

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

Chairman Baumeister called the meeting to order at 1:07 P.M. 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.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 6, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Holtgrew and second by Morrow to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2017 meeting as provided to the Directors. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Bell, Connell, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Schultz) Abstain: (Baumeister, Liewer) Absent: (Engelhaupt, Higgins, Mahon, Marcellus, Wendt).
MOTION CARRIED.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Terry's report was mailed prior to the meeting. (Engelhaupt entered at 1:10 P.M.) Pavlik questioned the status of the new transmission line and what Plumbing & Electric has done to correct the bacteria problem. Terry explained in detail what has been done and will be done next to correct the problem. Considerable discussion was held on the bacteria situation. Explanation was given as to why the payment to Plumbing & Electric had to be made and the Bond is our leverage. Pavlik also felt the Advisory Committee should have reviewed the pay requests and then gave a recommendation to the Board. Terry mentioned at the meeting with DNR it was stated we would receive a copy of the instream flow paperwork from the G & P before it is sent to DNR. Fully Appropriated designation was discussed. There will be a Missouri River Sedimentation Action Coalition membership meeting in Yankton tomorrow with a board meeting to follow-Terry plans to attend. A copy of the Lobbyist update is in the packets. Bills of interest to NRDs are LB98, LB113 and LB488. The Envirothon will be held in the Scottsbluff area this year on April 26th. Terry indicated he plans to attend along with Connie as the I&E Committee Meeting is being held in the conjunction with the Envirothon. Information on CMAT was in the packets. Considerable discussion was held. Benefits of this for the District include allowing us to do our own modeling. Total cost of CMAT is estimated somewhere between \$750,000.00 to \$1,000,000. Connell expressed concern regarding who owns this information and also discussed was who will have access to this information. The dollar amount to the District could be \$12,000.00 over a two year period. Maintenance fee was discussed and this is yet to be determined. A paper copy of the power point presentation on CMAT was passed to the Directors for their review. This will be an April agenda item. (Mahon entered at 2:05 P.M.).

WATER RESOURCES COORDINATOR REPORT

Wade's report was mailed prior to the meeting. He informed the Directors he began on February 13th. He attended the Bazile GWMA meeting. Last week he took the Natural Resources Groundwater Technician Certification test, attended the Water Programs Conference and attended the session the following day in Kearney. There also were 4 surrounding NRD employees taking the Certification Test. The static water level letters were mailed to cooperators whose wells were checked. He stated he has spent some days working with Brent.

PROGRAMS ASSISTANT

Terry introduced Connie McCarthy the new Programs Assistant who began work on the 27th. She has been working with Brent learning GIS and Acre Certification.

ASSOCIATION REPORT

Wendt was absent due to attending a funeral. Terry explained the NARD Board is meeting today and one item to be discussed is Nebraska hosting the 2020 National Envirothon. A copy of information along with a budget proposal for the NRDs to sponsor the Envirothon was in the packets. Two funding proposals were included if the NRD assumes sponsorship (1) is based on dues and (2) is based on equal contributions from the NRDs. This was discussed at the Manager's Meeting and they favored the NRD's assuming sponsorship. No District has enough staff or time to gather sponsors. More information should be available after the NARD Board Meeting.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS—Jim Matine's report was mailed prior to the meeting. Jim mentioned the Local Work Group will be meeting here March 17th at 9:30 A.M and invited Directors to attend. Included with his report was a copy of the Cooperative Working Agreement that is reviewed annually – no action is required. Jim reported the EQIP funds have been obligated and they are working with CRP re-enrollments for those contracts expiring on September 30th. Last Friday at the request of the Gregory County Extension Service he gave a talk on cedar control.

Niobrara Council-A copy of the minutes was in the packets.

NE RC&D-Pavlik reported he was unable to attend the meeting, but they are working on projects for funding.

Friends of the Missouri- Mahon mentioned the meeting Terry reported earlier and plans to attend. The next Friends of the Missouri River meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 13th in Yankton.

