

October 13, 2022
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Doug Iske called the five hundred sixty-eighth meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 7:07 p.m. Thursday, October 13, 2022, at the NRD headquarters at Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS	Lisa Beethe	Dan Hodges	Don Siske
PRESENT:	Rob Bohling	Doug Iske	Eldon Snoke
	Randy Fox	Tim Loseke	Mike Speece
	Jim Gerweck	Russel Moss	Duane Sugden
	Orval Gigstad	Bill Niedfeldt	Kevin Thorne
	Dan Giittinger	Alan Romine	

DIRECTORS	Jon Keithley	Michael McDonald
ABSENT:	Robert Lassen	Dan Stukenholtz

STAFF	Kyle Hauschild, General Manager
PRESENT:	Jane Kuhl, Administrative Manager
	Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager
	Steve Bartels, Field Representative

GUESTS	Steve Woerth, Brownville
PRESENT:	Jeremiah Schutz, NRCS
	Becky & Bruce Cropsey

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. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Excused Absences: Jon Keithley, Bob Lassen, Mike McDonald, and Dan Stukenholtz requested excused absences.
- b. Minutes: No comments/questions.
- c. Treasurer's Report: No comments/questions.

Siske moved, seconded by Gerweck, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Hodges, Iske, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Stukenholtz

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

Directors and staff introduced themselves.

5. **STAFF REPORTS**

Hauschild reviewed his report. Wingert briefly reviewed some items in his report. Bartels provided a report on the repair work completed on the Steamboat Trace.

6. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Schutz reviewed some items in his report.

B. Five Rivers RC&D

Sugden reported that all paperwork has been returned to the Nebraska Environmental Trust.

C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reported on the annual conference and the funds that were raised for the NARD Foundation and how some of those have been distributed. He added that NARD would be helping pay for scantrons to be used in scoring the land judging contests.

D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

Hauschild shared that the Commission is meeting October 19; their board is reviewing and scoring applications to be discussed on the 19th.

E. Steamboat Trace Volunteer Group

Gittinger reported they toured the Peru depot site, and the group is looking to get the building cleaned up. They are looking for grant funds for signs next year and working on getting their nonprofit status reinstated. A grand opening for the trail is tentatively planned for early June, 2023.

7. **STANDING COMMITTEES**

A. PROGRAMS & PROJECTS COMMITTEE

1. *Well Permit Applications:* Beethe and Wingert reviewed the details of the following permit:

Permit #	Landowner Name	Well Location	GPM	Purpose	Score
N767	DOS Properties Inc.	NE¼SW¼ 34-4 -12, Nemaha Co.	1200	Irrigation	212

Beethe moved, seconded by Bohling, to approve well permit #N767 for DOS Properties, Inc. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Hodges, Iske, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Sugden, Thorne
NOT PRESENT: Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Stukenholtz

2. ***Bids to Place Rip Rap on 5 Watershed Structures:*** The following bids were received:

<i>Cole North Special Project</i>	
Bidder	Bid
Borrenpohl Excavating	\$7,735.00
Kuhl Construction	\$8,802.50

<i>Winnebago-Bean Project</i>			
Bidder	Bid-WB41-4	Bid-WB43-2	Total
Thomas Construction	\$3,796.00	\$3,122.50	\$6,918.50
Rulo Transportation	\$8,920.00	\$8,920.00	\$17,840.00

<i>Upper Big Nemaha Project</i>			
Bidder	Bid-UBN G-12A	Bid-UBN 23-C	Total
B.A.B., Inc.	\$3,150.00	\$4,000.00	\$7,150.00
Borrenpohl Excavating	\$3,080.00	\$4,400.00	\$7,480.00
Kuhl Construction	\$3,692.50	\$5,275.00	\$8,967.50

<i>Wilson Creek 4-11 Project</i>	
Bidder	Bid
Borrenpohl Excavating	\$4,770.00
Kuhl Construction	\$6,011.25
B.A.B., Inc.	\$7,293.75

Beethe moved, seconded by Hodges, to approve the low bids for rip rap placement as follows: Cole North SP-Borrenpohl Excavating, \$7,735; Winnebago-Bean Sites-Thomas Construction, \$6,918.50; Upper Big Nemaha Sites-B.A.B., \$7,150; and Wilson Creek 4-11-Borrenpohl Excavating, \$4,770. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Hodges, Iske, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Sugden, Thorne
NOT PRESENT: Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Stukenholtz

3. ***Consideration of Changes to Chemigation Fees for 2023:*** The committee reviewed fees being charged by other NRDs, the number of permits we process, and the amount of time spent. Current rates are \$50-new, \$30-renewal, \$100-emergency.

