

September 14, 2023
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Doug Iske called the five hundred seventy-ninth meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 7:04 p.m. Thursday, September 14, 2023, at the NRD headquarters at Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:	Todd Boellstorff	Robert Lassen	Dan Stukenholtz
	Rob Bohling	Russel Moss	Duane Sugden
	Randy Fox	Bill Niedfeldt	Kevin Thorne
	Orval Gigstad	Alan Romine	
	Doug Iske	Eldon Snoke	

DIRECTORS ABSENT:	Jake Armknecht	Jon Keithley	Mike Speece
	Dan Hodges	Tim Loseke	

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

GUESTS PRESENT:	Jeremiah Schutz, NRCS, Tecumseh	Julia Perry, Peru
	Dale Buman, Pawnee City	Steve Woerth, Brownville
	Tim Schaardt, Steinauer	Kirsten Reeves, Peru

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 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. **CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS TO FILL VACANCY IN SUBDISTRICT 10**

Two applications were received from Dale Buman and Tim Schaardt. Each introduced themselves and provided background and their interest in becoming a board member. A secret ballot vote was conducted, and Tim Schaardt was selected receiving 9 votes; Dale Buman received 4 votes.

6. **OATH OF OFFICE**

Hauschild administered the oath of office to Tim Schaardt who took his seat on the board.

7. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Excused Absences: Jake Armknecht, Tim Loseke, Jon Keithley, Dan Hodges, and Mike Speece requested excused absences.
- 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: Boellstorff, Bohling, Fox, Gigstad, Iske, Lassen, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Armknecht, Hodges, Keithley, Loseke, Speece

8. **OPEN FORUMS**

Directors and staff introduced themselves. Julia Perry, representing the Peru Community Improvement Group, provided the board with an update of their plans that include the Steamboat Trace and their interest in working with the NRD on any projects. Steve Woerth talked about the upcoming anniversary of the opening of the Steamboat Trace and an event the Steamboat Trace Association has planned in Brownville on October 7.

9. **STAFF REPORTS**

Hauschild provided a written report and some additional updates. Wingert provided a written report. Iske reported on an arboretum project the Syracuse Hospital is planning and the possibility of their application for an Urban Special Project grant.

10. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Schutz reviewed his last written report before taking a new position with NRCS. This report contained some year-end conservation practice statistics.

B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reported on the Hall of Fame awards that were announced at Husker Harvest Days. He also talked about the upcoming annual conference.

C. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

Fox had nothing new to report since they had not met since last month.

11. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. PROGRAMS & PROJECTS COMMITTEE

1. *Well Permit Applications:* Wingert reviewed well permit application N804.

Permit #	Landowner Name	Well Location	GPM	Purpose	Score
N804	JTHN Farms	NE ¼ NE ¼ Section 32-7-8, Lancaster Co.	800	Irrigation	209

Bohling moved, seconded by Sugden to approve well permit N804 for JTHN Farms. Motion carried.

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

NOT PRESENT: Armknecht, Hodges, Keithley, Loseke, Speece

2. *Review Cost-Share Rates for Flow Meters:* Wingert reviewed the information on the cost-share we have provided versus the increase in cost of the meters. More information was requested regarding the cost-share provided by other Districts prior to taking action to change our rates. No action.

B. OPERATIONS & EDUCATION COMMITTEE – NO MEETING

C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. *Discussion on Potential Sale of Prairie Owl:* Moss reported that we continue to work on obtaining an appraisal of the property, which is the first step toward potentially selling it. No action.
2. *Discussion on Farm Bureau Policy Development Guide Regarding NRD Taxing Authority:* Hauschild explained that this could potentially become a bill in the Legislature to try to change the way NRD's are funded. Some discussion was held on the background of this effort. No action was taken, but this will continue to be monitored.

12. ACTION TO APPROVE FY24 BUDGET & RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX

Hauschild briefly reviewed the final budget figures and changes made to balance the budget based on valuations received.

Romine moved, seconded by Lassen, to approve the FY24 budget as presented and the resolution setting the property tax request at \$2,659,684.51. With no further discussion, motion carried.

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

NOT PRESENT: Armknecht, Hodges, Keithley, Loseke, Speece

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS, OCTOBER AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. with committee meetings held prior to the regular meeting.

14. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

NOT PRESENT: Armknecht, Hodges, Keithley, Loseke, Speece

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Approved October, 12, 2023

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District