

February 11, 2010
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Scott Kudrna called the four hundred eighteenth meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, February 11, 2010, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS	John Albrecht	Lynn Heng	Steve Sugden
PRESENT:	Lisa Beethe	Ron Heskett	William Umland
	Rob Bohling	Scott Kudrna	Bruce Walker
	Charles Duryea	Don Siske	Tom White
	Orval Gigstad	Mike Speece	Paul Weber
	Ted Godemann	Duane Sugden	Jim Wirth

DIRECTORS	Wayne Goering	Dan Watermeier
ABSENT:	Jim Rush	

STAFF	Bob Hilske, Manager
PRESENT:	Scott Nelson, Assistant Manager
	Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant
	Vernon Speers, Field Representative
	Mark McDonald, Field Representative

GUESTS	Terry Newell, NRCS, Tecumseh
PRESENT:	

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was observed. Chair Kudrna 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**

White moved, seconded by Siske, to approve the excused absences requested by Wayne Goering and Jim Rush. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

All directors, NRD staff, and guest introduced themselves.

5. **MINUTES**

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

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

7. STAFF REPORT

Hilske and Nelson reviewed their reports. Mark McDonald and Junior Speers gave a PowerPoint presentation on the watershed dam maintenance program.

8. AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Terry Newell reviewed his written report. He reported that Zachary Rigg will begin as the new Resource Conservationist in Syracuse in mid-March. He also reported on CSP contracts and EQIP ranking. NRCS will be having an interagency meeting regarding 404 permits. Their project staff is getting geared up for Buck Creek construction.

B. Five Rivers RC&D

Kudrna reported that the President's budget again zeroed out funding for the RC&D program. He asked if the NRD would be willing to send letters of support for the RC&Ds to our Washington, DC, representatives. Hilske felt that would be no problem.

C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad commented on the Legislative Conference. He added that he had also attended their national meeting and that there was a lot of discussion on climate change legislation.

Hilske then reviewed legislation that was considered and acted upon during the Legislative Conference.

D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

Hilske reported that the Commission is eliminating one of their meetings this year in an effort to save money.

E. Nebraska Water Resources Association

Duane Sugden reported that at their January meeting they mainly reviewed legislative bills. He also attended a legislative reception, which was very well attended by senators.

9. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Programs & Projects Committee

- 1. Hiring a Contractor to Clear and Grub Trees at Buck Creek Dam Site:*
Wirth moved, seconded by Siske, to authorize staff to get at least three bids and proceed with hiring a contractor for clearing trees around the dam site at Buck Creek. He explained that this would allow us to get the trees removed before the migratory bird nesting season so that construction would not be delayed. Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

AYE: Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Duryea, Gigstad, Godemann, Heng, Heskett, Kudrna, Siske, Speece, D. Sugden, S. Sugden, Umland, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth
NOT PRESENT: Goering, Rush, Watermeier
- 2. Update on Mitigation Plan for Caspers Road Dam Project:* Wirth reported that the Corps rejected our plan to obtain conservation easements at this site and now is requiring us to resubmit a mitigation plan that would create new wetlands instead of protecting existing wetlands. This may require the services of a consultant to prepare the new plan but could be less expensive than the conservation easements. No action.

B. Operations & Education Committee

- 1. Renewal of Lease with Bartlett Grain for Use of Steamboat Trace near Brownville:*
S. Sugden moved, seconded by White, to renew the lease with Bartlett Grain for their use of the Steamboat Trace at Brownville with an increase of three percent resulting in a lease amount of \$601.01. There was some discussion about the maximum allowable annual increase, which is three percent, the history of the increases, and our relationship with the elevator owners over the years. Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

AYE: Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Duryea, Gigstad, Godemann, Heng, Siske, Speece, D. Sugden, S. Sugden, Umland, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth
NAY: Heskett, Kudrna
NOT PRESENT: Goering, Rush, Watermeier
- 2. Urban Special Projects Intent-to-Apply Proposals:* Steve Sugden reported that there was one application from Humboldt that we will be reviewing to determine if it meets any of the priorities of the program. In addition Auburn Schools may have a proposal for an outdoor education project. Detailed applications would be required from the applicants by May 1 should they qualify for funding. No action.

C. Executive Committee

- 1. Statement of Assurance for NRCS for Property Rights on Buck Creek:* Hilske

reported that just prior to the meeting he discovered that we cannot submit this form to NRCS until all permits have been obtained. Once the permits are in place the board will then be asked to approve this statement, which is required before NRCS can release any funding for the project. No action.

2. *Options to Expedite County Road Improvements Associated with Buck Creek Dam Project:* Hilske explained the issues involved with using federal funding for road improvements and the time delay that this would cause. Therefore, we are looking into potential grant funding to convert one crossing into a sediment basin and then work out the balance of the cost with the County. No action.

3. *Revised Resolution with American National Bank for 12-Month Line of Credit:* **Beethe moved, seconded by Godemann, to approve the revised resolution, which adds authorization for Bob Hilske, General Manager, to execute paperwork, with American National Bank for a 12-month line of credit up to \$1 million. Motion carried.**

AYE: Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Duryea, Gigstad, Godemann, Heng, Heskett, Kudrna, Siske, Speece, D. Sugden, S. Sugden, Umland, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

NOT PRESENT: Goering, Rush, Watermeier

10. WELL PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Weber moved, seconded by White, to approve the following well permits: Ted Evans, irrigation well west of Tecumseh; Nebraska City Board of Public Works, 2 municipal wells north of Nebraska City; and RJRD Land, LLC, irrigation well southwest of Tecumseh. Motion carried.

AYE: Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Duryea, Gigstad, Godemann, Heng, Heskett, Kudrna, Siske, Speece, D. Sugden, S. Sugden, Umland, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

NOT PRESENT: Goering, Rush, Watermeier

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

Hilske reminded incumbent directors of the filing deadline on February 16. Kudrna announced that anyone who may be interested in being an officer and/or wishing to serve on the Executive Committee should contact him. He added that Hilske and Duane Sugden would be attending the NARD Washington, DC, trip in March.

12. **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

AYE: Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Duryea, Gigstad, Godemann, Heng, Heskett, Kudrna, Siske, D. Sugden, S. Sugden, Umland, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

NOT PRESENT: Goering, Rush, Speece, Watermeier

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

AYE: Albrecht, Beethe, Bohling, Duryea, Gigstad, Godemann, Heng, Heskett, Kudrna, Siske, D. Sugden, S. Sugden, Umland, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

NOT PRESENT: Goering, Rush, Speece, Watermeier

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be Thursday, March 11, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the NRD headquarters at 62161 Hwy 136 in Tecumseh.

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District