Beethe moved, seconded by Gigstad, to increase chemigation fees to the following rates for 2023: \$60 for new, \$30 for renewal, and \$250 for emergency permits. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Hodges, Iske, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Stukenholtz

4. **SWCP Policy Review Committee Selection:** Beethe asked for two or three volunteers from the committee to help review the District’s Soil & Water Conservation Program policy. NRCS and NRD staff will make up the balance of the committee. Duane Sugden and Rob Bohling volunteered.

5. **Behrends Request for Well Use Reconsideration:** Beethe reported that the landowners were at the committee meeting, and the committee reviewed the history of this request to transfer water. Some additional investigation will be made into a well location that could score high enough to alleviate the need for the transfer. Wingert will also contact DNR to get a copy of a flow test conducted by them. No action was taken.

B. OPERATIONS & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1. **Action to Adjust Prices for Tree and Drilling Programs:** Fox explained that the committee reviewed staff recommendations for updated pricing as follows:

	Current Pricing	Proposed Pricing
Trees	\$1.20/tree	\$1.25/tree
Planting (minimum 200 trees)	\$1.00/tree	\$1.50/tree
Acreage Packages (includes 100 trees & planting; 4 different packages with species to be selected by NNRD)	Not available	\$527.50

Fox moved, seconded by Thorne, to approve the proposed pricing increases for trees, planting, and acreage packages. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Hodges, Iske, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Stukenholtz

Proposed changes to the grass drilling rates were as follows:

	Current Pricing	Proposed Pricing
Drilling, per acre (maximum 25 acres/landowner/year)	\$26.00	\$28.00
Mobilization Charge	N/A	\$150.00

Fox moved, seconded by Snoke, to approve the grass drilling price changes as proposed. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Hodges, Iske, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Stukenholtz

2. ***Use of Newspapers for Education:*** Fox reviewed a handout provided to the committee that outlined the various press releases and efforts to increase information provided to local news media. In addition Kuhl listed the other media sources in use including radio advertising, social media, and the website. No action.

C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. ***Action to Revoke Park Permit/Access to NRD Properties Due to Disturbance and and/or Damage to Park Facilities:*** Loseke briefly explained that a couple of park users had caused damage and/or created uncomfortable situations for other park visitors on at least two occasions this year. The committee discussed the ability to revoke a park permit or refuse to sell a future park permit in these situations and in collaboration with local authorities. Beethe asked if this would require a change to our park rules. Hauschild explained the specific situations that occurred at both Iron Horse and at Duck Creek. The current rules allow the board to revoke a permit, but it was agreed that more specific clarification of reasons for doing so could be added to the rules.

Loseke moved, seconded by Fox, to pursue action to revoke a park permit or refuse to sell a future park permit for NNRD properties. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Hodges, Iske, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Stukenholtz

2. ***Discussion on Manager's Evaluation:*** Loseke explained that the committee has discussed this and will have an annual manager's review to be completed by the Executive Committee with input from the remainder of the board. This review will be completed in the spring so that the new Executive Committee would be in place for a couple of months before conducting the review. The committee would ask for input from the rest of the board in March, meet with the manager in April, and report back to the board in May. Beethe felt the board members should have the option of participating by both paper and online measures so all members have an opportunity to submit comments. There was additional discussion on the goals that both the manager has and the board has. No action.

3. **Report on Wellness Program:** Loseke reviewed the summary of planned activities from the Wellness Committee. Hauschild also reviewed some of the activities from the past year as well as the upcoming flu shot clinic and CPR refresher training. No action.

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

The next meeting will be Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. with committee meetings prior to the regular meeting. Hauschild reviewed the fires in the Halsey area and the effect on the nursery and forest. Gigstad recognized Don Siske for 20 years on the board and presented a certificate that was received during the NARD conference in Kearney in September.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Siske moved, seconded by Gerweck, to adjourn. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Hodges, Iske, Loseke, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Keithley, Lassen, McDonald, Stukenholtz

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Approved November 10, 2022

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District