

September 10, 2020
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Bill Niedfeldt called the five hundred forty-third meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 8:05 p.m. Thursday, September 10, 2020, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:	Lisa Beethe Rob Bohling Jessica Donnelly Jim Gerweck Orval Gigstad Dan Hodges	Jon Keithley Robert Lassen Tim Loseke Michael McDonald Russel Moss William Niedfeldt	Alan Romine Dan Stukenholtz Duane Sugden Kevin Thorne
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DIRECTORS ABSENT:	Randy Fox Doug Iske	Don Siske Eldon Snoke	Mike Speece
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STAFF PRESENT:	Bob Hilske, Manager Scott Nelson, Assistant Manager Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant Jill Rogman, Administrative Assistant
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GUESTS PRESENT:	Roger Reichmuth, NRCS, Tecumseh Janet Palmtag, Syracuse
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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**

Sugden moved, seconded by Lassen, to approve the excused absences requested by Randy Fox, Doug Iske, Don Siske, Eldon Snoke, and Mike Speece. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

NRD directors, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

5. **MINUTES**

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

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

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

7. STAFF REPORTS

Hilske reviewed his report. He also reported on the progress in finding a location for the Mesonet weather station. Nelson reviewed his report. There was some discussion about the status of the Steamboat Trace.

8. AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**A. Natural Resources Conservation Service**

Reichmuth reviewed his year-end report. He announced that he would be moving to a different position within NRCS in their Lincoln office. He thanked the board for the good working relationship and for providing clerical support to their offices.

B. Five Rivers RC&D

Sugden reported that he will continue to serve as Vice-Chair until December when they hold elections. They have applied for another electronics recycling grant.

C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reported on the business meeting that will take place later in September and the cancellation of the annual conference. Because the conference and associated activities provide annual funding for the NARD Foundation and its educational programs, NARD is asking Districts to consider donating to the Foundation at least a portion of the funds that would have been spent on sending directors and staff to the conference.

D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

McDonald reported that the scoring committee is beginning to look at applications. They will meet again in November.

9. STANDING COMMITTEES**A. Programs & Projects Committee**

1. Well Permit Applications: None.

2. Extending Sunset Date for 300-Point Minimum Requirement for Well Permits in Eastern Richardson County: Wingert reviewed a map showing the modified area that was designated for the minimum score during the last updates to the rules. He further reviewed the value of the information that has been collected from some of the new monitoring wells that were recently installed. Hilske further pointed out that with the updated point scoring system and the additional information available from the recorder wells, the committee should be in a position to decide within the next year on how to proceed with scoring wells in this area.

Sugden moved, seconded by Gerweck, to extend the 300-point minimum requirement for approving well permits in portions of eastern Richardson County for one year. Motion carried.

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

3. *Quotes for Placing Rip-Rap on Various Structures:* Nelson reviewed the projects and the quotes for each site. Rock will be purchased by the NRD, so quotes are only for placement.

Bidder	Upper Little Nemaha 36
Pester Grading	\$5,500
Borrenpohl Excavating	\$5,500
Bidder	Upper Big Nemaha 15-B
Pester Grading	\$3,000
Borrenpohl Excavating	\$3,120
Bidder	Upper Big Nemaha L-10
Pester Grading	\$3,040
Borrenpohl Excavating	\$3,840
Bidder	Upper Big Nemaha 21-A
Pester Grading	\$4,500
Borrenpohl Excavating	\$5,000
Bidder	Wilson Creek 2-N
Pester Grading	\$3,000
Borrenpohl Excavating	\$3,150
Bidder	South Branch 8
Pester Grading	\$7,200
Borrenpohl Excavating	\$8,000
Bidder	Winnebago Bean 5-5
Fischer Construction	\$4,500
Bidder	Long Branch P-4-B
Borrenpohl Excavating	\$5,040
Gyhra Construction	\$5,280

Nelson reported that the tie bid between Pester Grading and Borrenpohl Excavating for the Upper Little Nemaha 36 project was decided with a coin flip by the committee. Borrenpohl Excavating was the winner.

Gerweck moved, seconded by Gigstad, to approve the low quotes for placing riprap on watershed structures and to award the ULN 36 project to Borrenpohl Excavating as a result of a coin flip. Motion carried.

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

4. **2020 Master Plan:** Gerweck reported that they did not have time to discuss anything in detail. Nelson encouraged committee members to turn in their questionnaires that were provided last month. No action.

B. Operations & Education Committee

1. **2020 Master Plan Update:** Romine reported the committee worked on three more sections of the plan. No action.

C. Executive Committee

1. **NRD Position on NARD Resolution:** McDonald reported there was only one resolution to consider and that it addresses a statewide extreme weather event or climate change action plan. The committee didn't feel it would require any financial commitment. Hilske reviewed the resolution and asked the board to provide direction for our voting delegate.

McDonald moved, seconded by Beethe, to support NARD Resolution 2020-1.
After further discussion, **motion carried.**

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Donnelly, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Sugden, Thorne

NAY: Stukenholtz

ABSENT: Fox, Iske, Siske, Snoke, Speece

2. **NARD Voting Delegates:** Since the conference is cancelled and only the business session will take place, Orval Gigstad is the only director attending. Therefore, the committee selected him as the sole delegate to the meeting.
3. **2020 Master Plan Update:** McDonald reported that they reviewed the sections on District staffing and the buildings. No action.

10. MANAGER SEARCH COMMITTEE

Niedfeldt reviewed the advertising plan and the timetable. He invited questions on the plans. Stukenholtz asked if the board members could submit interview questions for the applicants. Niedfeldt responded that questions could be submitted to the committee to consider. Hilske added that his part of the process would end as soon as the position is advertised unless there are specific questions for him from the committee.

11. FY2021 BUDGET

Hilske reviewed the budget process and the additional revenue that was generated while finalizing the budget figures. He explained that these funds were added into the SWCP cost-share category but could be transferred to another area if the board wishes. He also reviewed the final property valuations and resulting levy.

Public hearings were held immediately prior to the board meeting to set the property tax request and on the budget itself. Notices of the hearings were published in the following newspapers on September 2, 2020: Falls City Journal; September 3, 2020: Nemaha County Herald, Tecumseh Chieftain, Pawnee Republican, Humboldt Standard, Voice News; and September 4, 2020: Nebraska City News Press, Syracuse Journal Democrat

Gerweck moved, seconded by Beethe, to approve the FY2021 budget as presented and the resolution setting the property tax request at \$ 1,964,975.20 resulting in a levy of 0.026572. Motion carried.

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

ABSENT: Fox, Iske, Siske, Snoke, Speece

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

The next meeting will be October 8, 2020, at 8:00 p.m. with committee meeting schedules to be announced. Janet Palmtag thanked the board for everything the NRD does.

13. CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

ABSENT: Fox, Iske, Siske, Snoke, Speece

14. ADJOURNMENT

Beethe moved, seconded by McDonald, to adjourn. Motion carried.

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

ABSENT: Fox, Iske, Siske, Snoke, Speece

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Approved October 8, 2020

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District