

February 8, 2007  
Nemaha Natural Resources District  
Regular Meeting  
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Ted Godemann called the three hundred eighty-second meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 7:04 p.m. Thursday, February 8, 2007, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

<b>DIRECTORS</b>	John Albrecht	Scott Kudrna	Chuck Starr*
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Lisa Beethe	Roland Meyer	Duane Sugden
	Jeff Crunk*	Jim Rush	Bruce Walker
<i>*Left Early</i>	Ted Godemann	Steve Sherrow	Paul Weber
	Ron Heskett	Don Siske	Tom White
	David Hunzeker	Mike Speece*	Jim Wirth

<b>DIRECTORS</b>	Orval Gigstad	Dan Watermeier
<b>ABSENT:</b>		

<b>STAFF</b>	Bob Hilske, Manager
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Scott Nelson, Assistant Manager
	Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant
	Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager
	Mark McDonald, Field Representative
	Aaron Stalder, Resources Specialist

<b>GUESTS</b>	Duane Teten, Dunbar
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Rob Bohling, Johnson
	Mark Rippe, Auburn
	Terry Newell, NRCS, Tecumseh

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was observed. Chair Godemann announced that the Open Meetings Act was posted on the wall at the back of the room.

2. **PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

Proof of Publication was presented and is on file.

3. **OATH OF OFFICE TO BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED IN NOVEMBER, 2006**

Scott Nelson, a notary public, administered the oath of office to Ron Heskett.

4. **APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR TO FILL VACANCY IN SUBDISTRICT 6**

Godemann reported that four letters had been received from individuals interested in serving the remaining term in Subdistrict 6. Letters were received from Rob Bohling, Randall Rippe, Mark Rippe, and Larry Goracke. Those in attendance, Mark Rippe and Rob Bohling, addressed the board and explained their interests in serving on the board. Results of a roll

call vote of directors present were as follows:

Rob Bohling – 11  
Larry Goracke - 1  
Mark Rippe – 1  
Randall Rippe – 5

Nelson administered the oath of office to Rob Bohling, who was then seated on the board.

5. **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

**White moved, seconded by Siske, to approve the excused absences requested by Orval Gigstad and Dan Watermeier. Motion carried on consent agenda.**

6. **OPEN FORUMS**

All directors, NRD staff, NRCS staff, and guests introduced themselves. Duane Teten then addressed the board regarding a road dam near Lorton. He was concerned about a landowner closing the valve on the dam and, therefore, not letting water down the channel for his livestock downstream. Hilske explained why the County is not required to let the water through. Staff will investigate this matter further and bring it back before the board next month.

7. **MINUTES**

Heskett pointed out that the minutes that were mailed out did not include that the oath of office was administered to Jim Rush. **White moved, seconded by Wirth, to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried on consent agenda.**

8. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

9. **STAFF REPORT**

Hilske reviewed his written report. He added that it appears the Muddy Creek project would be approved for Nebraska Environmental Trust funding but that the water supply grant would not be approved. Nelson reviewed his written report. Mark McDonald then gave a report on the status of the District's tree program. About 22,000 trees have been sold this year so far with about 12-13,000 of those to be planted by the NRD. He also reviewed some of the diseases plaguing trees in the area. Aaron Stalder reviewed the current wildlife programs including WHIP, WILD Nebraska, Riparian Lands Joint Venture, Partners for Wildlife, Missouri River programs, and Landowner Incentives Program.

10. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

**A. Natural Resources Conservation Service**

Terry Newell reviewed his written report. He and some other staff had met with the NRCS chief, who was in Omaha recently. They are waiting to fill the Pawnee City RC position. Most offices are busy ranking EQIP applications, and Newell is working on revising the state staffing plan.

**B. Five Rivers RC&D**

Kudrna reported no meeting had been held in January, and their February meeting would be next week. The household hazardous waste grant has been approved with collections to be scheduled soon.

**C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts**

Beethe reported that NARD hopes to have the insurance pool up and running by May 1. The NARD voted to keep the insurance at 100% for NARD employees and their families. Hilske then reviewed the NARD's action on new legislation.

**D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission**

No report.

**E. Water Policy Task Force Report**

Sugden stated their next meeting would be March 19 in Lincoln. He added that Ann Bleed was ratified by the Legislative Committee as DNR director.

