

March 9, 2017
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Vice-Chair Bill Niedfeldt called the five hundred second meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, March 9, 2017, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:	Lisa Beethe Rob Bohling Jim Gerweck Orval Gigstad Dave Guhde Doug Iske	Jenny Kearney Tim Loseke Michael McDonald Russel Moss William Niedfeldt Alan Romine	Don Siske Mike Speece Dan Stukenholtz Duane Sugden Kevin Thorne
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DIRECTORS ABSENT:	Dan Hodges	Jon Keithley
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STAFF PRESENT:	Bob Hilske, Manager Scott Nelson, Assistant Manager Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant Chuck Wingert, Water Resources Manager
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GUESTS PRESENT:	Roger Reichmuth, NRCS, Tecumseh Ken & Dorothy Grannas, Adams Robert Lassen, Firth	Richard Wing, Shubert Patsy Wing, Shubert Eldon Snoke, Humboldt
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Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence, Niedfeldt 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. **OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY ELECTED DIRECTORS**

Nelson administered the oath of office to directors Jenny Kearney and Alan Romine.

4. **CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS TO FILL BOARD VACANCIES IN SUBDISTRICTS 1 & 8**

Niedfeldt invited Robert Lassen and Eldon Snoke to introduce themselves as applicants for Subdistrict 1 and 8, respectively. Both provided brief information about themselves.

Gerweck moved, seconded by Gigstad, to appoint Robert Lassen to fill the vacancy in Subdistrict 1. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Gigstad, Guhde, Iske, Kearney, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne
NOT PRESENT: Hodges, Keithley

Sugden moved, seconded by Siske, to appoint Eldon Snoke to fill the vacancy in Subdistrict 8. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Gigstad, Guhde, Iske, Kearney, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne
NOT PRESENT: Hodges, Keithley

Nelson administered the oath of office to Robert Lassen and Eldon Snoke, and they took their positions on the board.

5. **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

Sugden moved, seconded by Gigstad, to approve the excused absence requested by Alan Romine for the February 9 meeting. Motion carried on consent agenda.

Sugden moved, seconded by Siske, to approve the excused absence requested by Don Hodges for the March 9 meeting. Motion carried on consent agenda.

6. **OPEN FORUMS**

All NRD directors, staff, and guests introduced themselves. Rich Wing addressed the board about concerns with the well permit scoring and information that the well drillers provide about the test holes. Dorothy Grannas asked for a copy of the engineers report for UBN 25-C. She also questioned what landowner's name was listed for the dam and about the access route. Ken Grannas expressed concern about the road that the drivers would have to travel to get into the site when they start working on the project.

7. **MINUTES**

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

8. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

9. **STAFF REPORTS**

Hilske reviewed his report. He also reviewed some of the recent legislative activities. Nelson reviewed his report. (Both reports are filed with the minutes.)

10. **AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Reichmuth reported they are working on CRP, CSP, and EQIP plans. The EQIP work group meeting will be March 27 at 1:00 p.m. at the NRD office.

B. Five Rivers RC&D

Sugden reported they are working on updating their bylaws. They have also applied for a grant to study the farmers' markets.

C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reported they had a board meeting recently and approved Foundation expenses for the Nebraska Envirothon, ACE Camp, and the Great Park Pursuit. He pointed out that Nebraska is 150 years old this year, and the NRDs will be 45 years old on July 1 and that some activities are planned to commemorate both. New tree booklets were recently completed and distributed.

D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

Steve Sugden had provided a brief, written report on the past meeting and activities.

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

1. *Review/Action on Well Permit Applications:* None received.
2. *Discussion on Developing a Wellhead Protection Area Pilot Project:* Nelson reviewed the details of a wellhead protection area pilot project, and Gerweck stated the committee was in favor of looking into it. Hilske reviewed additional information and funding opportunities that the staff will now investigate and report back to the board.

B. Operations & Education Committee

1. *Quotes for Fire Rings & Grills for Duck Creek Rec Area:* Loseke reviewed the three quotes received explaining that the low bidder had a special sale in February:

Pilot Rock, Cherokee, IA	\$ 8,144.00
The Park Catalog, Boca Raton, FL	\$11,815.88 (+ shipping)
Belson Outdoors, Aurora, IL	\$13,858.57

Loseke moved, seconded by Siske, to approve the low quote of \$8,144.00 from Pilot Rock for the purchase of 20 grills and 40 fire rings for Duck Creek Recreation Area. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Gigstad, Guhde, Iske, Kearney, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Hodges, Keithley

2. *Quotes for Grass Seed for Duck Creek Rec Area:* Loseke reviewed the three quotes received for 8,000 pounds of tall fescue turf grass seed:

Miller Seed, Lincoln	\$10,125	
ASP Enterprises, Omaha	\$11,115	<i>All 3 include shipping/delivery to NRD</i>
Stock Seed, Murdock	\$12,000	

Loseke moved, seconded by Gigstad, to approve the low quote of \$10,125 from Miller Seed for 8,000 pounds of tall fescue seed. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Gigstad, Guhde, Iske, Kearney, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Hodges, Keithley

3. ***Proposal from OPPD to Provide Power to Duck Creek Rec Area:*** Loseke explained that OPPD had proposed to bring power into the Duck Creek area at a cost of \$41,061. The District would be eligible for a rebate over the next three years that would reimburse some of this cost.

