

November 9, 2023
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Tim Loseke called the five hundred eighty-first meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 7:06 p.m. Thursday, November 9, 2023, at the NRD headquarters at Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS	Jake Armknecht	Tim Loseke	Mike Speece
PRESENT:	Todd Boellstorff	Bill Niedfeldt	Duane Sugden
	Rob Bohling	Alan Romine	Kevin Thorne
	Orval Gigstad	Tim Schardt	
	Dan Hodges	Eldon Snoke	

DIRECTORS	Randy Fox	Jon Keithley	Russel Moss
ABSENT:	Doug Iske	Robert Lassen	Dan Stukenholtz

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

GUESTS
PRESENT: Mike Burgert, NRCS
Scott Bruns, Otoe Co. RWD #3

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence, Loseke 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 4**

No applications were received for this position.

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

No applications were received for this position.

5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Excused Absences: Bob Lassen, Jon Keithley, Doug Iske, Russel Moss, Dan Stukenholtz, Randy Fox
- b. Minutes: No changes or corrections.
- c. Treasurer's Report: No changes or corrections.

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

AYE: Armknecht, Boellstorff, Bohling, Gigstad, Hodges, Loseke, Niedfeldt, Romine, Schardt, Snoko, Speece, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Fox, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Moss, Stukenholtz

6. OPEN FORUMS

Directors and staff introduced themselves.

7. STAFF REPORTS

Hauschild reported on the recent benefits committee meeting, efforts to contact our congressional delegation for help finding funds for watershed repairs, a Nebraska Legacy meeting he attended, status of the drill rig in the spillway at South Branch 34, and the upcoming radio show. He directed attention to a banner on the wall detailing flooding history and subsequent efforts in the Upper Big Nemaha watershed. Hauschild also reviewed the open house held in Adams regarding the UBN 7-A structure.

8. AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Burgert gave a brief report on the activities within the NRCS offices.

B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reported that the insurance program is in good financial shape and that the plan administrator would be changing for the 125-plan part of the program. They are doing a year-long study of our third part administrator. They are also considering a change to the contribution percentages for the retirement program to bring it up to industry standards. The NARD board discussed the Farm Bureau stance on eliminating property tax funding.

C. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

No report.

9. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. PROGRAMS & PROJECTS COMMITTEE

1. Well Permit Applications: None.

2. Bids for Tree Cutting on Watershed Structures: Bids received for cutting trees on nine watershed structures were as follows:

Site	Borrenpohl Exc.	Dresen Contracting	B.A.B., Inc.
Nemaha Co. Road Dam	\$975.00	\$1,150.00	No bid
Brownell 1-4	\$1,975.00	\$2,275.00	No bid
Wilson Creek 11-A	\$2,650.00	\$2,875.00	No bid
UBN L-10	\$1,450.00	\$1,675.00	No bid
UBN 23-D	\$2,650.00	\$2,875.00	No bid
UBN L-4	\$2,300.00	\$2,175.00	\$6,000.00
UBN 9-B	\$1,775.00	\$1,650.00	No bid
UBN G-14	\$3,500.00	\$3,325.00	No bid
ULN 17	\$3,650.00	\$3,875.00	No bid

Bohling moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve the low bids for tree cutting from Borrenpohl Excavating on the Nemaha Co. road dam, Brownell 1-4, Wilson Creek 11-A, UBN L-10, UBN 23-D, and ULN 17 and from Dresen Contracting on UBN L-4, UBN 9-B, and UBN G-14. Motion carried.

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

3. ***Bids for Rip Rap Placement on Watershed Structures:*** Bids received for rip rap placement on four structures were as follows (bids were as a package, not individual):

Bidder	Total Bid
Borrenpohl Exc.	\$25,687.50
NE Digging Services	\$31,350.00
Gana Trucking & Exc.	\$34,710.00
Broken Arrow Exc.	\$43,975.00
Tim Sisco Const.	\$44,550.00

Bohling moved, seconded by Hodges to approve the low bid of \$25,687.50 from Borrenpohl Excavating for rip rap placement on Wilson Creek 12-9, 12-2, 1-24, and Upper Big Nemaha L-4. Motion carried.

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

Quotes to deliver approximately 1,850 rip rap to a total of 6 different sites were as follows:

Armstrong Rentals: \$14,325.00
 Gana Trucking: \$15,211.00

Bohling moved, seconded by Sugden, to approve the low bid from Armstrong Rentals for trucking rip rap to 6 different sites. It was confirmed that the NRD has secured the purchase of the rock and that these quotes were only for delivery. **Motion carried.**

AYE: Armknecht, Boellstorff, Bohling, Gigstad, Hodges, Loseke, Niedfeldt, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Speece, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Fox, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Moss, Stukenholtz

4. ***Presentation from Otoe County RWD:*** Scott Bruns, manager of the Otoe County Rural Water District #3, addressed the board regarding the water shortage concerns experienced this summer. He provided graphs that compared water levels in their wells during various time periods, especially in August each year. There was discussion about the need for education to increase water use efficiency and the grant application for nozzle replacement.
5. ***Update on SWCP Extensions:*** Kuhl reported that the three projects receiving extensions were either completed or near completion. Therefore, no further action was required.

B. OPERATIONS & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1. ***Discussion/Action on December Board Meeting Plans:*** Thorne reviewed the proposed schedule for the December board meeting. The board is asked to arrive between 3:00 and 3:30 to visit with staff, and the committee meetings will begin at 3:30 with the board meeting at 4:30. It was clarified that this schedule was only for the December meeting.

Thorne moved, seconded by Boellstorff, to approve the December board meeting schedule with committees at 3:30 and the board meeting at 4:30. Motion carried.

AYE: Armknecht, Boellstorff, Bohling, Gigstad, Hodges, Loseke, Niedfeldt, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Speece, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Fox, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Moss, Stukenholtz

C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. ***Selection of Nominating Committee Members:*** Loseke asked anyone willing to serve on this committee to contact Doug Iske. No action.
2. ***Discussion on Reorganization of Board Committees:*** Hauschild reviewed the options and reasons for updating the members on the Executive Committee. Wording would be changed so that the Natural Resources Commission member would only serve on this committee if he/she is also an NRD board member. Other changes were also discussed. This item requires a change to the bylaws, so it will appear on the December agenda for formal action.

3. ***Policy on Federal Government Shutdown Procedures:*** Hauschild reviewed the current policy regarding NRD staff who work in the NRCS offices. No action was taken to amend that policy at this time.

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

Hauschild reminded directors of the upcoming NARD Legislative Conference at the end of January. The next regular meeting of the board of directors will be Thursday, December 14 2023, at **4:30 p.m.** with committee meetings beginning at **3:30 p.m.**

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

AYE: Armknecht, Boellstorff, Bohling, Gigstad, Hodges, Loseke, Niedfeldt, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Speece, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Fox, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Moss, Stukenholtz

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Approved December 14, 2023

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District