

May 13, 2010
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Kudrna called the four hundred twenty-first meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 8:05 p.m. Thursday, May 13, 2010, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

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

DIRECTORS	Lynn Heng	Mike Speece
ABSENT:	Jim Rush	

STAFF	Bob Hilske, Manager
PRESENT:	Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager
	Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant

GUESTS	Dana Divine, ENWRA, Lincoln	Terry Newell, NRCS, Tecumseh
PRESENT:	Cindy Burow, Humboldt	

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**

Godemann moved, seconded by White, to approve the excused absences requested by Lynn Heng and Jim Rush. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

All directors, NRD staff, and guests 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 reviewed his written report. Wingert highlighted a few items on his report.

8. **PRESENTATION ON ENWRA PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND AGREEMENT EXTENSION**

Dana Divine reviewed the status of the project and provided some maps and a master plan for the project. She also explained the amendment to the current interlocal agreement. She explained that the work they do is generally done more by subject than by area, therefore reducing the chance that one District would be left until the end to have its work done.

9. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Newell reported all five offices have completed their latest audits. There is another CSP sign up with cut off date of June 11. Weather and planting has brought layout work to a stop. He also announced that Jim Masters, the NRD Clerk in the Syracuse NRCS office, would be retiring effective August 1.

B. Five Rivers RC&D

Kudrna reported on their latest council meeting as well as a state meeting. They have been talking about improving access to information about tourist sites in Nebraska.

C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad encouraged directors to attend the NARD basin tour that will be held in our District in June. A four percent dues increase will take effect in this year's budget.

D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

Watermeier reported that they spent a lot of time in March working on how to address budget cuts.

E. Nebraska Water Resources Association

Duane Sugden reported there will be a short meeting May 18 in Kearney.

10. **STANDING COMMITTEES**

A. Programs & Projects Committee

1. ***Update on Firth Drainage Project:*** Wirth stated the committee had been briefed on this project and that we may have more information and something to act on in the next month or so. No action.

- 2. FY2011 Budget Discussion Items:*** The committee discussed the SWCP budget because of possible reduction of state funds and their willingness to look at increasing our portion. Kudrna pointed out that besides this program, we are also doing a lot of conservation work through other programs such as the Buck & Duck Creek Watershed Management project. Wingert explained the idea of including funds for groundwater model peer review in next year's budget. No action.

B. Operations & Education Committee

- 1. Discussion on Additional Upgrades to Iron Horse Recreation Area Facilities:***
Steve Sugden reported that the committee feels RV electrical hookups are the highest priority; they directed staff to investigate how many pads would fit in the current location. A cost estimate was requested from OPPD for bringing electricity but was not available by the meeting time. White suggested putting in all 50 amp hookups if feasible. The committee's next priority was a new restroom in the day use area. More information will be available for action next month.
- 2. Budget Discussion Items:*** No other park improvements were discussed. No action.

C. Executive Committee

- 1. Selecting a Qualified Accounting Firm to Perform the District's Audit:*** Beethe explained the process of requesting proposals and interviewing three of the five firms that provided proposals. Proposals were received as follows (*figures shown are cumulative for 3 years):

Bidder	*Audit	Single Audit
Dana F. Cole & Company, Lincoln	\$20,350	\$1,000/year
Schulz & Associates, Beatrice	\$19,800	\$50/hour**
Art White & Associates, Tarkio, MO	\$11,100	\$ 500/year
HBE Becker Meyer Love, LLP, Lincoln	\$43,570	\$3,735/year
Bland & Associates, Omaha	\$75,000	\$4,000/year

**Estimated \$750-\$1,250/year

Beethe moved, seconded by Siske, to engage Schulz and Associates for a three-year contract at the rate of \$6,600 per year, plus single audit at \$50/hour. There was some discussion about the advantages of making a change as well as some communication issues experienced while working with our previous auditor's limited number of staff members. **Motion carried.**

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

NOT PRESENT: Heng, Rush, Speece

2. ***Authorizing NRCS Clerks to Sign Conservation Plans on NRD's Behalf:*** Beethe explained that NRCS had requested the NRD reaffirm its previous authorization for NRD clerks to sign conservation plans for the NRD.

Beethe moved, seconded by Godemann, to approve the resolution authorizing NRD clerks to sign conservation plans on behalf of the NRD. Motion carried.

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

NOT PRESENT: Heng, Rush, Speece

3. ***Statement of Assurance to NRCS for Property Rights Necessary for Buck Creek Dam:*** Land rights for this project have been secured, and this form along with a letter from our attorney stating the land rights are sufficient for the project, must be provided to NRCS prior to start of construction.

Beethe moved, seconded by Siske, to approve the Assurances Relating to Real Property Acquisition for the Buck Creek dam. Motion carried.

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

NOT PRESENT: Heng, Rush, Speece

4. ***Discussion on Establishing an Agreement with the Five Rivers RC&D to Provide Staffing Assistance:*** Beethe explained RC&D had requested the NRD provide staffing assistance to provide an office staff member so that they would not have to set up payroll for just one person. The salary and expenses for this position would be reimbursed 100% by RC&D. No action was required pending receipt of a final agreement from RC&D.

5. ***FY2011 Budget Discussion:*** Beethe reported that the Manager will put some salary estimates together for review next month. They also reviewed a schedule of the vehicles and considered computer replacements for next year's budget.

11. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON WELL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED - NONE

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

Kudrna stated the next meeting would be June 10.

13. **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

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

NOT PRESENT: Heng, Rush, Speece

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

NOT PRESENT: Heng, Rush, Speece

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be Thursday, June 10, 2010, at 8:00 p.m. at the NRD headquarters at 62161 Hwy 136 in Tecumseh.

Approved 6/10/10

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District