Loseke moved, seconded by Siske, to approve the proposal from OPPD to bring power into the Duck Creek Recreation Area at a cost of \$41,061. Beethe asked how much was budgeted, and Nelson replied \$42,000 was included. **Motion carried.**

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Gigstad, Guhde, Iske, Kearney, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Hodges, Keithley

4. ***Renewing Lakeshore Farms Lease at the Steamboat Trace:*** Loseke reviewed the repair items needed and the committee's desire to see those specifically listed when contacting Lakeshore Farms about the lease.

Loseke moved, seconded by Speece, to approve the lease with Lakeshore Farms for 2017-18 at the rate of \$600. Hilske reviewed the history of the issues with this property. Nelson felt Lakeshore Farms is willing to do the repairs and that it is in their best interest as well to make the repairs. **Motion carried.**

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Gigstad, Guhde, Iske, Kearney, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Hodges, Keithley

5. ***Proposal to Address Recreation Area Use Demand During August, 21, 2017, Solar Eclipse:*** Loseke reviewed the proposed, temporary modifications to the rules at both Kirkman's Cove and Iron Horse Trail Lake during this weekend. They include:

- Accepting reservations for the electric, RV pads for the 3-day weekend at a rate of \$60 per site
- Accepting reservations for non-electric RV pads for the 3-day weekend at a rate of \$24/site
- Fees would be payable in advance
- Campsite reservations would be accepted beginning May 1, 2017
- Waive the park entry permit requirement on Monday, August 21, 2017, only
- Require any special event or group permit applications be submitted no later than June 1, 2017

Loseke moved, seconded by Beethe, to approve the temporary modifications to the recreation area rules as listed for the August 18-21, 2017, weekend as needed to accommodate visitors during the total solar eclipse. Hilske added that we plan to have a lot of staff on hand to help over the weekend and the day of the eclipse. After further discussion, **motion carried.**

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Gigstad, Guhde, Iske, Kearney, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Hodges, Keithley

6. ***Discussion on Potential Award Nominations for 2017:*** Loseke suggested that anyone who has nominations for any of the awards should contact the staff. Awards categories include: Outstanding Tree Planter, Outstanding Grassland Conservation, Outstanding Community Conservation, Outstanding Soil Stewardship Conservation, Director of the Year, Natural Resource Educator of the Year, Natural Resources Hall of Fame, and Master Conservationist.

C. **Executive Committee**

1. ***Discussion on Extending Insurance Policy with Harry A. Koch Co.:*** McDonald reviewed the plans to get a quote from the Harry A. Koch Co. and bring it back to the board for consideration. No action.
2. ***Easement Revision Associated with Upper Little Nemaha 25:*** Hilske reviewed the property involved and explained that the NRD was included in a utility access easement by the landowner. Since the land was subdivided and now one of the parcels sold, the landowner wants to move the access, which does not affect our easement.

McDonald moved, seconded by Siske, to grant approval to an easement revision involved with Upper Little Nemaha 25. After further discussion, **motion carried.**

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Gigstad, Guhde, Iske, Kearney, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Hodges, Keithley

3. **Revising Letter to DNR on Developing Integrated Management Plan:** Hilske explained that DNR had asked for a few changes in the letter we sent last month, so a revised letter was reviewed.

McDonald moved, seconded by Gigstad, to request initiation of a voluntary Integrated Management Plan for the Nemaha NRD in accordance with State statutes and send the draft letter to DNR. Motion carried.

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Gigstad, Guhde, Iske, Kearney, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Hodges, Keithley

12. **ANNOUNCEMENTS, APRIL MEETING DATE/TIME & AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS**

Directors were reminded that the next board meeting on Thursday, April 13, will return to an 8:00 p.m. start.

13. **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Gigstad, Guhde, Iske, Kearney, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Hodges, Keithley

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

Prior to adjourning, Niedfeldt welcomed the two new board members and thanked them for joining the board.

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

AYE: Beethe, Bohling, Gerweck, Gigstad, Guhde, Iske, Kearney, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Romine, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Hodges, Keithley

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Approved 4/13/17

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District