

May 9, 2019
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Bill Niedfeldt called the five hundred twenty-seventh meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 8:05 p.m. Thursday, May 9, 2019, at the NRD Headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:	Rob Bohling	Robert Lassen	Eldon Snoke
	Jessica Donnelly	Tim Loseke	Mike Speece
	Jim Gerweck	Michael McDonald	Dan Stukenholtz
	Orval Gigstad	Russel Moss	Duane Sugden
	Dan Hodges	William Niedfeldt	Kevin Thorne
	Doug Iske	Don Siske	

DIRECTORS ABSENT:	Lisa Beethe	Jon Keithley
	Dave Guhde	Alan Romine

STAFF PRESENT:	Bob Hilske, Manager
	Scott Nelson, Assistant Manager
	Jane Kuhl, Administrative Assistant
	Charlie Pierce, Water Resources Technician

GUESTS PRESENT:	Roger Reichmuth, NRCS, Tecumseh
	Katie Cameron, ENWRA
	Jim Cannia, AGF

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. **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

Siske moved, seconded by Thorne, to approve the excused absence requested by Lisa Beethe. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. **OPEN FORUMS**

NRD directors and staff introduced themselves. Niedfeldt announced that guests have the option to introduce themselves at this time, and by doing so their names would be included as part of the meeting minutes.

5. MINUTES

Siske moved, seconded by Lassen, 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

Hilske reviewed his written report. He also reported on the Auburn recharge project. Nelson reviewed his written report and noted that a written report on the Washington, DC, trip had been provided.

8. AEM MAPPING PROJECT PRESENTATION – AQUA GEO FRAMEWORKS

Jim Cannia provided a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the information obtained through the AEM mapping project.

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

Reichmuth provided a written report and briefly reported on the different programs available for emergency work due to the flooding. He added that they would not be doing compliance checks this year in disaster affected counties.

B. Five Rivers RC&D

Sugden reported that the electronics collection in Johnson County will be June 22.

C. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reported this year's basin tour will be in the Loup basin beginning in Ord. The NACD Northern Plains Regional Meeting is in Gothenburg this year on June 13.

D. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

McDonald stated their next meeting would be May 22.

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

1. Well Permit Applications: None received.

2. Agreement with SmallData Tech for Observation Well Telemetry Pilot Project:

Pierce explained the project that would include installation of four telemetry stations at our recording wells at Cook, Sterling, Adams, and Firth. Total cost for installation of the equipment and first year subscription would be \$4,280. A two-year subscription extension at a locked rate of \$60/year is optional. Hilske added that this system would provide real time data from these four wells.

Gerweck moved, seconded by Siske, to enter into a contract with SmallData Tech to implement an observation well telemetry project at four well sites for an initial cost of \$4,280 with staff determining whether to include the optional two-year subscription extension. There was some discussion on opportunities for obtaining grant funding. After further discussion, **motion carried.**

AYE: Bohling, Donnelly, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Beethe, Guhde, Keithley, Romine

3. ***Update on Groundwater Rules, Projects, & Other Programs:*** Pierce reviewed some of the changes proposed for the rules. Hilske reviewed the process for updating the rules. He added that we will begin working soon on preparing some models based on the data collected.

B. Operations & Education Committee

1. ***FY2020 Urban Special Project Applications:*** Hodges reviewed the final applications for funding as follows:

Friends of Riverview Nature Park (Nebraska City) – Trail development – Total cost: \$18,720 – NNRD funds requested: \$9,360

City of Falls City – Native plants/grass – Total cost: \$37,979.50 – NNRD funds requested: \$7,750

Hodges moved, seconded by Gerweck, to approve the Urban Special Project applications from Friends of Riverview Nature Park for \$9,360 and City of Falls City for \$7,750 as submitted. Motion carried.

AYE: Bohling, Donnelly, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Beethe, Guhde, Keithley, Romine

2. ***Iron Horse Tree Removal Project Contract Extension:*** Hodges explained that the contract for this project expired in April and that though it is only about 10 percent done, weather did play a role in delaying its completion. Work cannot resume until July, and Game & Parks, who is funding much of the project, would like to see it completed by October 31. The contractor has indicated we would like to complete the project.

Hodges moved, seconded by Siske, to approve an extension to the contract with staff to determine the specific deadline and to include a penalty clause if work is not completed by the new deadline. Hodges added that the board would be updated

monthly after work resumes on the progress of the project. The contract extension would be brought back to the board next month for final approval if it is agreed to by the contractor. **Motion carried.**

AYE: Bohling, Donnelly, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald, Moss, Niedfeldt, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Beethe, Guhde, Keithley, Romine

C. Executive Committee

1. **Rules for Persons Staying at Duck Creek due to Flooding:** Hilske explained that only one person was still camping at Duck Creek due to the flooding. Board consensus was to continue to waive the 14-day maximum stay for this person until the roads are opened again.
2. **Update on Duck Sediment Basin Land Rights:** Hilske briefly updated the board on the proposal for the land rights that he had made to the landowner. The landowner had not yet responded to the offer, however.
3. **Update on Annual District Report and Plan:** No updates were available since last month. No action.
4. **Discussion on District FY2020 Salary Schedule:** McDonald reported that the committee spent a lot of time on the salary schedule. They have asked for more information and will look at it again next month. No action.
5. **Establish a Budget Committee for FY2020 Budget:** Niedfeldt asked for volunteers for this committee, which will meet two or three times. Those volunteering were Jim Gerweck, Dan Hodges, Bob Lassen, Mike McDonald, Russel Moss, Bill Niedfeldt, and Dan Stukenholtz.
6. **Discussion on When to Include the 1% Budget Authority Vote on the Agenda:** McDonald reviewed information that Hilske had provided on the history of this vote over the past several years and how not approving the increase a few of those years has affected our unused budget authority. After discussing the timing for the vote, the committee decided to keep this on the July agenda.

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

McDonald asked about having some kind of potluck or social event for the board. Staff will look into options and report back to the board. The next meeting will be June 13, 2019, at 8:00 p.m. with committee meetings prior to the regular meeting.

12. CONSENT AGENDA

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

AYE: Bohling, Donnelly, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald,
Moss, Niedfeldt, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Beethe, Guhde, Keithley, Romine

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

AYE: Bohling, Donnelly, Gerweck, Gigstad, Hodges, Iske, Lassen, Loseke, McDonald,
Moss, Niedfeldt, Siske, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Beethe, Guhde, Keithley, Romine

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Approved 6/13/19

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District