

February 12, 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 eighth meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 7:02 p.m. Thursday, February 12, 2026, at the NRD headquarters at Tecumseh, Nebraska.

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| DIRECTORS PRESENT: | Todd Boellstorff | Dan Hodges | Alan Romine |
| | Rob Bohling | Doug Iske | Tim Schardt |
| | Patty Coates | Dick James | Eldon Snoke |
| | Tracy Ensor | Robert Lassen | Duane Sugden |
| | Orval Gigstad | Russel Moss | Kevin Thorne |

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| DIRECTORS ABSENT: | Kraig Coonce | Tim Loseke |
| | Ed Ehmen | Dan Stukenholtz |

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| STAFF PRESENT: | Kyle Hauschild, Manager |
| | Jane Kuhl, Assistant Manager |
| | Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager |
| | Brooke Gerdes, Administrative Bookkeeper |
| | Charlie Pierce, Water Resources Specialist |
| | Correy McClintock, Water Resources Technician |

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| GUESTS PRESENT: | Mike Burgert, NRCS |
| | Adam Howard, Nebraska City |
| | Klark Knipe, Auburn |
| | Chuck Krueger, Auburn |
| | Greg Pella, Brownville |

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. **CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS TO FILL VACANCY IN SUBDISTRICT 5**

Moss reported that one letter of interest had been received from Adam Howard and that he met the requirements for the position. Howard briefly introduced himself and reviewed his interest in joining the board.

Sugden moved, seconded by Bohling, to appoint Adam Howard to fill the vacancy in Subdistrict 5. Motion carried.

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

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Ehmen, Loseke, Stukenholtz

4. **CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS TO FILL VACANCY IN SUBDISTRICT 8**

Moss reported that letters of interest had been received for this position from Klark Knipe, Chuck Krueger, and Greg Pella. Each introduced himself and provided background on their interest in joining the board. A secret ballot was held with the results as follows:

Knipe-7 votes; Krueger-3 votes; Pella-5 votes. A second secret ballot was conducted between Knipe and Pella with results as follows: Knipe-10 votes; Pella-5 votes. Moss declared Klark Knipe appointed to fill the vacancy in Subdistrict 8.

5. **OATH OF OFFICE**

Adam Howard and Klark Knipe took the oath of office and their seats on the board.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Excused Absences: Kraig Coonce, Ed Ehmen, Tim Loseke, Dan Stukenholtz
- b. Minutes: No questions.
- c. Treasurer's Report: James asked about the payment for the Zoom subscription.

Bohling moved, seconded by Ensor, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

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

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Ehmen, Loseke, Stukenholtz

7. **OPEN FORUMS**

Directors and staff introduced themselves.

8. **STAFF REPORTS**

Hauschild reviewed his written report.

9. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Mike Burgert reviewed his written report.

B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reviewed the purpose and the responsibilities of the NARD for the new directors. He also reported on the proposed dues increase for next couple of years, the building and some improvements, NARD Foundation, and the health insurance program.

C. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

Iske stated they will meet on the 25th.

10. **STANDING COMMITTEES – *Committees did not meet due to the public hearings***

11. REVIEW PUBLIC HEARING TESTIMONY ON GROUNDWATER RULES & REGULATIONS

Moss commented that several people during the hearing indicated that they were not involved in the process of updating these rules. He added that the board meetings are all open to the public and advertised each month. Wingert thanked everyone who provided testimony. The Programs & Projects Committee would probably meet the following week and consider whether to include other stakeholders. Sugden was concerned whether there would be time before the next board meeting to review the testimony and decide whether any changes should be made. Wingert indicated that staff would check with legal counsel to determine what timetable we have to make changes if the board decides to go that direction. James felt that getting it done right is more important than getting it done fast. Moss invited anyone from the public to address the board, but there was no additional public comment.

12. ACTION ON PROPOSAL FROM SUBSURFACE, INC., FOR SLIP LINING 19 WATERSHED STRUCTURES

Hauschild reviewed the proposal which quoted \$945,764 for the project. He added that some extra funds were available after all the rip rap work was done which allowed us to add a couple of structures. The original budget was \$850,000.

Snoke moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve the quote of \$945,764 from SubSurface, Inc. for slip lining 19 watershed structures. Motion carried.

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

13. ACTION TO ADOPT CHANGES TO NRD RECREATION RULES & REGULATIONS

A public hearing was held prior to the board meeting on the rule changes, and no testimony was received. The changes mainly applied to updating campsite fees to an electronic payment system.

Ensor moved, seconded by Lassen, to approve the recreation rules and regulations changes as presented. Motion carried.

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

14. ACTION ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO CAMPSITE FEES AT NNRD RECREATION AREAS

Proposed changes were to increase electrical campsite fees from \$16 to \$20 per night and to require a \$5/day registration fee for all primitive camping (to include tent camping). These fees will be effective April 1 when utilities are turned back on at the parks.

Ensor moved, seconded by Hodges, to approve setting electrical campsite fees at \$20/night and primitive camping registration fees at \$5/night. Motion carried.

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

15. ACTION ON MOWING CONTRACT FOR NNRD RECREATION AREAS

The current mowing contractors proposed to combine their services into one contract at the same total contract rate (\$25,030.00) as the previous year for all the parks plus the NRD headquarters. The recommendation is to approve a five-year contract, renewable annually.

Boellstorff moved, seconded by James, to approve a five-year contract with Trevor & Jeff McClintock for mowing at Iron Horse Trail Lake, Kirkman's Cove, Duck Creek, Wirth Brothers, and the NRD headquarters at a total annual cost of \$25,030.00. Motion carried.

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

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS, MARCH AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS

The next regular meeting of the board of directors will be Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. with committee meetings prior to the board meeting.

17. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District