

May 8, 2008
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Ted Godemann called the three hundred ninety-seventh meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 8:00 p.m. Thursday, May 8, 2008, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS	John Albrecht	David Hunzeker	Bruce Walker
PRESENT:	Rob Bohling	Scott Kudrna	Dan Watermeier
	Jeff Crunk*	Roland Meyer	Paul Weber
<i>*Left early</i>	Orval Gigstad	Jim Rush	Tom White
	Ted Godemann	Don Siske	Jim Wirth
	Ron Heskett	Duane Sugden	

DIRECTORS	Lisa Beethe	Mike Speece
ABSENT:	Steve Sherrow	Chuck Starr

STAFF	Bob Hilske, Manager
PRESENT:	Scott Nelson, Assistant Manager
	Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant
	Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager
	Steve Bartels, Field Representative

GUESTS	Terry Newell, NRCS, Tecumseh
PRESENT:	

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. **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

White moved, seconded by Siske, to approve the excused absences requested by Lisa Beethe, Steve Sherrow, and Chuck Starr. 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 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 & Nelson reviewed their written reports. Hilske also reported on the status of tree planting, upcoming Watershed of Wonders day camp, and the Lorton road dam. He added that the NRD had been invited to attend a meeting of the Auburn Lake Association later in the month. Wingert reviewed his report adding that the revisions to the Groundwater Management Plan were about 90 percent complete.

8. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Terry Newell reported that a lot of conservation work had been staked out. They were working on FSA spot check compliance letters. He also commented on the upcoming vote on the Farm Bill and possible Presidential veto.

B. Five Rivers RC&D

Kudrna reported the next used computer collection was coming up May 10 in Falls City. He added they are trying to get another wine school going.

C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad encouraged directors to consider attending the upcoming NACD regional meeting in Nebraska City and the NARD basin tour in June.

D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

Watermeier stated their meeting would be held the next week. He commented on the time required to get a 404 permit.

E. Water Policy Task Force Report

Sugden reported that the irrigators who surrendered their water rights in the Republican Valley got their money.

9. **REPORT ON STEAMBOAT TRACE USE AND MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES**

Hilske gave a PowerPoint presentation on various aspects of the Steamboat Trace trail including its history, maintenance, repairs, contributing partners, revenue sources, etc. He added that if we want contributions from outside sources to help with the trail maintenance, we would probably have to make requests on a project-by-project basis as opposed to getting blanket donations.

10. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Programs & Projects Committee

1. *Bids for Fencing Structures in Muddy Creek Project:* Bids received for fencing nine small dams in the Muddy Creek watershed were as follows:

Bidder	Unit Price Per Linear Foot
Glen Lueders Fencing, Tecumseh	\$1.34
Graham Quality Contracting, Tecumseh	\$1.47
Quality Fence, Omaha	\$11.25
Estimated Total Linear Feet in Projects: 22,500	

After checking references of the bidders, the staff recommended approval of the bid from Graham Quality Contracting. **Walker moved, seconded by Meyer, to approve the bid of \$1.47 per linear foot submitted by Graham Quality Contracting for fencing nine structures in the Muddy Creek Watershed. Motion carried.**

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

2. *Status of Upper Little Nemaha 31W Spillway Repair:* Walker explained that since we cannot file a lien against the property, we will investigate further how to collect for the expense incurred to repair the spillway at this site. No action.

B. Water Resources Committee

1. *Proposed Revisions to District's Groundwater Management Plan:* **Weber moved, seconded by White, to submit the updated Groundwater Management Plan to the Department of Natural Resources.** Wingert reported that the plan is about 90 percent complete. He added that the updates were mainly involved with quantity. There will be three phases of management included in the final plan. Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

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

2. *Request for Well Permit Variance by Craig Behrends:* Weber reported that this request had been withdrawn.

3. *Request for Well Permit Variances by City of Syracuse:*

Weber moved, seconded by White, to approve the variances requested by the City of Syracuse for four well permits on the southwest corner of Syracuse for irrigating sports and recreation fields. Wingert explained that individually the wells would not require permits; but since they will be connected, their total capacity would meet the requirements. **Motion carried.**

AYE: Albrecht, Bohling, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Rush, Siske, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

NOT PRESENT: Beethe, Crunk, Sherrow, Speece, Starr

4. *Request for Well Permit Variance by Herr Farms:* Weber stated no action was requested this month on this variance since it was received too late to obtain additional information. It will be considered at the June meeting.

