

April 14, 2005
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Jim Wirth called the three hundred sixty-first meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 8:00 p.m. Thursday, April 14, 2005, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS	John Albrecht	Roland Meyer	Duane Sugden
PRESENT:	Jeff Crunk*	Dave Neddenriep	Bruce Walker
	Orval Gigstad	Gerald Royal	Dan Watermeier
	Ted Godemann	Jim Rush	Tom White
<i>*Left early</i>	Ron Heskett	Steve Sherrow	Jim Wirth
	David Hunzeker	Don Siske	
	Scott Kudrna	Chuck Starr	

DIRECTORS
ABSENT: Mike Speece

STAFF
PRESENT: Bob Hilske, Manager
Scott Nelson, Assistant Manager
Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant
Shawn Kreienhop, Watershed Projects Coordinator

GUESTS
PRESENT: Wes Pope, NRCS, Tecumseh
Carol Sisco, *The Pawnee Republican*, Pawnee City
Steve Wenz, Firth
William Reed, Falls City
Paul Weber, Firth
LeRoy Wallman, Adams
David Sundberg, Bennet

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chair Wirth opened the meeting with a moment of silence.

2. **PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

Proof of Publication was presented and is on file.

3. **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

A request for excused absence had been received from Mike Speece.

White moved, seconded by Albrecht, to approve the excused absence of Mike Speece. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. **APPOINTMENT AND OATH OF OFFICE – NEW DIRECTOR SUBDISTRICT 1**

Applicants for the position were Steve Wenz, Paul Weber, LeRoy Wallman, and David Sundberg. Each applicant introduced himself and gave a brief background and explanation of his interest in serving as a director. Chair Wirth confirmed that each applicant was a registered voter and legal resident of Subdistrict 1. A ballot vote was taken; and the results, which were read aloud, were as follows:

Voting for David Sundberg: Godemann, Kudrna, Meyer, Starr, Walker, Wirth (6)

Voting for LeRoy Wallman: Hunzeker, Royal, Sugden, Watermeier (4)

Voting for Paul Weber: Heskett, Neddenriep, Sherrow, Siske, White (5)

Voting for Steve Wenz: Albrecht, Crunk, Gigstad, Rush (4)

In the absence of a clear majority, a second vote was held between the top two vote getters, Sundberg and Weber; and the results, which were read aloud, were as follows:

Voting for Sundberg: Godemann, Kudrna, Meyer, Neddenriep, Starr, Walker, Wirth (7)

Voting for Weber: Albrecht, Crunk, Gigstad, Heskett, Hunzeker, Royal, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Sugden, Watermeier, White (12)

Godemann moved, seconded by Heskett, to appoint Paul Weber to the Subdistrict 1 vacancy on the board of directors. Motion carried.

AYE: Albrecht, Crunk, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Neddenriep, Royal, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Starr, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, White, Wirth

ABSENT: Speece

Wirth thanked all the applicants for their interest in the position. Nelson, a notary public, then administered the oath of office to Paul Weber; and he took his place on the board.

5. **OPEN FORUMS**

All directors, staff, and guests introduced themselves. Godemann then invited William Reed to address the board briefly regarding a private organization with which he is associated that is interested in the Pawnee County Lake Project. Reed stated his group is in a position to fund much of the project, and they may have a presentation ready for the board in June.

6. **MINUTES**

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

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

8. **STAFF REPORT**

Hilske and Nelson reviewed their written reports. Hilske also reported on the Washington, DC, trip. Siske added that he was impressed with the trip and the number of people who turn out for the Nebraska breakfasts that are held each week.

9. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Wes Pope reviewed his written report. He stated the Conservation Security Program has the potential to replace all the government farm payments. He suggested directors watch the 2007 Farm Bill for updates.

B. Five Rivers RC&D

Kudrna stated they are still waiting to hear if the water supply study grant gets approved. The weed management group has been meeting and they are going to apply for a \$40,000 grant from DEQ. RC&D is sponsoring the New Farm Beginnings program to help new farmers get started.

C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reported there will be no dues increase this year in the proposed budget. Tree sales were down, and there was some hail damage to the trees at Halsey. The proposed budget is just over \$1 million, but much of that is from the TSP and tree programs.

D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

Watermeier stated the big push for the Commission has been the Leigh dam project. This \$6.5 million project was approved by the Commission unanimously.

E. Pawnee County Lake Steering Committee

No report.

F. Water Policy Task Force Report

Sugden shared maps of areas in question regarding levels of appropriation that are being reviewed by the Task Force. He added there is controversy about the number of irrigators on the Task Force versus the number of city representatives.

10. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Programs & Projects Committee

1. *Dutcher Structure Bid Approval:* Bids received were as follows:

Bidder	Bid
Gyhra Construction	\$19,764.20
L&J Midway Farms	\$19,940.91
<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	<i>\$19,878.95</i>

Sherrow moved, seconded by Siske, to approve the bid of \$19,764.20 from Gyhra Construction for the Andy Dutcher dam. Motion carried.