11. STANDING COMMITTEES

**A. Programs & Projects Committee**

*1. Bids for Repairing Brownell 1-4:* Bids received were as follows:

<b>Bidder</b>	<b>Bid</b>
Kuhl Trenching & Exc., Inc.	\$12,782.58
B.A.B., Inc.	\$13,894.38
Peterson Construction	\$17,656.00
Hartmann Construction	\$18,923.32
General Excavating	\$40,962.00

**Sherrow moved, seconded by Walker, to approve the bid from Kuhl Trenching in the amount of \$12,782.58 for Brownell 1-4 repair work. Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Crunk, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Speece, Starr, Sugden, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

**NOT PRESENT:** Gigstad, Watermeier

## **B. Water Resources Ad-Hoc Committee**

1. ***Proposals for Consulting Services for Groundwater Data Collection & Modeling:***  
Weber reviewed the proposals received from Olsson Associates, EA Engineering, and RDG Geoscience. Estimated costs received from each were \$73,000, \$89,200, and \$23,336, respectively.

**Weber moved, seconded by White, to negotiate a contract with Olsson Associates for groundwater data collection and modeling.** Hilske explained concerns that he and Wingert had about the amount of time that RDG was proposing for some parts of the project and their lack of experience compared to the other consultants. He added that final costs would be based upon actual hours spent on the project. In addition Olsson's has some data already collected from some of the municipalities in our District. Olsson's also had a great deal of experience with similar projects in other NRDs. Starr felt considering the difference in the cost estimates provided by the three firms, the board would best be served by having staff contact firms to make sure there was a clear understanding of the project.. After further discussion, **motion carried.**

**AYE:** Albrecht, Godemann, Heskett, Kudrna, Meyer, Speece, Sugden, Walker, White, Wirth

**NAY:** Beethe, Crunk, Hunzeker, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Starr, Weber

**ABSTAINING:** Bohling

**NOT PRESENT:** Gigstad, Watermeier

2. ***Review Variance Guideline Surveys:*** Wingert reviewed the results of the survey and the reason for it.

## **C. Operations & Education Committee**

1. ***Bunge Elevator Lease:***  
**Sherrow moved, seconded by Speece, to renew the lease with Bunge Elevator at the current rate of \$566.50. Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Crunk, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Speece, Sugden, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

**NOT PRESENT:** Gigstad, Starr, Watermeier

2. ***Urban Special Project Requests:*** Siske reviewed the two applications received from Nebraska City and one application from Burr. All three projects met the policy guidelines; however, the committee had some concerns regarding the pond rehab project in Nebraska City. Final applications will be submitted for review and action at the May meeting.

3. *Attorney General Funds*: No action.

**D. Executive Committee**

1. *Agreement with LaVerne Wolken on MBN 88*: Kudrna reported that the settlement for the 6.2 acres of permanent pool that were omitted from the original easement was \$9,300 with an additional \$3,200 for crop damages.

**Kudrna moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve the agreement with LaVerne Wolken to provide \$9,300 for 6.2 additional permanent pool acres and \$3,200 for crop damages.** Kudrna clarified that we do not have a signed agreement from Mr. Wolken yet. Hilske explained how these amounts were determined adding that Wolken's would also receive priority for SWCP approval through March 1, 2017. After further discussion, **motion carried.**

**AYE:** Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Rush, Sherrow, Siske, Sugden, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth  
**NOT PRESENT:** Crunk, Gigstad, Speece, Starr, Watermeier

2. *NARD Risk Management Pool for Medical Insurance Program*: Kudrna explained that no information was available yet on this item. He expressed concern, however, about the level of insurance coverage for NARD staff in comparison to NRD staff.
3. *Update on Legislative Activity*: This item was covered under NARD Report.

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

Godemann stated the Lorton road dam issue would be on the March agenda. The next meeting will be March 8 with committees at 6:00 and the regular meeting at 7:00.

13. **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**AYE:** Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Rush,  
Sherrow, Siske, Sugden, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

**NOT PRESENT:** Crunk, Gigstad, Speece, Starr, Watermeier

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

**AYE:** Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Rush,  
Sherrow, Siske, Sugden, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

**NOT PRESENT:** Crunk, Gigstad, Speece, Starr, Watermeier

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m. The next regular meeting of the board of directors will be Thursday, March 8, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at the NRD headquarters at 62161 Hwy 136 in Tecumseh.

*(Approved 3/8/07)*

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Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District