

August 9, 2018
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Dan Hodges called the five hundred eighteenth meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 8:05 p.m. Thursday, August 9, 2018, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:	Lisa Beethe	Robert Lassen	Mike Speece*
	Rob Bohling	Tim Loseke	Dan Stukenholtz
	Jim Gerweck	Michael McDonald	Duane Sugden
<i>* Left early</i>	Dave Guhde*	Russel Moss	Kevin Thorne
	Dan Hodges	William Niedfeldt	
	Doug Iske	Don Siske	

DIRECTORS ABSENT:	Orval Gigstad	Jon Keithley	Eldon Snoke
	Jenny Kearney	Alan Romine	

STAFF PRESENT:	Bob Hilske, Manager
	Scott Nelson, Assistant Manager
	Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager
	Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant
	Kerri Miller, Administrative Assistant

GUESTS PRESENT:	Roger Reichmuth, NRCS, Tecumseh
	Trevor Houghton, Nebraska City
	Derek Teten, Otoe
	Bryan Mellage, Auburn

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence, Hodges 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**

Siske moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve the excused absences requested by Orval Gigstad, Jenny Kearney, Jon Keithley, Alan Romine, and Eldon Snoke. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

All NRD directors, staff, and guests introduced themselves. Bryan Mellage addressed the board about ideas to reduce the dust on the road to Duck Creek. He asked the board to think about ways the county and NRD could cooperate on a solution.

5. **MINUTES**

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

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

7. **STAFF REPORTS**

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

8. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Reichmuth provided a written report and highlighted some of their workload and staffing.

B. Five Rivers RC&D

Sugden reported they had an invasive weed conference on August 16, and he reviewed the dates for the household hazardous waste collections in various counties. They received approval of their electronic equipment recycling grant, and they will hold that collection in May.

C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reported on the NACD summer board meeting. He also encouraged directors to consider attending the annual conference in Kearney in September.

D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

No report.

9. **TETEN PRECISION AG PRESENTATION** – Trevor Haughton & Derek Teten gave a presentation on Crop Metrics and how it could help increase water use efficiency. They covered the costs and benefits of the program and answered questions of the board.

10. **STANDING COMMITTEES**

A. Programs & Projects Committee

1. ***Request from Otoe County to Assist with Culvert Replacement:*** Gerweck reported the committee had questions about how this problem had occurred. There was concern that the NRD should be working to prevent this kind of problem rather than helping fix it. The Committee agreed not to offer a recommendation to participate in the Otoe County project. No action.
2. ***Request from Nemaha County on County Road Issue near Buck Creek:*** Gerweck reported that the committee wants to have some information on what the project might entail and what needs to be done. No action.

3. ***Addressing Dust Issues on County Road to Duck Creek:*** Bryan Mellage had discussed some options earlier in the meeting which included different dust control products or ultimately, hard surfacing the road. There was discussion about installing a traffic counter to determine the actual use of the road. No action was taken at this time.
4. ***Galen Haug Small Dam Program Application:*** Nelson explained the specifics of this project.

Sugden moved, seconded by Lassen, to approve the cost-share agreement with Galen Haug for a small dam project near Steinauer. Nelson added that the project could approach \$80,000 and that NRCS would not be able to provide engineering. Therefore, a private firm would be hired to do the engineering. **Motion carried.**

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Guhde, Hodges, Iske, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Siske, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Gigstad, Kearney, Keithley, Romine, Snoke, Speece

5. ***Small Dam Policy Change:*** Gerweck stated the committee discussed whether to increase the cost-share maximum from \$50,000 to \$60,000 to adjust for inflation.

Sugden moved, seconded by Siske, to change the Small Dam Policy to increase the maximum cost-share from \$50,000 to \$60,000 effective immediately. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Guhde, Hodges, Iske, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Siske, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Gigstad, Kearney, Keithley, Romine, Snoke, Speece

6. ***Well Permit Applications:*** None.
7. ***Discussion on Groundwater Rules Changes:*** Gerweck reported that due to the large number of items on their agenda this month, there was no discussion on this item. Wingert will be providing a summary of all discussions and actions by the board over the past several months for directors to review. No action.

B. Operations & Education Committee-No meeting

C. Executive Committee

1. ***Delegate/Alternate to NARD Annual Conference:***
Sugden moved, seconded by Gerweck, to appoint Dan Hodges as delegate and Orval Gigstad as alternate to the NARD Annual Conference. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Guhde, Hodges, Iske, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Siske, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne
NOT PRESENT: Gigstad, Kearney, Keithley, Romine, Snoke, Speece

11. FY2019 BUDGET

A. Budget Committee Report: Hilske reviewed the changes and additions that had been made since the last meeting. Miller pointed out the highlighted items that had been added following the committee's meeting. The tax request was decreased by \$200,000, and the cash reserve was increased from \$400,000 to \$500,000. After discussion about whether to develop a program to help counties with road issues, the board decided more information was needed before setting any funds aside. Therefore, an additional \$50,000 that had not yet been allocated within the budget was added to the watershed repair line item.

B. Advance Draft Budget & Set Public Hearing:

Gerweck moved, seconded by Siske, to advance the draft budget as presented to a public hearing to be held September 13 at 7:00 p.m. prior to the board meeting.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Hodges, Iske, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Siske, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NAY: McDonald

NOT PRESENT: Gigstad, Guhde, Kearney, Keithley, Romine, Snoke, Speece

C. Future Revenue Projection Report: Hilske reviewed the historic funding sources available which included various federal and state grants. He also presented an overview of revenues expected from FY2019 to FY2021.

D. Consideration of 1% Increase in Restricted Fund Allowance: Reconsideration of this item was put on the agenda at board member request. Hilske reviewed an Attorney General's opinion stating that the required 75% majority vote to pass this item is based on the quorum present, not the total membership of the board. However, it was not known whether the State Auditor's Office was in concurrence with the opinion. Should the requirement be that 75% of the membership vote in favor, there was not the required quorum in attendance to take another vote. No action.

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

The next meeting will be September 13 at 8:00 p.m. with committee meetings prior to the regular meeting. The budget hearing will also be held at 7:00 p.m. on September 13.

13. CONSENT AGENDA

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

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Hodges, Iske, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Siske, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Gigstad, Guhde, Kearney, Keithley, Romine, Snoke, Speece

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Hodges, Iske, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss,
Niedfeldt, Siske, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Gigstad, Guhde, Kearney, Keithley, Romine, Snoke, Speece

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Approved 9/13/18

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District