excused absences requested by Bill Niedfeldt and Mike Speece. Motion carried on consent agenda.**

5. **OPEN FORUMS**

NRD directors, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

6. **MINUTES**

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

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Sugden moved, seconded by Gigstad, to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Motion carried on consent agenda.**

8. **STAFF REPORTS**

Hilske reviewed his written report. Nelson reviewed his report.

9. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

**A. Natural Resources Conservation Service**

Reichmuth reported they had been busy in the field with the favorable weather. They are awaiting rule changes before working on EQIP and CRP.

**B. Five Rivers RC&D**

Sugden reported on discussions they had regarding the windmills that are going up.

**C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts**

Gigstad reviewed the Legislative Conference agenda. He encouraged directors to attend the Washington, DC, conference in March.

**D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission**

McDonald reported on pressure to direct funds toward flood related projects. There will be seven new members on the Commission.

10. STANDING COMMITTEES

**A. Programs & Projects Committee**

1. *Well Permit Applications:* Wingert reviewed the following applications:

| Permit# | Landowner Name | Well Location                            | GPM | Purpose        | Score |
|---------|----------------|--|-----|----------------|-------|
| N720    | Galen Grimm    | NE¼NE¼ Section 20-1-16 Richardson County | 200 | SSD Irrigation | 202   |
| N721    | Justin Caspers | SW¼SE¼ Section 13-5-11 Johnson County    | 800 | Irrigation     | 222   |
| N722    | CJG Farms, LP  | NW¼NE¼ Section 24-6-12 Nemaha County     | 400 | Irrigation     | 202   |
| N723    | CJG Farms, LP  | NW¼NE¼ Section 24-6-12 Nemaha County     | 400 | Irrigation     | 213   |

**Gerweck moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve Well Permit #N720, N721, N722, and N723. Motion carried.**

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

**NOT PRESENT:** Niedfeldt, Speece

2. *Update on Groundwater Rule Revision Hearing:* Wingert reviewed the hearing details. He also talked about the purpose of the question and answer session that would precede the hearing.

**Gerweck moved, seconded by Hodges, to appoint Bill Niedfeldt as Hearing Officer for the Groundwater Rules and Regulations public hearing on February 3, 2020. Motion carried.**

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

**NOT PRESENT:** Niedfeldt, Speece

3. *Update on Development and Timetable for Developing District's Integrated Management Plan:* Wingert explained the purpose of the plan. He further explained how the planning will happen in conjunction with the Lower Big Blue NRD. Hilske added that the plan is ultimately required in order to remain eligible for Water Sustainability Funds.

**B. Operations & Education Committee-No meeting**

**C. Executive Committee**

1. *Update on Legislation:* Hilske briefly reviewed some bills that might impact the NRDs.

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

Hilske distributed copies of the District's current Master Plan which contained notes about things that were accomplished over the past 10 years. He noted that we will be working on updating the plan this year.

The next meeting will be February 13, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. with committee meetings prior to the regular meeting. Agenda items will include a Water Sustainability Fund agreement, consulting firm agreement, budget review, and Urban Special Projects pre-applications. McDonald also stated the Center for Rural Affairs would like to set up a meeting in Syracuse sometime either before or after the Washington, DC, conference.

**12. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**AYE:** Beethe, Bohling, Donnelly, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne  
**NOT PRESENT:** Niedfeldt, Speece

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**Siske moved, seconded by Lassen, to adjourn. Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Beethe, Bohling, Donnelly, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne  
**NOT PRESENT:** Niedfeldt, Speece

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

*Approved February 13, 2020*

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Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District