C. Operations & Education Committee

1. *Agreement with Eldon Snoke to Graze Land at Kirkman's Cove:*

Siske moved, seconded by Albrecht, to approve the agreement as presented with Eldon Snoke to graze land at Kirkman's Cove. It was clarified that this was not bid out because it is an experimental method of controlling the sericea lespedeza; if it is successful, we would consider bidding it out next year. After further discussion, **motion carried.**

AYE: Albrecht, Bohling, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Rush, Siske, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

NOT PRESENT: Beethe, Crunk, Sherrow, Speece, Starr

2. *Final Urban Special Projects Applications:* Three applications were received for Urban Special Projects for FY09.

Siske moved, seconded by Wirth, to approve the application from Freeman FFA Chapter for \$2,400 for an outdoor classroom project. Motion carried.

AYE: Albrecht, Bohling, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Rush, Siske, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

NOT PRESENT: Beethe, Crunk, Sherrow, Speece, Starr

Siske moved, seconded by Albrecht, to approve the application from City of Nebraska City for \$6,200 for a landscaping project at Wildwood Park. Siske explained that part of the original application did not meet policy guidelines, so the amount approved was less than the amount requested. **Motion carried.**

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

Siske moved, seconded by Albrecht, to approve the application from the City of Falls City Parks Department for \$16,400 for a trail at Stanton Lake Park. Siske explained that Falls City had requested more money but that the committee wanted to keep the total budget for all the projects to a maximum of \$25,000. **Motion carried.**

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

3. ***Quotes for Herbicides for Use at District Recreation Facilities:*** Quotes received were as follows:

Product	Quantity (Gallons)	Midwest COOP, Elmwood	Farmers COOP, Tecumseh
Roundup Powermax	60	\$3,180.00	\$3,132.00
Remedy	3	324.00	357.00
Grazon P+D	15	525.00	534.45
Liquid Activator 90	20	360.00	430.20
Pasture Guard	5	317.50	293.95
Princep 4L	15	360.00	342.30
Total		\$5,066.50	\$5,089.90

Siske moved, seconded by Wirth, to approve the quote totaling \$5,066.50 received from Midwest COOP for chemicals. It was noted that Midwest Coop has several locations within the District. **Motion carried.**

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

D. Executive Committee

1. ***Discussion on FY2009 Budget and Salaries:*** Hilske reviewed estimated major project expenses and revenues for FY2009. White asked to have the amount of the insurance rate increase prior to making any decisions on salaries. No action.

2. ***Appoint Members to All-Hazard Mitigation Plan Consultant Selection Panel:***
Volunteers to serve on this selection panel were requested. Jeff Crunk, John Albrecht, and Tom White volunteered to serve on the committee.
3. ***Update on Option to Have the NRD Hire a Staff Engineer:*** Hilske reported on what he had found out from other NRDs who have engineers and technicians. Kudrna stated it was the committee's recommendation at this time not to pursue hiring a staff engineer since the costs appear to be too prohibitive. No action.
4. ***Recommendation to District's NARD Representative on Proposed NARD FY2009 Budget and NARD Staffing Plan:*** Gigstad explained the staffing situation in the NARD over the past 20 years. Kudrna pointed out that we have had several years with no dues increases.

Sugden moved, seconded by Siske, to support the increase in staffing and additional five percent dues increase for NARD. Motion carried.

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

NAY: Rush

NOT PRESENT: Beethe, Crunk, Sherrow, Speece, Starr

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

The June meeting will be Thursday, June 12, at 8:00 p.m.

12. **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

AYE: Albrecht, Bohling, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Rush, Siske, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

NOT PRESENT: Beethe, Crunk, Sherrow, Speece, Starr

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

AYE: Albrecht, Bohling, Gigstad, Godemann, Heskett, Hunzeker, Kudrna, Meyer, Rush, Siske, Sugden, Walker, Watermeier, Weber, White, Wirth

NOT PRESENT: Beethe, Crunk, Sherrow, Speece, Starr

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 p.m. The next regular meeting of the board of directors will be Thursday, June 12, 2008, at 8:00 p.m. at the NRD headquarters at 62161 Hwy 136 in Tecumseh.

(Approved June 12, 2008)

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District