

May 8, 2025
Nemaha Natural Resources District
Regular Meeting
Tecumseh, Nebraska

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

Chair Russel Moss called the five hundred ninety-ninth meeting of the Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 7:21 p.m. Thursday, May 8, 2025.

DIRECTORS	Todd Boellstorff	Orval Gigstad	Tim Schaardt
PRESENT:	Rob Bohling	Doug Iske	Eldon Snoke
	Patty Coates	Dick James	Mike Speece
	Ed Ehmen	Robert Lassen	Dan Stukenholtz
	Tracy Ensor	Russel Moss	Duane Sugden
	Randy Fox	Alan Romine	Kevin Thorne

DIRECTORS	Kraig Coonce	Tim Loseke
ABSENT:	Dan Hodges	

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

GUESTS	Mike Burgert, NRCS, Syracuse
PRESENT:	Tyler Aufenkamp
	Michelle Potter
	Katie Cameron, Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assessment

Moss announced that the Open Meetings Act is posted on the wall at the back of the room.

2. **PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

Proof of publication was presented and is on file.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- Excused Absences: Kraig Coonce, Tim Loseke
- Minutes: No changes.
- Treasurer's Report: No questions.

Sugden moved, seconded by Gigstad, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Coates, Ehmen, Ensor, Fox, Gigstad, Iske, James, Lassen, Moss, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Hodges, Loseke

4. OPEN FORUMS

NRD directors, staff, and NRCS staff introduced themselves.

Michelle Potter and Tyler Aufenkamp addressed the board regarding their expulsion from NNRD parks and the concerns that were listed in the letters delivered to them. Hauschild explained that the board could not take any action tonight since this was not an agenda item but that Potter and Aufenkamp could request to be placed on next month's agenda.

5. STAFF REPORTS

Hauschild reported on the Water Roundtable earlier in the day in Lincoln, NARD Benefits Committee meeting, Washington, DC, meetings, tree planting and third grade Plant a Tree, and Auburn water issues. Kuhl reported on meetings with Congressional delegations, NRCS, and others in DC as well as recent interviews for two clerk positions. Wingert reviewed some items on his report and also gave some information about work on the scoring system updates for wells. Hauschild also commented on the recent DC meetings and conversations.

6. AGENCY/ASSOCIATION REPORTS

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Burgert reviewed his report.

B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Gigstad reminded directors of the upcoming Basin Tour in June. He also commented on the DNR/DEE merger.

C. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

Fox commented on the current applications for Water Sustainability Funds and the future of the fund and the Commission following the merger of DEE and DNR.

D. Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assessment Coordinator

Katie Cameron, ENWRA Coordinator, provided an update on ENWRA activities and the upcoming test hole drilling project.

7. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. PROGRAMS & PROJECTS COMMITTEE

1. *Agreement with UNL Conservation & Survey for Test Hole Drilling, Geologic Logging, and Geophysical Survey:* There was some discussion about what information would be provided and if there would be any additional information that we might want.

Sugden moved, seconded by Ensor, to approve the agreement with UNL Conservation & Survey for test hole drilling, geologic logging, and geophysical survey. Motion carried.

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Coates, Ehmen, Ensor, Fox, Gigstad, Iske, James, Moss, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Speece, Sugden, Thorne

NAY: Lassen, Stukenholtz

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Hodges, Loseke

2. *Agreement with Jim Jansen for Observation Well:*

Schaardt moved, seconded by Fox, to approve the agreement with Jim Jansen for the construction of an observation well on his property in Nemaha County.

Wingert explained the purpose of the agreement and benefits of locating a well in this area. After further discussion, **motion carried.**

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Coates, Ehmen, Ensor, Fox, Gigstad, Iske, James, Lassen, Moss, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Hodges, Loseke

3. *Agreement with RWD #3 in Otoe County for Observation Well:*

Schaardt moved, seconded by Gigstad, to approve the agreement with Otoe County Rural Water District #3 for construction of an observation well on their property in Otoe County. Motion carried.

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Coates, Ehmen, Ensor, Fox, Gigstad, Iske, James, Lassen, Moss, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Hodges, Loseke

4. *Update on Groundwater Quantity Management Rules & Regulations Revisions:*

Wingert reported he is checking data and running the scoring and applying different equations to determine what provides the desired results. No action.

B. OPERATIONS & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1. *Urban Special Project Final Applications:* Ensor reported final applications were received as follows:

Friends of Riverview Nature Park/City of Nebraska City

Trail Improvement

Total Project Cost: \$20,000.00; NRD Funds Requested: \$10,000.00

City of Nebraska City, Parks Department

Pond Improvement

Total Project Cost: \$101,368.00; NRD Funds Requested: \$25,000.00

Ensor moved, seconded by Thorne, to approve the Friends of Riverview Nature Park application for \$10,000 and the City of Nebraska City pond improvement project for \$25,000. Discussion was held on the project details, their priorities and scores, and funds requested.

Stukenholtz moved, seconded by Schaardt, to consider each application separately. Motion carried.

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Ehmen, Fox, Iske, James, Moss, Schaardt, Snoke, Stukenholtz

NAY: Coates, Ensor, Gigstad, Lassen, Romine, Speece, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Hodges, Loseke

Ensor moved, seconded by Lassen, to approve the City of Nebraska City pond improvement application for \$25,000. Motion carried.

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Coates, Ensor, Fox, Gigstad, Iske, James, Lassen, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Speece, Sugden, Thorne

NAY: Ehmen, Moss, Stukenholtz

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Hodges, Loseke

Ensor moved, seconded by Gigstad, to approve the Friends of Riverview Nature Park trail improvement application for \$10,000. Motion carried.

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Coates, Ehmen, Ensor, Gigstad, Iske, James, Lassen, Moss, Romine, Speece, Thorne

NAY: Fox, Schaardt, Snoke, Stukenholtz, Sugden

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Hodges, Loseke

2. Bids to Install Concrete Pad for Outlook Shelter at Duck Creek Recreation Area:

Two bids were obtained from Mahoney Concrete-\$6,160.00 and Pieters Concrete-\$8,475.00 for the pad and 375 feet of sidewalk to the shelter.

Ensor moved, seconded by Snoke, to approve the low bid of \$6,160.00 from Mahoney Concrete for installation of a concrete pad and sidewalk at Duck Creek Recreation Area. After some discussion, motion carried.

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Coates, Ehmen, Ensor, Fox, Gigstad, Iske, James, Lassen, Moss, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Hodges, Loseke

C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 1. Discussion on Interlocal Agreement with Village of Brownville for Construction of Trailhead on Steamboat Trace Property:*** Romine reported the committee met with representatives from the Village and asked them to research a lease on their property to determine if the trailhead could be placed on Brownville's property. In the event they still wish to construct on Steamboat Trace property, a more detailed agreement would be necessary. No action.

2. ***Discussion on FY26 Salary Adjustments:*** Romine reviewed some information the committee discussed based upon recommendations from the Manager. No action.

8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS, JUNE AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS**

The next regular meeting of the board of directors will be Thursday, June 12, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. with committee meetings prior to the board meeting. Directors were reminded of the upcoming Basin Tour, to provide their updated contact information, and to complete and return the manager's evaluation.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

AYE: Boellstorff, Bohling, Coates, Ehmen, Ensor, Fox, Gigstad, Iske, James, Lassen, Moss, Romine, Schaardt, Snoke, Speece, Stukenholtz, Sugden, Thorne

NOT PRESENT: Coonce, Hodges, Loseke

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Secretary, Nemaha Natural Resources District