

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

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

Chair Doug Iske called the five hundred seventy-seventh meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 7:08 p.m. Thursday, July 13, 2023, at the NRD headquarters at Tecumseh, Nebraska.

<b>DIRECTORS</b>	Jake Armknecht	Doug Iske	Mike Speece
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Rob Bohling	Jon Keithley	Dan Stukenholtz
	Randy Fox	Robert Lassen	Duane Sugden
	Orval Gigstad	Tim Loseke	Kevin Thorne
	Dan Hodges	Russel Moss	

<b>DIRECTORS</b>	Bill Niedfeldt	Alan Romine
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Rob Pflieger	Eldon Snoke

<b>STAFF</b>	Kyle Hauschild, General Manager
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Jane Kuhl, Administrative Manager
	Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager
	Brooke Gerdes, Administrative Bookkeeper

<b>GUESTS</b>	Jeremiah Schutz, NRCS	Ken Malone, Palmyra
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Todd Boellstorff, Douglas	Susan Royal, Palmyra
	Mike Pietzyk, Burr	

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence, Iske 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. **CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS TO FILL VACANCY IN SUBDISTRICT 2**

Five individuals submitted applications to fill the vacancy: Todd Boellstorff, Ken Malone, Joe Oswalt, Mike Pietzyk, and Susan Royal. Those in attendance introduced themselves and provided background and information about their interest in the position. Results of a secret ballot were: Todd Boellstorff-8; Ken Malone-3; Susan Royal-2; Joe Oswalt-1. Since Todd Boellstorff received a majority of the votes cast, he was appointed to fill the vacancy.

4. **CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS TO FILL VACANCY IN SUBDISTRICT 9**

No applications were received, so efforts to advertise for the opening will continue.

5. **OATH OF OFFICE**

Hauschild administered the oath of office to Todd Boellstorff who then took his seat on the board.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Excused Absences: Bill Niedfeldt, Alan Romine, Eldon Snoke, Rob Pflieger
- b. Minutes: no changes
- c. Treasurer's Report: no changes

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

**AYE:** Armknecht, Bohling, Fox, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

**NOT PRESENT:** Niedfeldt, Pflieger, Romine, Snoke

7. **OPEN FORUMS**

All directors and staff introduced themselves.

8. **STAFF REPORTS**

Hauschild reviewed his report. Wingert reviewed the recent meeting in Syracuse regarding water issues.

9. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

**A. Natural Resources Conservation Service**

Schutz reviewed his report.

**B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts**

Gigstad reported on funding from Executive Travel for trees, the status of the NDEE/NARD staff position, and the basin tour. Iske also commented on the basin tour.

**C. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission**

Fox reviewed the process for scoring WSF applications for funding.

10. **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**A. PROGRAMS & PROJECTS COMMITTEE**

1. *Well Permit Applications:* None.

2. *Discussion/Action on Transfer Permit-Snodgrass:* Wingert explained that the permit application met all requirements.

**Bohling moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve Transfer Permit #009 for Tom Snodgrass. Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Armknecht, Boellstorff, Bohling, Fox, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley,  
Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne  
**NOT PRESENT:** Niedfeldt, Pflieger, Romine, Snoke

## **B. OPERATIONS & EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

1. **Discussion on Potential Scholarship Program:** Lassen briefly reviewed information about a scholarship program adding that there is still some work to do to finalize it, so it will not be in this year's budget. No action.
2. **Update from Steve Woerth on Steamboat Trace:** Lassen reported that Woerth had met with the committee regarding a potential grant application, which he briefly reviewed. The Steamboat Trace Association would be asking the District to serve as grant applicant. Some details regarding matching funds, future maintenance, impact on NRD budget, etc., remain to be determined. No action.

## **C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

1. **Discussion on Adoption of Director Code of Conduct:** Moss explained the committee had reviewed a template but was not yet requesting action so that directors could further review the document. Hauschild added that this template was developed for the NARD by an attorney after discussion at the last Managers meeting.
2. **Action to Accept Resignation of Matt Bloss and Begin Process to Fill Vacancy in Subdistrict 10:** An email had been sent by Bloss to Doug Iske submitting his resignation on June 11, 2023, which Iske had accepted.

**Sugden moved, seconded by Hodges, to move forward with advertising the vacancy in Subdistrict 10.** The vacancy will be advertised for possible action at the August meeting to appoint a new member. **Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Armknecht, Boellstorff, Bohling, Fox, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley,  
Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne  
**NOT PRESENT:** Niedfeldt, Pflieger, Romine, Snoke

**Action to Accept Resignation of Rob Pflieger and Begin Process to Fill Vacancy in Subdistrict 4:** Moss announced that just prior to the meeting Rob Pflieger had also submitted his resignation via email.

**Stukenholtz moved, seconded by Lassen, to accept the resignation of Rob Pflieger as Subdistrict 4 director and move forward with advertising the vacancy.** Moss noted that Pflieger had indicated recent changes in his work schedule would prevent his participation. **Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Armknecht, Boellstorff, Bohling, Fox, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne  
**NOT PRESENT:** Niedfeldt, Romine, Snoke

3. ***Salary/Benefits for FY24:*** Moss reported the committee met and reviewed proposals for increases. They were recommending a five percent increase for all positions including the General Manager and pay adjustments instead of the five percent increase for two positions. Hauschild explained that Jane Kuhl had been promoted to Assistant Manager, and Brooke Gerdes was hired for the Administrative Bookkeeper position, which came with a pay adjustment.

**Moss moved, seconded by Gigstad, to approve a five percent increase in salaries and to approve pay adjustments for the Assistant Manager and Administrative Bookkeeper positions. After some discussion, motion carried.**

**AYE:** Armknecht, Boellstorff, Bohling, Fox, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne  
**NOT PRESENT:** Niedfeldt, Romine, Snoke

**11. FY24 BUDGET REVIEW & RESTRICTED FUND ALLOWANCE – 1% INCREASE APPROVAL FOR FY24 BUDGET**

After discussion about the purpose of the increase, **Hodges moved, seconded by Fox, to approve a 1% increase in the restricted fund allowance for the FY24 budget. Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Armknecht, Boellstorff, Bohling, Fox, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne  
**NOT PRESENT:** Niedfeldt, Romine, Snoke

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

The next meeting will be August 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. with committee meetings prior to the regular meeting.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

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

**AYE:** Armknecht, Boellstorff, Bohling, Fox, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, Moss, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne  
**NOT PRESENT:** Niedfeldt, Romine, Snoke

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

*Approved August 10, 2023*

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Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District