

June 8, 2006
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Jim Wirth called the three hundred seventy-fourth meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 8:15 p.m. Thursday, June 8, 2006, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS	John Albrecht	Scott Kudrna	Bruce Walker
PRESENT:	Jeff Crunk	Roland Meyer	Paul Weber
	Orval Gigstad	Gerald Royal	Tom White
	Ted Godemann	Don Siske	Jim Wirth
	Ron Heskett	Duane Sugden	

DIRECTORS	David Hunzeker	Steve Sherrow	Dan Watermeier
ABSENT:	Dave Neddenriep	Mike Speece	
	Jim Rush	Chuck Starr	

STAFF	Bob Hilske, Manager
PRESENT:	Scott Nelson, Assistant Manager
	Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant

GUESTS	Jane Andrew, Brownville
PRESENT:	Terry Newell, NRCS, Tecumseh

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

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 of Dave Neddenriep, David Hunzeker, Jim Rush, Dan Watermeier, Chuck Starr, Steve Sherrow, and Mike Speece. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

All directors, NRD staff, NRCS staff, and guests introduced themselves.

5. **MINUTES**

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

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

7. **STAFF REPORT**

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

8. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Terry Newell reported on dam inspection by the field offices and added that they are preparing for terrace layout once wheat harvest is complete. He gave a summary of work going on in the NNRD through EQIP. Newell commented on the Hemje dam issue and felt it might be best to wait until it rains enough to fill other structures in the area and then evaluate it.

B. Five Rivers RC&D

Kudrna reported on projects for 2006-07 including emergency management training to be held in several locations. He added that they were looking for some other avenues of funding since the water study grant was denied. Three NRD's are working together on a household hazardous waste collection. Another wine school is planned this fall, and each county is doing tire recycling again.

C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reported the board meeting and basin tour was coming up in Sidney later this month and that Gerald Royal would be going in his place.

D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

No report.

E. Water Policy Task Force Report

Sugden stated they are asking for \$9.5 million to help start a program to pay farmers not to irrigate. He added that Dave Sand is trying to get some people interested in getting a sales tax on water.

9. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Programs & Projects Committee

1. **UBN J-34 Irrigation Agreement with Keith Joekel:** Weber explained that Mr. Joekel was not willing to sign the agreement drafted by the NRD staff. Sugden felt the landowners need to resolve their differences before we do anything else on this request. No action.
2. **Engineering Proposals for Small Dams:** Weber stated proposals had been received from JEO Consulting Group, Inc., Olsson & Koester Engineering Team, and Schemmer Associates. Cost estimates provided by each were \$28,234, \$44,950, and \$32,304, respectively.

Weber moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve the engineering proposal from JEO Consulting Group, Inc., for the Brandt and Brinkman small dam projects. Nelson explained that the actual costs could vary somewhat especially in the construction inspection phase. Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

AYE: Albrecht, Crunk, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Kudrna, Meyer, Royal, Siske, Sugden, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

NOT PRESENT: Hunzeker, Neddenriep, Rush, Sherrow, Speece, Starr, Watermeier

3. **Muddy Creek Watershed Project Update:** Weber briefly reviewed the last meeting of the task force where they reviewed the first draft of the plan. The final plan should be ready in August. No action.
4. **Action on Bids to Construct Workman and Reuter Structures:** Bids received were as follows:

Bidder	Workman Dam	Reuter Dam	Combined Bid
G.R. Sunneberg Construction	\$17,513.13	\$8,134.46	\$25,647.59
Carstens Construction	\$23,084.95	\$10,384.72	\$33,469.67
Gyhra Construction	\$22,572.00	\$11,218.10	\$33,790.10
Lottman Carpenter	\$22,451.09	\$12,387.56	\$34,838.65
<i>Engineer's Estimates:</i>	<i>\$21,202.61</i>	<i>\$10,884.06</i>	<i>\$32,086.67</i>

Weber moved, seconded by Walker, to approve the bid of \$25,647.59 from G.R. Sunneberg Construction for the Workman and Reuter dam construction.
Motion carried.