AYE: Albrecht, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Neddenriep, Royal, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Starr, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

ABSENT: Crunk, Speece

2. *Nebraska City Road Dam Bid Approval:* Bids received were as follows:

Bidder	Bid
Malone Construction	\$118,553.97
B-Y Excavating, Inc.	\$124,287.23
B.A.B., Inc.	\$124,933.10
<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	<i>\$106,000.00</i>

Discussion was held on the District's agreement with Otoe County to provide 60 percent of the engineering and construction costs, not to exceed \$69,000. Total cost for both is now estimated at \$139,000. Hilske pointed out that if the County decides to go forward, then a new agreement or an amendment would be needed to address the excess costs. After additional discussion, **Sherrow moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve the bid of \$118,553.97 from Malone Construction for the Nebraska City Road Dam contingent upon the acceptance by the Otoe County Commissioners of the bid and upon the NRD's total contribution not exceeding \$69,000 as recorded in the Interlocal Agreement dated February 12, 2004, and to authorize the Chair to sign an amendment to the February 12, 2004, agreement to adjust the County's total share and the District's percentage share. Motion carried.**

AYE: Albrecht, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Neddenriep, Royal, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Starr, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

ABSENT: Crunk, Speece

- 3. *Wildlife Habitat Area Restrictions:*** Sherrow reported the committee had reviewed the proposed restrictions, and they had recommended adding that prescribed burning would not be allowed.

Sherrow moved, seconded by Meyer, to approve the Wildlife Habitat Area Restrictions for the easement at Upper Big Nemaha Site 27R with the addition of the restriction on prescribed burning. Hilske explained that with the increasing development in areas where the District has wildlife easements, it will be helpful to have these clarifications when questions are posed by developers. **Motion carried.**

AYE: Albrecht, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Neddenriep, Royal, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Starr, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

ABSENT: Crunk, Speece

- 4. *South Branch Watershed Resolution:*** Sherrow explained that the NRCS was asking for the board's approval of an agreement deleting structures 31 and 76 from the South Branch work plan in order to formally close out this watershed.

Sherrow moved, seconded by Siske, to authorize the Chair to sign the Supplemental Agreement Number 2 for the South Branch Watershed. Motion carried.

AYE: Albrecht, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Neddenriep, Royal, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Starr, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

ABSENT: Crunk, Speece

B. Operations & Education Committee

- 1. *Requests for Scholarships to State Envirothon:*** White stated two schools from within the District, Norris and Tecumseh, had teams qualify for the state Envirothon. Registration fees for the state contest are \$100 each, and the District has paid the fees in the past.

White moved, seconded by Siske, to approve payment of the \$100 state registration fees for the Norris High School and Tecumseh High School Envirothon teams. Motion carried.

AYE: Albrecht, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Neddenriep, Royal, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Starr, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

ABSENT: Crunk, Speece

2. *Approve the Purchase of a New Restroom at Kirkman's Cove:* White explained that a prefabricated, concrete restroom had been budgeted for the beach area at Kirkman's Cove. Estimated cost is \$21,000, which was above the amount originally budgeted; however, funds not needed for other recreation area projects would be used to cover the extra costs.

White moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve the purchase of a new restroom at Kirkman's Cove. After further discussion, motion carried.

AYE: Albrecht, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Neddenriep, Royal, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Starr, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

ABSENT: Crunk, Speece

C. Executive Committee

1. *Wolken MBN 88 Issues:* No action.
2. *Authorize the Manager to Sign Federal 270 Reimbursement Forms on Behalf of the NRD for Duck and Buck Creek:* Wirth explained that the Manager has signed such forms in the past but that now NRCS has asked for board action to authorize him to sign them for this project.

Godemann moved, seconded by Albrecht, to authorize the Manager to sign Federal 270 Reimbursement Forms for Duck & Buck Creek. Motion carried.

AYE: Albrecht, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Neddenriep, Royal, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Starr, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

ABSENT: Crunk, Speece

3. Annual Leases for Lakeview Golf Course and Bunge Elevator:

Godemann moved, seconded by White, to approve the annual leases for the Kirkman's Lakeview Golf Course at \$100 and the Bunge Elevator for \$550. Motion carried.

AYE: Albrecht, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Neddenriep, Royal, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Starr, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

ABSENT: Crunk, Speece

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

Wirth stated the next meeting would be Thursday, May 12, with committees at 7:00 p.m. and the regular meeting at 8:00 p.m.

12. CONSENT AGENDA

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

AYE: Albrecht, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Neddenriep, Royal, Sherrow, Siske, Starr, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

ABSTAINING: Rush

ABSENT: Crunk, Speece

13. ADJOURNMENT

White moved, seconded by Kudrna, to adjourn. Motion carried.

AYE: Albrecht, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Neddenriep, Royal, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Starr, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

ABSENT: Crunk, Speece

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m. The next regular meeting of the board of directors will be Thursday, May 12, 2005, at 8:00 p.m. at the NRD headquarters at 62161 Hwy 136 in Tecumseh.

(Approved 5/12/05)

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District