

June 13, 2019
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Bill Niedfeldt called the five hundred twenty-eighth meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 8:17 p.m. Thursday, June 13, 2019, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:	Lisa Beethe Rob Bohling * Jessica Donnelly * <i>Left early</i> Jim Gerweck Dan Hodges Doug Iske	Jon Keithley Robert Lassen Tim Loseke Michael McDonald William Niedfeldt Don Siske	Alan Romine Dan Stukenholtz Duane Sugden Kevin Thorne
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DIRECTORS ABSENT:	Orval Gigstad Dave Guhde	Russel Moss Eldon Snoke	Mike Speece
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STAFF PRESENT:	Bob Hilske, Manager Scott Nelson, Assistant Manager Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager Kerri Miller, Administrative Assistant Aaron Stalder, Resources Specialist
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GUESTS PRESENT:	Roger Reichmuth, NRCS, Tecumseh Emily Bausch, Olsson/Village of Bennet Bobbie Meints, 5 Rivers RC&D Julia Slama, Senator, District 1
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Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence, Niedfeldt 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**

Siske moved, seconded by Thorne, to approve the excused absences requested by Orval Gigstad, Russel Moss, Eldon Snoke, and Mike Speece for this month and Alan Romine for the May meeting. It was noted that Alan's request was emailed before but not opened until after last month's meeting. **Motion carried on consent agenda.**

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

NRD directors and staff introduced themselves. Niedfeldt announced that guests have the option to introduce themselves at this time, and by doing so their names would be included as part of the meeting minutes.

5. **MINUTES**

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

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

7. **STAFF REPORTS**

Hilske reviewed his written report. Nelson reviewed his written report.

8. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

A. Legislative Update

Senator Slama addressed the board beginning by reviewing some of the pertinent legislation that was introduced and passed. She specifically talked about property tax relief efforts including some that addresses land affected by disasters. She fielded a variety of questions from board members.

B. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Reichmuth provided a written report and explained that they are working on finishing up CSP applications so they can go back to working on EQIP again.

C. Five Rivers RC&D

Bobbie Meints was present to give their annual report. She reviewed their different areas of activity adding that there would be a free electronics collection in Johnson County coming up.

D. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Hilske mentioned that the annual basin tour had been held earlier in the week in the Loup River basin.

E. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

McDonald distributed information from the recent meeting and discussed some of the grants available.

9. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Programs & Projects Committee

1. ***Exceeding Allowable NRD Cost-Share for Haug Small Dam:*** Nelson reviewed the situation and guidance he was requesting. The committee is willing to exceed the cost-share but would like the engineer to investigate options to reduce the cost. They also discussed having the landowner pay some of the costs for permits. No action.
2. ***Camp Catron Streambank Project:*** Nelson explained the issues and that the Camp is trying to obtain grant funding to help with the costs to correct the erosion problem they are experiencing. They have asked for a commitment of \$12,000 from the NRD to use as match for the grant and a letter of support. If received, they would not be doing the project until our 2021 budget year.

Lassen moved, seconded by Sugden, to send a letter of support to Camp Catron for \$12,000 to be included in the 2021 budget contingent upon their receipt of grant funding. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Donnelly, Gerweck, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Gigstad, Guhde, Moss, Snoke, Speece

3. ***Groundwater Consulting Contract with Leonard Rice Engineers:*** Chuck explained the history with Dave Hume and his associates at LBG Engineering, WSP Engineering, and now with Leonard Rice Engineers. Our contract with WSP, his previous firm, expires June 30. This new contract would be for test hole drilling/monitoring, well installation oversight, mapping, and updating plans and rules.

Gerweck moved, seconded by Keithley, to approve the contract with Leonard Rice Engineers in an amount not to exceed \$42,450 for groundwater consulting services. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Donnelly, Gerweck, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Gigstad, Guhde, Moss, Snoke, Speece

4. ***Working with ENWRA for Additional AEM Flights in 2020:*** Wingert reviewed a proposed area to include in additional flights. There was discussion about the cost savings if flights are combined with those in other Districts. Board consensus was to participate in future flights.
5. ***Well Permit Applications:*** None received.
6. ***Update on Groundwater Rules, Projects, & Other Programs:*** Wingert reviewed a proposed timeline for completing the draft by the next board meeting so it can be

finalized for the August meeting. After that it would go to other agencies for review with the potential for a public hearing in September. Ultimately the changes could be in place on October 1. He also reported on the observation well project.