AYE: Albrecht, Crunk, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Kudrna, Meyer, Royal, Siske, Sugden, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

NOT PRESENT: Hunzeker, Neddenriep, Rush, Sherrow, Speece, Starr, Watermeier

5. **Budget Review:** Weber stated the committee reviewed and discussed the budget but had no recommendations.
6. **Craig Hemje Structure Seepage Issues:** Weber stated the committee met with Mr. Hemje and that he will be meeting with NRCS engineers to look at the problem further. No action required at this time.

B. Operations & Education Committee

1. **Budget Review:** White reported the committee reviewed the budget but had no suggestions or additions. No action.

C. Executive Committee

1. **Discussion/Action on Bridgewater Trail Easement:** Godemann reported that the committee had a consensus that they are uneasy with an easement that runs a length of the trail. Therefore, they want Don Doty from NRCS to meet with them to answer some questions. Kudrna felt we are trying to help out NRCS on something that should have been taken care of when the ground was put into WRP. Jane Andrew addressed the board on this issue and showed some maps and photos of the area. She asked the board to deny this easement. No action.
2. **Action/Discussion on Dunn Trail Easement Request:**
Godemann moved, seconded by Kudrna, to approve the easement with Jeffrey Dunn to allow him to cross the trail and authorize the Chair to sign the easement. Hilske explained that there is an existing driveway across the trail that had been used by the previous owner and that this easement is necessary now to facilitate Mr. Dunn's purchase of the property. A map will be included with the easement showing the specific area for the location of the crossing. **Motion carried.**

AYE: Albrecht, Crunk, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Kudrna, Meyer, Royal, Siske, Sugden, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

NOT PRESENT: Hunzeker, Neddenriep, Rush, Sherrow, Speece, Starr, Watermeier

3. **Wolken MBN 88 Easement:** No action.
4. **Action on FY2007 Salary Schedule:**
Godemann moved, seconded by Kudrna, to approve the salary schedule for FY2007 as presented. Kudrna pointed out the summary on the front page and that

the total package including the health insurance results in about an eight percent increase. He added that we are in a difficult position with the pending insurance issues and increases being proposed. White wanted to see the insurance issue resolved before voting on any salary changes and suggested possibly even freezing salaries if the insurance increases significantly. Kudrna stated that the insurance increase may not be fully known for some time depending upon the state insurance department's direction. Crunk questioned why the employees are not paying a portion of their insurance. Gigstad stated NARD had required that each participating District provide 100% of the single insurance coverage so any change would have to come from them. Gigstad added that NARD had discussed other options such as personal savings accounts as an option to help reduce some payments. Hilske added that this insurance issue has blown up in the last couple of months, and they have not had a lot of time to react to it. Sugden stated the reason we are seeing so many increases is because more people are using it with more and bigger claims being paid. Kudrna asked to see how our percentage of benefits and salary compared to tax income over the past five years. Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

AYE: Albrecht, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Kudrna, Meyer, Royal, Sugden, Weber, Wirth

NAY: Crunk, Siske, Walker, White

NOT PRESENT: Hunzeker, Neddenriep, Rush, Sherrow, Speece, Starr, Watermeier

5. ***Budget Review:*** Kudrna was concerned that if we have to do a study for the Groundwater Management Plan issues that we have plenty of money in the budget to properly conduct a study prior to the end of the moratorium. No action.
6. ***Update on NARD Health Insurance Program:*** Godemann stated this item was covered in the salary schedule discussion.

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

Wirth stated the next meeting would be June 13 at 8:00 p.m.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

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

AYE: Albrecht, Crunk, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Kudrna, Meyer, Royal, Siske, Sugden, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

NOT PRESENT: Hunzeker, Neddenriep, Rush, Sherrow, Speece, Starr, Watermeier

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

AYE: Albrecht, Crunk, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Kudrna, Meyer, Royal, Siske, Sugden, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

NOT PRESENT: Hunzeker, Neddenriep, Rush, Sherrow, Speece, Starr, Watermeier

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m. The next regular meeting of the board of directors will be Thursday, July 13, 2006, at 8:00 p.m. at the NRD headquarters at 62161 Hwy 136 in Tecumseh.

(Approved 7/13/06)

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District