

May 12, 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-second meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 8:05 p.m. Thursday, May 12, 2005, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

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

**DIRECTORS** Dave Neddenriep  
**ABSENT:** Jim Rush

**STAFF** Bob Hilske, Manager  
**PRESENT:** Scott Nelson, Assistant Manager  
Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant  
Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager  
Charlie Pierce, Water Resources Technician

**GUESTS** Terry Newell, NRCS, Pawnee City  
**PRESENT:** Bryan Mellage, Auburn

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**

Requests for excused absences had been received from Dave Neddenriep and Jim Rush.

**White moved, seconded by Kudrna, to approve the excused absences of Dave Neddenriep and Jim Rush. Motion carried on consent agenda.**

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

All directors, 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 and Nelson reviewed their written reports.

8. **BI-ANNUAL WATER RESOURCES REPORT**

Chuck Wingert and Charlie Pierce distributed written reports of the status of water programs and plans for the summer. They briefly reviewed the items on the report and answered questions.

9. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

**A. Natural Resources Conservation Service**

Terry Newell reviewed the written report, which had been distributed. He also reported on the Conservation Security Program.

**B. Five Rivers RC&D**

Kudrna reported that the water supply study grant did not get approved but that it will probably be revised and resubmitted.

**C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts**

Gigstad stated their next meeting would be in June.

**D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission**

Watermeier stated their next meeting would be May 18-19.

**E. Pawnee County Lake Steering Committee**

No report.

**F. Water Policy Task Force Report**

Sugden reported the Governor has appointed an at-large member from the City of Gering to the Task Force. A subcommittee will meet May 19 to discuss long-term funding. He also reported that Roy Frederick has retired from the University of Nebraska Ag Department and that Brad Lubben, formerly from Burr, Nebraska, and whose father was on the Nemaha NRD board, will be his replacement.

10. STANDING COMMITTEES

**A. Programs & Projects Committee**

1. *Sterling Recorder Well Agreement Approval:*

**Sherrow moved, seconded by Speece, to approve a new, 15-year lease agreement for \$1,500 between the District and Randy Agena for an observation well. Motion carried.**

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

**ABSENT:** Neddenriep, Rush

2. *Village of Douglas Well Abandonment:*

Sherrow explained that state funding had run out to pay the balance of costs for closing a well within the village of Douglas. However, our agreement with the village was to provide 100% of the cost. Originally the well was thought to be hand dug but instead was a large, cased well.

**Sherrow moved, seconded by Meyer, to approve an additional cost up to \$385.72 to complete the Village of Douglas community well closures. Motion carried.**

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

**ABSENT:** Neddenriep, Rush

3. *DeJonge Dam Bid Approval:* Bids received for this structure in the Kirkman's Cove watershed were as follows:

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Bid</b>
Lottman Carpenter	\$38,459.56
B.A.B., Inc.	\$39,794.92
T&F Construction	\$40,052.81
Carstens Construction	\$41,216.22
Gyhra Construction	\$47,271.25
<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$38,694.77

**Sherrow moved, seconded by Albrecht, to accept the bid of \$38,459.56 from Lottman Carpenter to construct the Lammert DeJonge dam. Motion carried.**

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

**ABSENT:** Neddenriep, Rush

4. **Upper Big Nemaha 9-D Affidavit:** Sherrow explained the landowners have decided to go a different route with this issue, and it will be brought back before the board at a future meeting. No action.

**B. Operations & Education Committee**

1. **Urban Special Projects Applications:** White stated three new applications had been received and reviewed by the committee. Crunk asked that each application be voted upon separately.

