

**LOWER NIOBRARA NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 6, 2017**

Oath of Office was administered to Directors elected at the November Election upon their arrival.

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 P.M. by Chairman Baumeister. He called attention to the Open Meeting Law poster on the wall in the meeting room and stated notices of the meeting were published in newspapers of general circulation throughout the District.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Motion by Connell and second by Holtgrew the officers remain the same as they were in 2016. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Schultz, Wendt, Baumeister, Bell, Connell, Engelhaupt, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Marcellus, Morrow, Pavlik) Absent: (Higgins, Mahon, Naprstek). MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 6, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Pavlik and second by Morrow to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2016 meeting as provided to the Directors. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Schultz, Wendt, Baumeister, Connell, Holtgrew, Kaczor, Liewer, Morrow, Pavlik) Abstain: (Engelhaupt, Janzing, Klawitter, Marcellus) Nay: (Bell) Absent: (Higgins, Mahon, Naprstek). MOTION CARRIED.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Terry's report was mailed prior to the meeting. He called attention to the note attached to the agenda regarding the Niobrara Basin Caucus to be held on January 9th at 2:00 P.M. in the MNNRD Office in Valentine. Greg Wilke from the MNNRD is the only individual running for the Niobrara Representative on the Natural Resources Commission Board. Terry drew attention to the Director Information and the Committee Listing sheets that need to be completed prior to leaving today. Three bills in the Legislature are of interest to NRD's LB 98(extends the .03 levy for FA & OA NRDs), LR4 (Interim study for more Water Quality Studies), the bill to reduce the Water Sustainability Fund and reduce appropriations for the Water and Soil Fund, Resources Development Fund and General Operations. A copy of the Lobbyists Senator Committee Listings was available. If anyone wishes a copy they are to indicate so on the copy. Terry also had available a listing of new, renewal chemigation applications by year that Vivian had prepared. If a copy were desired Directors were to indicate so on the copy.

WATER RESOURCES COORDINATOR REPORT

A copy of maps that Beau had prepared prior to his leaving were available in the packets. Map 1 will show the average nitrate level for a quarter township. Map 2 is broken down into quarter townships with the average of the quarter township shown. Only one sample normally is taken from a section. Applications are being accepted for this position through the 13th of January.

PROGRAMS ASSISTANT REPORT

Ashley's report was also mailed prior to the meeting. She explained November and December comparison maps that were mailed. She mentioned she mailed letters yesterday to K.P., Rock, Knox and Boyd County cooperators who have not returned their certification forms. Pavlik questioned if new computers have arrived and if information has been transferred. Computers have arrived and data transferred. Discussion was held on the possibility of having a data base where all information can be stored and gathered. (Mahon entered 1:23 P.M.)

ASSOCIATION REPORT

Wendt questioned if her fellow Directors were receiving the NARD news articles. She encouraged them to contact Erica Hill at the NARD to be added to her email contacts if they wanted to receive the articles.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS—Jim Matine's report was mailed prior to the meeting. Jim mentioned EQIP ranking will be done by the end of January. Funds will then be obligated in February/March. He informed the Board that Jane Wilmes has retired from the Bloomfield NRCS Office. Items were discussed regarding number of windbreaks being planned, removal of trees, why trees are not being planted and water use by different species of trees.

Niobrara Council-Higgins was absent. The December 15th meeting minutes were in the Directors packets.

NE RC&D-Pavlik indicated only the Officers met in December so he has no report.

INSURANCE RENEWAL

Howard Tiefenthaler with Butte State Agency was present and distributed a comparison showing the rates for 2016 vs 2017. He will meet with Bernard next week to review the WKRWS coverage. Wells #3 & #4 are not included in the property coverage yet. Linebacker coverage for employees and directors, which is Errors & Omission was explained. Policy period is 12/31/16 thru 12/31/17. Total coverage is \$26,074.00 and a breakdown cost for each the RWS and NRD was available. Motion by Pavlik and second by Engelhaupt to accept the bid for insurance coverage from the Butte State Agency. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Schultz, Wendt, Baumeister, Bell, Connell, Engelhaupt, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Mahon, Marcellus, Morrow, Pavlik) Absent: (Higgins, Naprstek). MOTION CARRIED.

