

August 12, 2021
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Vice-Chair Doug Iske called the five hundred fifty-fourth meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 8:07 p.m. Thursday, August 12, 2021, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS	Lisa Beethe	Dan Hodges	Russel Moss
PRESENT:	Rob Bohling	Doug Iske	Bill Niedfeldt
	Randy Fox	Jon Keithley	Alan Romine
	Jim Gerweck	Robert Lassen	Don Siske
	Orval Gigstad	Tim Loseke	Eldon Snoko
	Dan Giittinger	Michael McDonald	Kevin Thorne

DIRECTORS	Mike Speece	Duane Sugden
ABSENT:	Dan Stukenholtz	

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

GUESTS	Jeremiah Schutz, NRCS, Tecumseh
PRESENT:	Steve Woerth, Brownville
	Bobbie Meints, Five Rivers RC&D
	Jared Abraham, Aqua Geo Frameworks
	Katie Cameron, ENWRA

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. **ELECTION OF BOARD CHAIR**

Iske opened the floor for nominations. Niedfeldt nominated Doug Iske. He added that he felt Iske would provide continuity since he is currently Vice-Chair and that he would be agreeable to serving out the last five months of this year and would do a good job. Siske moved, Gigstad seconded that nominations cease. Hauschild explained that the board could either vote by motion/roll call or by secret ballot. Lassen asked for a secret ballot vote. Results of the ballot were 14 in favor, 3 opposed, and 1 abstain. Iske was declared Chair for the remainder of 2021. Iske stated we would need to fill the Vice-Chair position next month.

4. **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

Siske moved, seconded by Gigstad, to approve the excused absences requested by Mike Speece, Dan Stukenholtz, and Duane Sugden. Motion carried on consent agenda.

5. **OPEN FORUMS**

Hodges addressed the chair stating in light of the information received at last month's meeting and the actions that were taken at that time that additional clarification was needed to put these issues behind us.

Hodges moved, seconded by Gerweck, to go into executive session at 8:16 p.m. to protect the reputation and integrity of the board and that attendance be limited to the board of directors. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden

Beethe moved, seconded by Gigstad, to return to open session at 9:02 p.m. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden

6. **MINUTES**

Siske moved, seconded by Romine, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried on consent agenda.

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Siske moved, seconded by Hodges, to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Motion carried on consent agenda.

8. **STAFF REPORTS**

Hauschild briefly reviewed his written report that had been distributed. Wingert reviewed his report.

9. **REPORT FROM AQUA GEO FRAMEWORKS / ENWRA UPDATE**

Jared Abraham reviewed the results of the AEM flights completed about a year ago. Katie Cameron provided an administrative update on ENWRA and their recent projects and activities, the budget and interlocal agreement terms, and upcoming activities.

10. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Schutz reviewed his written report, which had been distributed.

B. Five Rivers RC&D

Bobbie Meints had provided a written, annual report for the RC&D which was distributed to all board members. She had to leave prior to this agenda item but had conveyed her appreciation to the NRD for supporting the RC&D.

C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad provided and reviewed his report from the NACD regional meeting he attended.

D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

McDonald stated they will meet August 18-19 in Kearney to review grant applications and that there are a couple of funds that will have less money this year.

11. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. PROGRAMS & PROJECTS COMMITTEE

1. Bids for Construction of Duck Creek Sediment Basin: Bids received were as follows:

Contractor	Total Bid
Mount Farm Drainage	\$249,024.16
Ashland Road Exc.	\$299,157.50
Prange Construction	\$316,653.00
Kreifels Exc.	\$397,976.50
Empire Trenching	\$399,315.00

Siske moved, seconded by Keithley, to approve the low bid of \$249,024.16 from Mount Farm Drainage for construction of the Duck Creek sediment basin.

Beethe asked if we had any experience with this contractor. Wingert reviewed the projects they had done recently and references that staff had received on their work. After further discussion, **motion carried.**

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden

2. Well Permit Applications: None received.

B. OPERATIONS & EDUCATION COMMITTEE – No meeting

C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. Action to Approve Master Plan for 2021-2030: Hauschild explained that the plan is nearly complete and will be available for approval at the September board meeting. No action.

2. ***Selection of Voting Delegate/Alternate for NARD Annual Conference:*** Gigstad offered to serve as the delegate. Sugden had indicated he would attend the conference.

Romine moved, seconded by Beethe, to appoint Orval Gigstad as voting delegate and Duane Sugden as alternate for the NARD Annual Conference. Motion carried.

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

3. ***Development of Sinking Funds for FY2022 Budget:*** Hauschild reviewed the three sinking funds being considered for watershed development/maintenance, Steamboat Trace development/maintenance, and Section 319-Kirkman's Creek Watershed. He further explained that these would provide funds for bigger projects, emergency items, and grant matching.

Gigstad moved, seconded by Hodges, to establish the Watershed Development/Maintenance Sinking Fund and fund it with \$100,000 transferred from the General Fund. Motion carried.

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

Lassen moved, seconded by Gerweck, to establish the Section 319-Kirkman's Creek Watershed Sinking Fund and fund it with \$30,000 transferred from the General Fund. Motion carried.

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

Beethe moved, seconded by Romine, to establish the Steamboat Trace Development/Maintenance Sinking Fund and fund it with \$20,000 transferred from the General Fund. Motion carried.

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

12. FY2022 BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

- A. **Review/Action on Proposed Budget:** Rogman reviewed the Budget Committee meeting and work done since then. Lassen clarified that the budget presented at this meeting reflected an increase in the levy to three cents but that the resulting valuations will

ultimately determine where the levy will fall. Beethe further explained the reason for considering increasing the levy up to 3.0 or even 3.5 cents, if necessary, in order to balance the budget. Hauschild explained the budget item for a salary survey and an estimate he had received so far. Hodges further explained the additional data that would be provided through this salary survey.

Gigstad moved, seconded by Gerweck, to approve the budget with the addition of the sinking funds and adjustment for the Duck Creek sediment basin bid. It was clarified that once valuations come in, the levy will be adjusted accordingly to balance this budget. After further discussion, **motion carried.**

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

NAY: McDonald

NOT PRESENT: Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden

B. Set Budget Hearing Date/Time:

Romine moved, seconded by Niedfeldt, to set the budget hearing to begin at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 9, 2021. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS, SEPTEMBER MEETING DATE/TIME & AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS

The next meeting will be September 9, 2021, at 8:00 p.m. with committee meetings prior to the regular meeting. Election of a new board vice-chair will be included on the agenda. Steve Woerth was also invited to attend and be placed on the agenda to discuss the future of the Steamboat Trace.

14. CONSENT AGENDA

Siske moved, seconded by Gigstad, to approve the consent agenda. Consent agenda items: Excused Absences, Minutes, Treasurer's Report. **Motion carried.**

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden

15. ADJOURNMENT

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

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Approved September 9, 2021

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District