7. ***Kirkman's Cove Sediment Basin and Impact to Golf Course:*** Gerweck stated the committee had met with Randy Burgett, who explained the problems caused to the course by lake water that is not draining off the course. Burgett will bring more information back to the board including estimated costs to try to protect the course until the new sediment basin is constructed. Stukenholtz added that Burgett mentioned getting some volunteers and equipment to build a barrier to protect the course temporarily. There was some discussion about whose responsibility it is to fix this issue. No action.

B. Operations & Education Committee

1. ***Bennet Urban Special Project Extension Request:*** Hodges explained the work that has been done to date, which is essentially the design. Stalder added that construction was hampered by weather.

Hodges moved, seconded by Romine, to grant an extension until June 1, 2020, with the stipulation that quarterly reports be provided showing progress on the project. Motion carried.

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

2. ***Iron Horse Tree Removal Project Contract Extension:***
Hodges moved, seconded by Siske, to approve the contract extension with Dresen Contracting with a new deadline of October 10, 2019, with a \$500/day penalty assessed after that date. Motion carried.

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

3. ***JEO Proposal for Developing Kirkman's Cove Dump Station Design:*** Hodges explained that an engineer's design might not be required if we go with the option that does not require a lift station. Nelson further explained the two options for locating the dump station. Board consensus was to proceed with the option that does not require the lift station/engineering and include it in the FY20 budget.
4. ***Replacing Playground Equipment at Iron Horse Trail Lake:*** Hodges explained that the existing equipment is over 30 years old and in disrepair. The committee recommended budgeting for new equipment.

C. Executive Committee

1. ***Duck Sediment Basin Land Rights:*** Hilske explained that he had sent an offer but that the landowner had not had time to review if yet. No action.
2. ***Property/Liability Insurance Renewal:*** McDonald reviewed the quote received from The Harry A. Koch Company for property, liability, and workers compensation insurance for the upcoming fiscal year. The quote was a total of \$45,896, though this amount could change pending final workers comp numbers.

McDonald moved, seconded by Hodges, to approve the quote from The Harry A Koch Company for property, liability, and workers compensation insurance for FY20 as long as the quote is within the estimate provided. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Donnelly, Gerweck, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke,

McDonald, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Bohling, Gigstad, Guhde, Moss, Snoke, Speece

3. ***Update on Annual District Report and Plan:*** McDonald reported that a working draft was reviewed. Kuhl added that a final plan is expected to be completed and sent to directors prior to the July meeting for their review. No action.
4. & 5. ***Revision to Service & Merit Salary System/District FY2020 Salary Schedule:*** Hilske provided a PowerPoint presentation on the salary schedule and some suggested revisions to address employees who have reached the maximum on the current schedule. Information was provided regarding the specifics of the new, proposed service merit schedule.

McDonald moved, seconded by Lassen, to approve the new service merit schedule as presented. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Donnelly, Gerweck, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke,

McDonald, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Gigstad, Guhde, Moss, Snoke, Speece

McDonald discussed the base increases that were recommended by the committee for both base and non-base staff. Hilske explained the base increases, service increases, and performance merit. The total of proposed increases for base staff was \$23,299.

McDonald moved, seconded by Siske, to approve the suggested base increase of 4.2 percent for base staff and 3.5 percent for non-base staff. This results in an overall increase of 4 percent totaling \$30,504. **Motion carried.**

AYE: Beethe, Donnelly, Gerweck, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke,

McDonald, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Bohling, Gigstad, Guhde, Moss, Snoke, Speece

6. Resignation from Dave Guhde as Director from Subdistrict 5:

McDonald moved, seconded by Beethe, accept the resignation of Dave Guhde, declare the seat in Subdistrict 5 vacant, and set July 11, 2019, as the first day on which the board will attempt to fill the vacancy. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Donnelly, Gerweck, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Bohling, Gigstad, Guhde, Moss, Snoke, Speece

10. FY2020 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Miller reviewed three handouts showing a budget summary and budget details through May 31 as well as anticipated property tax changes. Some proposed expenditures for next fiscal year were also reviewed. Hilske reviewed the process for determining what goes into the budget as well as some of the bigger expenditures under consideration. No action.

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

The next meeting will be July 11, 2019, at 8:00 p.m. with committee meetings prior to the regular meeting.

12. CONSENT AGENDA

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

AYE: Beethe, Donnelly, Gerweck, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Bohling, Gigstad, Guhde, Moss, Snoke, Speece

13. ADJOURNMENT

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

AYE: Beethe, Donnelly, Gerweck, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Bohling, Gigstad, Guhde, Moss, Snoke, Speece

The meeting adjourned at 10:56 p.m.

Approved 7/11/19

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District