**White moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve the application from Norris Elementary School in the amount of \$20,000 for an outdoor classroom project.**

Some discussion was held on the components included in the project and the amount of money involved. After further discussion, **motion carried.**

**AYE:** Albrecht, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Royal, Siske, Speece, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

**NAY:** Crunk, Starr

**ABSTAINING:** Sherrow

**ABSENT:** Neddenriep, Rush

**White moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve the application from the City of Syracuse, in the amount of \$2,989.36, for a pond rehabilitation project, excluding payment for stocking fish.** After discussion on the size and location of the project, **motion carried.**

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

**ABSENT:** Neddenriep, Rush

**White moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve the Adams American Legion Post 221 application in the amount of \$1,250 for landscaping with trees and grass around the Village of Adams baseball/softball field. Motion carried.**

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

**ABSENT:** Neddenriep, Rush

2. *Clarification of Electric RV Pad Use Policy:*

**White moved, seconded by Albrecht, to clarify that parking on a pad where electricity is provided requires payment for every day whether electricity is being used or not.** Hilske stated with the upcoming camping season, staff asked for the clarification so that collections would be accurate and easier to enforce and to alleviate vehicles from reserving camping sites without paying the fee. **Motion carried.**

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

**ABSENT:** Neddenriep, Rush

**C. Executive Committee**

1. *Salary and Personnel Issues:* Godemann stated no action was recommended at this time pending information on increases in the insurance program.

2. *Appoint a Representative from the NNRD to Work with SENLA on Pawnee County Lake Development Project:* Godemann provided some background information about the project and the new group of investors who are calling themselves the Louisiana Purchase Group.

**Godemann moved, seconded by Siske, to appoint Scott Nelson as the District's liaison and direct him to report directly to the Programs and Projects Committee.** Hunzeker stated one of the landowners told him he is not in favor of the project at all and would not sell no matter what is offered for his land. Starr felt the role of the Pawnee County Lake Steering Committee was to be an advisory group and that this motion did not originate from that committee. He questioned what the need would be for a liaison on this project as opposed to any other project. Starr added that the Manager has the authority to assign such duties to staff as appropriate and could address any concern that may come up. If the District's role with this investor group is minor, Starr felt the only reason they would ask for our involvement would be for the possibility of eminent domain. Watermeier was also opposed to naming a liaison for some of the same reasons stated by Starr. Speece felt having someone involved would better assure there is some public benefit to this project. Meyer questioned the amount of public use that would be included in the project considering the amount of money these investors are willing to put into it. Sherrow felt things had changed and

that there now needs to be more board involvement, which would be achieved by taking all issues directly to the Programs and Projects Committee. By having a staff member identified, both sides would know who to come to. He felt the steering committee had outlived its usefulness.

**Starr moved, seconded by Crunk, to table the motion. Motion failed.**

**AYE:** Crunk, Hunzeker, Royal, Starr, Watermeier,

**NAY:** Albrecht, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Kudrna, Meyer, Sherrow, Siske, Speece, Sugden, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

**ABSENT:** Neddenriep, Rush

Hunzeker agreed that the reason the District was being asked to work with this new investor group was to provide eminent domain if needed. Sherrow stated the developer wants to see the project provide both public and private benefits and that is why they want the NRD as a partner. Speece felt that Congressman Osborne would not have voiced his support for the project during the recent Washington, DC, trip if it was to be entirely private. Crunk asked for copies of the information that Sherrow and Godemann have regarding the project since, in his opinion, the board apparently did not have the same information. Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

**AYE:** Albrecht, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Kudrna, Meyer, Sherrow, Siske, Speece, Sugden, Walker, Weber, White, Wirth

**NAY:** Hunzeker, Royal, Starr, Watermeier

**ABSENT:** Crunk, Neddenriep, Rush

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

Wirth stated the next meeting would be Thursday, June 9, with committees at 7:00 p.m. and the regular meeting at 8:00 p.m.

**12. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

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

**ABSENT:** Crunk, Neddenriep, Rush

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

**ABSENT:** Crunk, Neddenriep, Rush

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m. The next regular meeting of the board of directors will be Thursday, June 9, 2005, at 8:00 p.m. at the NRD headquarters at 62161 Hwy 136 in Tecumseh.

*(Approved 6/9/05)*

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Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District