

May 13, 2021
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Mike McDonald called the five hundred fifty-first meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 8:05 p.m. Thursday, May 13, 2021, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:	Lisa Beethe Rob Bohling Randy Fox Jim Gerweck Orval Gigstad Dan Giittinger	Robert Lassen Tim Loseke Michael McDonald Bill Niedfeldt Alan Romine Don Siske	Eldon Snoke Dan Stukenholtz Duane Sugden Kevin Thorne
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DIRECTORS ABSENT:	Dan Hodges Doug Iske	Jon Keithley Russel Moss	Mike Speece
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STAFF PRESENT:	Kyle Hauschild, General Manager Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager Mark McDonald, Field Representative Jill Rogman, Administrative Assistant
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GUESTS PRESENT:	Jeremiah Schutz, NRCS, Tecumseh
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Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence, McDonald 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. **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

Siske moved, seconded by Beethe, to approve the excused absences requested by Dan Hodges, Doug Iske, Jon Keithley, Russel Moss, and Mike Speece. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

NRD directors, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

5. **MINUTES**

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

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

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

7. STAFF REPORTS

Hauschild reported on several items including Spring Creek 11-A plugged tube, NRD parks, staffing, education efforts, office/grounds updates, staff wellness meeting, and several legislative bills. Wingert reviewed the items in his report. Mark McDonald updated the board on this year's tree sales, grass drilling, and the status of work on the Steamboat Trace.

8. AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**A. Natural Resources Conservation Service**

Schutz reviewed his written report, which had been distributed.

B. Five Rivers RC&D

Sugden reported they met April 15 and are still working on some grants. They have gone through two rounds of household hazardous waste collections.

C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reported their next meeting would be just prior to the basin tour, which takes place in the Papio this year. He encouraged directors to attend the tour. He also reported on the NACD annual report and the next meeting.

D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

McDonald reported that they filled the last spot on the Commission board and that they are looking at the application process and evaluation criteria at their meeting in June.

9. STANDING COMMITTEES**A. Programs & Projects Committee**

1. Doctor's Lake Fish Kill – Request for Restocking Assistance: Gerweck stated the committee discussed this item and met with representatives of the homeowners association. Wingert reviewed the timeline of events during the rehab of the dam. It appears the restocking has already begun. There was discussion about the process for restocking the lake and the question of whether it would be successful. Snoke pointed out that we do not usually approve payment for something after the fact. Gerweck said the committee was directing staff to look into obtaining additional information.

2. Shubert Well Rehab Reimbursement Request: Wingert reviewed the request. There was concern whether agreeing to the request would imply liability on the District's behalf. Niedfeldt felt we should consider some kind of assistance. Wingert added that the representatives from Shubert who came to the committee meeting asked the board to consider whatever the board felt was a fair amount. No action was taken pending collection of more information.

3. **Action on Well Permit Applications:** Wingert reviewed the following application:

Permit #	Landowner Name	Well Location	GPM	Purpose	Score
N743	Frontier Cooperative- Syracuse	SE¼ NE¼ Section 27-8-11, Otoe Co. (3 wells comingled pumping approx.. 45 gpm each)	140	Commercial	N/A

Gerweck moved, seconded by Siske, to approve well permit application N743 for Frontier Cooperative. Motion carried.

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

4. **Nominate Budget Committee Member:** Gerweck reported that Dan Stukenholtz was selected to serve on the budget committee.

B. Operations & Education Committee

1. **Action on Urban Special Project Final Applications:** Romine reported that only one final application was received from the Village of Brownville for interpretive and educational signage along the Whiskey Run Creek Trail, Governor Furnas Arboretum, and Rohman Gardens. Their request was for \$16,000, and the total project cost is estimated at \$33,000.

Romine moved, seconded by Siske, to approve up to \$16,000 cost-share funding for the Urban Special Project application from the Village of Brownville. Motion carried.

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

2. **Rod Buethe Request for Easement Release – MBN 4:** Romine explained that the landowner is asking to build a small, storage building to house equipment used to maintain a mitigation area on this property. Since NRCS funded the cost of planting trees and grass on this mitigation, their approval would be needed as well.

Romine moved, seconded by Siske, to approve an agreement to release a portion of an easement area involved with the mitigation site at Middle Big Nemaha 4 contingent upon NRCS approval. Motion carried.

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

- 3. *Nominate Budget Committee Member:*** Romine reported Dan Giittinger had agreed to serve on the budget committee.

C. Executive Committee

- 1. *Nominate a Budget Committee for FY2022 Budget:*** In addition to the two members from the other committees, Bob Lassen, Mike McDonald, Lisa Beethe, and Russel Moss will serve on the committee.
- 2. *Discussion on FY22 Salary and Benefits:*** McDonald reported they took a look at some basic information but didn't have much time to work on it. No action.
- 3. *Ad-Hoc Committee Update:*** There was discussion about when we could open a part of the Steamboat Trace. Loseke talked about how the repair would impact our budget over the next few years. He reviewed a range of options for the future of the trail. Lassen reviewed some projections for revenues in the upcoming budget and expenditures.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS, JUNE MEETING DATE/TIME & AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS

The next meeting will be June 10, 2021, at 8:00 p.m. with committee meetings prior to the regular meeting.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

Sugden 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, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Moss, Speece

12. ADJOURNMENT

Lassen moved, seconded by Romine, to adjourn. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Fox, Gerweck, Gigstad, Giittinger, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Hodges, Iske, Keithley, Moss, Speece

The meeting adjourned at 10:09 p.m.

Approved 6/10/21

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District