

September 10, 2026
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Russel Moss called the six hundred fifteenth meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 7:02 p.m. Thursday, September, 2026, at the NRD headquarters at Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS	Todd Boellstorff	Dan Hodges	Tim Schardt
PRESENT:	Rob Bohling	Doug Iske	Eldon Snok
	Patty Coates	Dick James	Dan Stukenholtz
	Ed Ehmen	Klark Knipe	Duane Sugden
	Tracy Ensor	Robert Lassen	Kevin Thorne
	Orval Gigstad	Russel Moss	
	Adam Howard	Alan Romine	

DIRECTORS	Kraig Coonce
ABSENT:	Tim Loseke

STAFF	Kyle Hauschild, Manager
PRESENT:	Jane Kuhl, Assistant Manager
	Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager
	Maddie Million, Information & Education Coordinator
	Brooke Gerdes, Administrative Bookkeeper

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence, Moss announced that the Open Meetings Act is posted on the wall at the back of the room.

2. **PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

Proof of publication was presented and is on file.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- Excused Absences: Kraig Coonce, Tim Loseke
- Minutes: No questions.
- Treasurer's Report: No questions.

James moved, seconded by Thorne, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Coates, Ehmen, Ensor, Gigstad, Hodges, Howard, Iske, James, Knipe, Lassen, Moss, Romine, Schardt, Snok, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne
NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Loseke

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

Directors and staff introduced themselves.

Shawnee Ensor, Michael Wood, and Hubbard Hay, recipients of NRD scholarships to attend the 2026 Adventure Camp About the Environment (ACE Camp), presented their experiences at the camp, including learning about edible plants, reptiles, fishing, and other memorable activities.

5. STAFF REPORTS

Hauschild reviewed his written report.

6. AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

No report.

B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reported on the upcoming NARD Annual Conference and the retirement of the NARD CEO. He also explained that NARD is restructuring its membership dues, which is expected to be discussed at the annual conference in February in Las Vegas.

C. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

Iske reported their next meeting will take place in Kearney on September 28.

7. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. PROGRAMS & PROJECTS COMMITTEE

1. *Action on Well Permit Applications:* Schaardt reviewed one application submitted.

Permit #	Landowner Name	Well Location	GPM	Purpose	Score
N875	Travis Tekolste	SW¼ SE¼ Section, 25-06-08, Gage Co.		Irrigation	249

Schaardt moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve well permit N875 for Travis Tekolste. Motion carried. Schaardt explained that the committee discussed additional topics that did not require action. Wingert reported on two requests received: one to irrigate an adjoining parcel near Sterling, and another to decommission one well, convert another to livestock use, and maintain the same number of irrigated acres using two wells instead of four.

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Coates, Ehmen, Ensor, Gigstad, Hodges, Howard, Iske, James, Knipe, Lassen, Moss, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Loseke

B. OPERATIONS & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1. *Discussion on Guidelines for Maintaining NRD Recreation Areas:* Snoke reported the committee continued discussing planning and maintenance for the recreation areas. No action.

2. ***Discussion/Action on Watchable Wildlife Grant Project at Kirkman's Cove:*** Million explained the requirements of the Watchable Wildlife Grant available through the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and shared details of the proposed Wildlife Discovery & Observation Area at Kirkman's Cove, including the viewing area concept, project funding details, and future educational opportunities.

Snoke moved, seconded by Gigstad, to approve submitting a grant application for the Watchable Wildlife Grant. Motion carried.

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Coates, Ehmen, Ensor, Gigstad, Hodges, Howard, Iske, James, Knipe, Lassen, Moss, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Loseke

C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. ***Review/Direction on NARD Resolutions:*** Hauschild reviewed the three NARD resolutions for consideration at the upcoming annual conference. The consensus was to show support for #1 regarding the administration of the chemigation program, oppose #2 regarding payroll expenditure publication, and support #3 for bonding authority for the NRDs.

Romine moved, seconded by Lassen, to support the NARD Resolution 2026-1, oppose support for 2026-2, and support 2026-3. Hodges stated that amendments may change the resolution. Hauschild agreed and explained the resolutions have the ability to be changed or withdrawn. **Motion carried.**

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Coates, Ehmen, Ensor, Gigstad, Hodges, Howard, Iske, James, Knipe, Lassen, Moss, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Loseke

8. **ACTION TO APPROVE FY27 BUDGET AND RESOLUTION SETTING PROPERTY TAX REQUEST**
Moss reviewed the prior Budget Hearing.

Moss moved, seconded by Romine, to approve the FY27 budget as presented and the resolution setting the property tax request at \$3,576,936.33. Ensor asked about a small difference in the tax amounts on the valuation spreadsheet. Kuhl explained that this was due to rounding differences and that the only change was the distribution of excess funds to the Watershed Sinking Funds and fuel, as previously directed by the Board. **Motion carried.**

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Coates, Ehmen, Ensor, Gigstad, Hodges, Howard, Iske, James, Knipe, Lassen, Moss, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Loseke

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS, AUGUST AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS**

Ensor shared information on a non-biased webinar published by UNL discussing data centers. The webinar featured three presenters covering water resources, alternative energy and data center power methods and usage, and public power through OPPD. Hauschild thanked Gerdes and Kuhl for their work on the budget. The next regular meeting of the board of directors will be Thursday, October 8, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. with committee meetings prior to the board meeting.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

James moved, seconded by Ensor, to adjourn. Motion carried.

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Coates, Ehmen, Ensor, Gigstad, Hodges, Howard, Iske, James, Knipe, Lassen, Moss, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Loseke

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District