STATE MILEAGE RATE

Directors were informed the mileage rate has changed from .54 to .535.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS ON SCHOOL LAND

A listing of the agreements by county was in the packets. Agreements were given to directors in their respective counties to sign.

NARD WASHINGTON DC CONFERENCE – MARCH 19TH – 22ND, 2017

Terry mentioned detailed information is not available at this time, but the date is March 19th-22nd. Connell asked if the Manger were planning to attend. Terry responded it is on the agenda to determine the Board's wishes. Pavlik asked how much time will be spent in Lincoln on the Spencer Dam purchase. Terry responded not as much time will need to be spent with the Legislature as last year, but there will probably be other meetings related to the Spencer Dam. Motion by Wendt and second by Liewer for the Manger to attend the NARD Washington DC Conference if he desires. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Wendt, Baumeister, Holtgrew, Janzing, Liewer, Marcellus, Morrow) Nay: (Bell, Connell, Engelhaupt, Klawitter, Mahon, Pavlik) Abstain: (Schultz, Kaczor) Absent: (Higgins, Naprstek). MOTION CARRIED.

NSWCP ACTIVITIES

A listing of activities was on the reverse side of the agenda. Motion by Pavlik and second by Holtgrew to approve the following: APPLICATIONS: Ryan Kaczor-\$940.00, Natalie Owen-\$999.63, Kent Hagberg-\$2,542.00, Brent Luber-\$295.38. EXTENSION: Franklin Kenneth Reiser. CANCELLATION: Don Rech. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Schultz, Wendt, Baumeister, Bell, Connell, Engelhaupt, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Mahon, Marcellus, Morrow, Pavlik) Absent: (Higgins, Naprstek). MOTION CARRIED.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mahon and Schultz reviewed the receipts. Pavlik questioned why there were duplicates on the WKRWS Report. Vivian explained the RWS Bookkeeper balanced according to the calculator tapes from month to month. The Treasurer's Report should balance with the checkbook the day of the board meeting. Vivian indicated by using the ending Bank balance in November and listing the checks written after that, the Treasurer's Report now balances with the check book today. The RWS books balanced with the bank, there is no problem there. Vivian explained she wanted the Treasurer's Report to balance with the check book for the new bookkeeper when she starts. Bell questioned why the Knox County Clerk was being paid. It was explained this is for printing ballots for the election. She felt this bill should not be paid as they were not doing their job. They did not certify votes to the Canvassing Board. Vivian provided a copy of the Official Report of the Board of State Canvassers listing the LNNRD Directors. All the counties certified votes on the ballot. Knox, Holt and K.P. Clerks did not certify the write-in votes according to the Report. Motion by Pavlik and second by Engelhaupt to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Schultz, Wendt, Baumeister, Bell, Connell, Engelhaupt, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Mahon, Marcellus, Morrow, Pavlik) Absent: (Higgins, Naprstek). MOTION CARRIED.

OPEN COMMENTS

Pavlik questioned if any applications were received for the Water Coordinator Position. Terry responded there are, but the application period does not end until the 13th.

Wendt stressed that new directors need to attend conferences and meetings in order to be informed. She indicated a lot of the public feels this is just a local board, but it is not, it involves statewide activities. She mentioned at the

Conference there used to be sessions explaining the expectations and responsibilities of Directors. Discussion was held whether or not there would be sessions at this Conference. Checking will be done.

EXCUSE ABSENT DIRECTORS

Napstek contacted the office and indicated he had a conflict with this afternoon. Higgins is at his winter location.

Chairman Baumeister declared the meeting adjourned at 2:28 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Directors: Larry Baumeister, Lana Bell, Karl Connell, Jack Engelhaupt, Don Holtgrew, John Janzing, Brian Kaczor, Randy Klawitter, Marvin Liewer, Bradley Mahon, Dwain Marcellus, Curt Morrow, Kent Pavlik, Sterling Schultz, Diana Wendt

Staff: Terry Julesgard, Vivian Frasch, Ashley Jensen

Visitors: Jim Mathine, Howard Tiefenthaler, Paul Allen

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Lower Niobrara Natural Resources District hereby certify the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings had and done by the Board of Directors on January 6, 2017. That all subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting. The minutes of the Chairman and Board of Directors were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body. All news media requesting notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting were notified.

Marvin Liewer, Secretary