

April 13, 2023
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Vice-Chair Russel Moss called the five hundred seventy-fourth meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 7:07 p.m. Thursday, April 13, 2023, at the NRD headquarters at Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS	Matt Bloss	Jon Keithley	Alan Romine
PRESENT:	Rob Bohling	Robert Lassen	Eldon Snoke
	Randy Fox	Tim Loseke	Mike Speece
	Jim Gerweck	Russel Moss	Dan Stukenholtz
	Orval Gigstad	Bill Niedfeldt	Duane Sugden
	Dan Hodges	Rob Pflieger	Kevin Thorne

DIRECTORS	Jake Armknecht	Michael McDonald
ABSENT:	Doug Iske	

STAFF	Kyle Hauschild, General Manager
PRESENT:	Jane Kuhl, Administrative Manager
	Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager

GUESTS	Kirsten Reeves, Peru
PRESENT:	Jeremiah Schutz, NRCS, Tecumseh
	Steve Woerth, Brownville

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence, Moss 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. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Excused Absences: Jake Armknecht, Doug Iske, Mike McDonald
- b. Minutes: no changes
- c. Treasurer's Report: no changes.

Hodges moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

AYE: Bloss, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Pflieger, Romine, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Armknecht, Iske, McDonald

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

Directors and staff introduced themselves. Kirsten Reeves addressed the board asking permission to conduct a couple of events on the Steamboat Trace and to request donations to help refurbish the Peru Depot kitchen in the shelter. Steve Woerth also briefly updated the board on some activities planned for the Steamboat Trace and the option of providing special use permits for specific tours for residents of assisted living facilities.

5. **STAFF REPORTS**

Hauschild reviewed his report. Wingert reviewed his report.

6. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Schutz reviewed his written report, which was distributed to all directors.

B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reported on the Washington, DC, trip and mentioned the upcoming basin tour which would be in the Central Platte this year.

C. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

Fox reported on his first meeting adding that he signed up for the scoring committee. He reviewed some ongoing projects.

7. **STANDING COMMITTEES**

A. PROGRAMS & PROJECTS COMMITTEE

1. *Well Permit Applications:* The following well permit applications were reviewed:

Permit #	Landowner Name	Well Location	GPM	Purpose	Score
N796	Michael Bean	SE¼ NW¼ Section 24-8-14, Otoe Co.	1000	Irrigation	276
N798	Kelvin Korver	NW¼ NW¼ Section 33-7-8, Lancaster Co.	800	Irrigation	216
N799	Craig Binder	NE¼ SE¼ Section 16-4-12, Johnson Co.	600	Irrigation	211

Bohling moved, seconded by Hodges, to approve well permit applications N796, N798, and N799. Motion carried.

AYE: Bloss, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Pflieger, Romine, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Armknecht, Iske, McDonald

2. *Consideration of Additional Well for Derek Harms:* Wingert reviewed the situation where the additional well in question scored well below the required level for approval. No action.

3. **Bids for Cutting Trees on 11 Watershed Structures:** Bids received were as follows:

	Borrenpohl Excavating	Dresen Contracting
Upper Big Nemaha 20-C	\$1,975.00	No bid
Upper Big Nemaha G-16A	\$2,750.00	No bid
Upper Big Nemaha 27-R	\$1,975.00	No bid
South Branch 34	\$1,775.00	No bid
Middle Big Nemaha 12	\$4,250.00	\$1,000.00
Middle Big Nemaha 46	\$5,850.00	No bid
Middle Big Nemaha 9	\$1,250.00	\$1,000.00
Rock Creek 11-A	\$975.00	\$1,000.00
Wilson Creek 8-B	\$2,450.00	\$2,200.00
Wilson Creek 1-24	\$1,250.00	\$900.00
Prairie Owl Recreation Area	\$6,250.00	\$5,400.00

Bohling moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve the low bids as follows:
Borrenpoh Excavating: UBN 20-C, G-16A, 27-R; SB 34; MBN 46; RC 11-A;
Dresen Contracting: MBN 12, 9; WC 8-B, 1-24; & Prairie Owl. It was noted that one project where a bid was received (Rock Creek 1-1) had already been cleared between the last inspection and the bid letting. **Motion carried.**

AYE: Bloss, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Pflieger, Romine, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Armknecht, Iske, McDonald

B. OPERATIONS & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1. **Discussion on Awards Program:** A draft of the awards program was distributed to all members. Lassen explained the process for selecting nominees and the possibility of an awards banquet. This will be on the May agenda for final approval. No action.
2. **Action on Nominations for NARD Awards:** Two nominations were presented for the following awards: Daryl Obermeyer, Outstanding Soil Conservationist; Steamboat Trace Association, Outstanding Community Conservation Award.

Niedfeldt moved, seconded by Lassen, to nominate Daryl Obermeyer for the NARD Outstanding Soil Conservationist Award. Motion carried.

AYE: Bloss, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Pflieger, Romine, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Armknecht, Iske, McDonald

Lassen moved, seconded by Niedfeldt, to nominate the Steamboat Trace Association for the NARD Outstanding Community Conservation Award. Motion carried.

AYE: Bloss, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Pflieger, Romine, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Armknecht, Iske, McDonald

3. *Sponsorship of Norris Envirothon State Contest Registration:* Lassen reported that the Norris Envirothon team qualified for the state contest later in April.

Stukenholtz moved, seconded by Fox, to provide \$100 for the registration fee for the Norris Envirothon team to attend the state contest. Motion carried.

AYE: Bloss, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Pflieger, Romine, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Armknecht, Iske, McDonald

4. *Discussion on Public Survey:* Kuhl provided information on the type of survey conducted by another NRD. No action.

C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. *Action to Discontinue Membership on Five Rivers RC&D:*

Loseke moved, seconded by Romine, to discontinue membership on the Five Rivers RC&D effective immediately. Motion carried.

AYE: Bloss, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Pflieger, Romine, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Armknecht, Iske, McDonald

2. *Two-Year Extension of Recreation Area Mowing Contracts:* The current contractors offered to extend their current contract two more years at the same rates. At the end of the two-year extension, future contracts would be advertised for five years.

Romine moved, seconded by Fox, to approve a two-year extension of the mowing contracts with Jeff McClintock (Kirkman's & Iron Horse) and Taylor Branch Landscaping (Duck Creek, Prairie Owl, & Wirth Brothers) at the current rates. Motion carried.

AYE: Bloss, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Pflieger, Romine, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Armknecht, Iske, McDonald

3. ***Update on Manager's Goals:*** Moss reported that the committee had a rough draft of a form for all directors to use to provide comments. The plan is to send the completed form by mail and email within the next week.

4. ***Discussion on Director Conduct/Possible Adoption of Director Code of Conduct Policy:*** Moss reported that the committee is considering such a policy and will have more information next month. No action.

8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS, MAY MEETING DATE/TIME & AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS**

A budget vs. actual report was distributed, and directors were encouraged to review it and provide any questions/comments to staff. The next meeting will be May 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. with committee meetings prior to the regular meeting.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Sugden moved, seconded by Gigstad, to adjourn. Motion carried.

AYE: Bloss, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Pflieger, Romine, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Armknecht, Iske, McDonald

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Approved May 11, 2023

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District