PUMPING LAGOON MONITORING WELLS

This was tabled from last month in order to gather information. Upper Elkhorn is doing this, but would like to discontinue the practice. They charge \$150.00/well. They take the samples twice a year and send them in. The cooperator pays the lab fees, shipping and handling. They don't charge mileage as the wells are close to their office. Lower Elkhorn at one time helped the cooperator fill out the DEQ paperwork. Ken Breithaupt was present and stated he felt both Terry and Uhlir indicated they would do this and he proceeded to tell DEQ the NRD would be taking the samples from his 4 wells. It was explained how much water would need to be in the well in order for the NRD to take the sample. Discussion was held on: whether or not DEQ provides a listing of who takes samples; protocol that has to be followed; high sample results; asking UENRD to take the sample (they would like to quit sampling); number of potential requests there would be if we take the samples; charge to the cooperator; DEQ should take the samples if they require them, etc. The mentioned issues were discussed considerably prior to a motion by Pavlik and second by Liewer the LNNRD test lagoon monitoring wells for one year with this issue to be revisited at the January 2018 meeting. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Bell, Engelhaupt, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Mahon, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Schultz) Nay: (Connell) Abstain: (Baumeister) Absent: (Higgins, Marcellus, Wendt). MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion was then held on fees to charge for taking the samples. Motion by Holtgrew and second by Pavlik to charge \$150/well with the NRD sending the sample to the lab and in turn charging the cooperator for the lab fees and postage. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Bell, Engelhaupt, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Mahon, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Schultz) Nay: (Connell) Absent: (Higgins, Marcellus, Wendt). MOTION CARRIED.

BAZILE GWMA AEM FINAL REPORT

There will be a meeting on March 15th at 3:00 P.M. in the Creighton VFW to review the final AEM Report.

NSWCP ACTIVITIES & NRD TREE/MULCH COST SHARE

A listing of activities was on the reverse side of the agenda. There are not sufficient funds to approve the requested application. Vivian mentioned the two extensions that are not listed as they came in after the Agenda was printed. The tree/mulch cost share requests were listed. Motion by Holtgrew and second by Pavlik to approve the following: **EXTENSIONS:** Leonard Reiser & Debra Hansen. **CANCELLATION:** Gordon Smolek. **NSWCP TREE/MULCH APPLICATIONS:** Shaun Hagberg-\$1,176.56, Ben Painter-\$1,105.20, Russell Wentworth-\$1,557.50, Brian Stevens-\$1,584.20, Roger Frickel-\$3,793.63, Jim Kloppenborg-\$1,470.73, Perry Pavelka-\$665.60, Jane Larson-\$555.00. **NRD TREE/MULCH APPLICATIONS:** David Anderson-\$277.50, Deb Stevens-\$6,114.30, Kirk Bruns-\$3,738.00, David Dobrovolny-\$315.00, Glen Rudloff-\$3,635.65. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Connell, Engelhaupt, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Mahon, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Schultz) Abstain: (Bell) Absent: (Higgins, Marcellus, Wendt). MOTION CARRIED.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Vivian mentioned the bills need to be reviewed. One addition needs to be made to the NRD Treasurer's Report for Rixstine Recognition in the amount of \$32.35 for name plates for Bell & Klawitter. Motion by Liewer and second by Engelhaupt to approve the Treasurer's Report with the addition mentioned above. Roll Call Vote, Aye: (Baumeister, Bell, Connell, Engelhaupt, Holtgrew, Janzing, Kaczor, Klawitter, Liewer, Mahon, Morrow, Naprstek, Pavlik, Schultz) Absent: (Higgins, Marcellus, Wendt). MOTION CARRIED.

OPEN COMMENTS

Terry reported he was contacted by an individual who had a well that started pumping gravel before the moratorium was placed. The well was moved to inactive status with DNR and he drilled a new well. Now he would like to reduce the gallons of the well drilled from 800 to 400 gpm and replace the inactive well with a new well to be set up at 400 gpm. There is no record of what the inactive well pumped, but the individual thought it was 1,000 gpm. Some discussion was held and this will be an agenda item in April.

EXCUSE ABSENT DIRECTORS

Wendt contacted the office and is absent due to a funeral. Higgins is at his winter location yet. Marcellus did not contact the office.

The Equipment Committee was asked to meet for a few minutes after the meeting is adjourned.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 3:57 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

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

Staff: Terry Julesgard, Vivian Frasch, Wade Ellwanger, Connie McCarthy

Visitors: Jim Mathine, Brent Lakin, Paul Allen, Ken Breithaupt, Ty Breithaupt

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 March 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