

July 11, 2024  
Nemaha Natural Resources District  
Regular Meeting  
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Doug Iske called the five hundred eighty-ninth meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 7:08 p.m. Thursday, July 11, 2024, at the NRD headquarters at Tecumseh, Nebraska.

<b>DIRECTORS PRESENT:</b>	Todd Boellstorff Rob Bohling Kraig Coonce Randy Fox Orval Gigstad Doug Iske	Jon Keithley Robert Lassen Russel Moss Bill Niedfeldt Alan Romine Tim Schaardt	Eldon Snoke Dan Stukenholtz Duane Sugden Kevin Thorne
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<b>DIRECTORS ABSENT:</b>	Patty Coates Tracy Ensor	Dan Hodges Tim Loseke	Mike Speece
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<b>STAFF PRESENT:</b>	Kyle Hauschild, Manager Jane Kuhl, Assistant Manager Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager Brooke Gerdes, Administrative Bookkeeper
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<b>GUESTS PRESENT:</b>	Josh Malchow, NRCS, Beatrice Steve Woerth, Brownville John Lokke, Brownville Peggy Grof, Peru Jared Abraham, Aqua Geo Frameworks Katie Cameron, ENWRA
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Iske announced that the Open Meetings Act is posted on the wall in the back of the room.

2. **PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

Proof of publication was presented and is on file.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Excused Absences: Patti Coates, Tracy Ensor, Dan Hodges, Tim Loseke
- b. Minutes: No questions.
- c. Treasurer's Report: No changes.

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

**AYE:** Boellstorff, Bohling, Coonce, Fox, Gigstad, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

**NOT PRESENT:** Coates, Ensor, Hodges, Loseke, Speece

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

Directors and staff introduced themselves. Steve Woerth, Peggy Grof, and John Lokke all spoke about a trail event held recently for nursing home residents.

5. **STAFF REPORTS**

Hauschild reported on the following items: Associated Press article, meeting with the Governor on July 30, Watershed of Wonders, an article in the Irrigation Leader, flooding and the trail, 4<sup>th</sup> of July at the parks, and update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Wingert reported on one replacement well permit, status of E Energy well permits, chemigation, and beach monitoring for toxic algae/bacteria.

6. **JARED ABRAHAM, AQUA GEO FRAMEWORKS – AEM FLIGHT REPORT**

Jared Abraham provided a presentation on the findings of last summer's AEM flights in the District. He answered questions from directors. Katie Cameron also talked about the new ENWRA website.

7. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

**A. Natural Resources Conservation Service**

Josh Malchow briefly reviewed activities in the NRCS offices.

**B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts**

Gigstad reviewed a recent regional meeting that he attended for NACD.

**C. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission**

Fox stated they will meet on August 14 and will be rating applications for Water Sustainability Funds. He read a list of the applications received.

8. **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**A. PROGRAMS & PROJECTS COMMITTEE**

1. *Well Permit Applications:* None

**B. OPERATIONS & EDUCATION COMMITTEE-NO MEETING**

**C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

1. *Discussion/Action on Plans for Prairie Owl:* Moss explained the idea that had been discussed a year ago about selling this property and using the proceeds toward maintenance or development of the other parks. Iske explained that since last year

trees as well as an aging restroom have been removed, so the area is now a primitive, day use area. There was discussion about the lack of maintenance required now.

**Stukenholtz moved, seconded by Boellstorff, to operate the Prairie Owl property as a minimum maintenance area and revisit other options as needed.** After further discussion about the depth of the lake and the fisheries, **motion carried.**

**AYE:** Boellstorff, Bohling, Coonce, Fox, Gigstad, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Niedfeldt, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

**NAY:** Moss

**NOT PRESENT:** Coates, Ensor, Hodges, Loseke, Speece

2. ***Review of Director Code of Conduct:*** Moss explained that since several new directors had joined the board after this was adopted last year, it was being provided for everyone to review. He added that a presentation on director responsibilities may be scheduled sometime again.
3. ***Review Request for NNRD to Sponsor Grant on Behalf of Steamboat Trace Association:*** Steve Woerth reviewed the grant proposal. Lassen expressed concern that the NRD would be responsible for maintaining anything installed through this grant. Stukenholtz expressed concern for the location of some of the projects and the fact that the Peru depot area had been flooded again. There was discussion about whether the board wants to spend more on the trail. No action was taken, but this item will be on the August agenda. Directors asked to have a copy of the grant application sent to them prior to next month's meeting.
4. ***Contract with Longitude 103 for NRD Water/Dams Data Software Application:*** Moss explained that this would provide data to producers regarding their water usage and would be used to house NRD dams data. The annual cost would be \$10,500 for both components. Hauschild added he would try to negotiate a three-year contract at this rate.

**Moss moved, seconded by Lassen, to approve a three-year contract with Longitude 103 for a water/dams data software application at an annual cost of \$10,500. Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Boellstorff, Bohling, Fox, Gigstad, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

**ABSTAINING:** Coonce

**NOT PRESENT:** Coates, Ensor, Hodges, Loseke, Speece

5. ***Southeast Weed Management Association Startup Dues:*** Moss explained that the District's contribution to this group is to serve as administrator of funds instead of cash dues. However, because there has been no administrative work required in this first year, the NRD was asked to consider providing startup funds.

**Stukenholtz moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve \$500 for startup funds for the Southeast Weed Management Association. Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Boellstorff, Bohling, Coonce, Fox, Gigstad, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Moss, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

**NAY:** Niedfeldt

**NOT PRESENT:** Coates, Ensor, Hodges, Loseke, Speece

**9. FY25 BUDGET REVIEW & RESTRICTED FUND ALLOWANCE – 1% INCREASE APPROVAL FOR FY25 BUDGET**

Hauschild stated the Budget Committee had met, and he reviewed the proposed budget. He added that it is not balanced at this time but includes the input from the Committee. He then reviewed the proposed increase to the restricted fund allowance, which does not increase the actual dollar amount of the budget.

**Gigstad moved, seconded by Stukenholtz, to approve a 1% increase in the restricted fund allowance for the FY25 budget. Motion carried.**

**AYE:** Boellstorff, Bohling, Coonce, Fox, Gigstad, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

**NOT PRESENT:** Coates, Ensor, Hodges, Loseke, Speece

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

The next regular meeting of the board of directors will be Thursday, August 8, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. with committee meetings prior to the board meeting. The grant request by the Steamboat Trace Association will be added to the agenda.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

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

**AYE:** Boellstorff, Bohling, Coonce, Fox, Gigstad, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

**NOT PRESENT:** Coates, Ensor, Hodges, Loseke, Speece

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Approved August 8, 2024

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District