

LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Minutes **August 8, 2017**

OPENING OF MEETING – RANDY UHRMACHER

The directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Chairman Uhrmacher called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Uhrmacher led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Uhrmacher noted that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meeting Act was posted and available for any one who may want to review the document

Roll call was held.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Board members present:

Warren Brakhahn, Edward Fleharty, Lyle Heinrichs, Joe Hergott, Mason Hoffman, Everett Kellogg, Marlin Kimle, Kevin Kissinger, Jay Meyer, Charles Rainforth, Lyle Schroer, Matt Spencer, Gene Thomas, Jesse VonSpreckelsen, Alan Wiedel and Randy Uhrmacher. Steve Shaw arrived at 7:35.

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Onnen, Donnie Engelhardt, Dylan Long, Kevin Orvis, Marie Herbek, Dave Bedlan representing NRCS; numerous members of the public.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICIAL DISTRICT PUBLICATIONS FOR NOTICES

Legal notice of the regular meeting was provided to the *FAIRBURY JOURNAL NEWS* and the *HASTINGS TRIBUNE*. The agenda was mailed to all board members, radio, television and newspapers in the district and posted at the NRCS offices in the district and the Little Blue NRD office.

ADOPTION OF BOARD MEETING AGENDA

MOTION # 1 – Rainforth moved, seconded by Heinrichs to approve the agenda for the August 8, 2017 meeting as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Acceptance of Board Member Absences

No members were absent.

Minutes of July 11, 2017 Board Meeting

There were no changes to the minutes.

MOTION # 2 – Heinrichs moved, seconded by Rainforth to approve the minutes of July 11, 2017 as circulated. Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were received.

ACTION TO APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT – Warren Brakhahn

Copies of the Little Blue NRD Treasurer's Report were circulated. Brakhahn reviewed the report.

MOTION # 3 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Rainforth to approve the report and payment of bills as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Brakhahn reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project – North Treasurer's Report. **MOTION # 4 - Brakhahn moved, seconded by Heinrichs to approve the report and payment of bills as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Brakhahn reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project - South Treasurer's Report. **MOTION # 5 - Brakhahn moved, seconded by Hergott to approve the report and payment of bills as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS Report – Dave Bedlan

Bedlan gave a brief report on the happenings in the NRCS.

STAFF REPORTS – Mike Onnen

The staff report was provided to the Director's earlier. Onnen reviewed the report and answered questions.

PROJECTS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT – Marlin Kimle

The Projects and Planning Committee met on July 18.

Action on Hebron Request for Assistance

Hebron made a request for assistance in funding an archery range and river access area. **MOTION # 6 – Kimle moved, seconded by Hoffman to return the matter of providing assistance to Hebron for an archery range and river access to committee for further discussion and recommendations.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Fleharty, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hoffman, Kellogg, Kimle, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Shaw, Spencer, Thomas, Wiedel and Uhrmacher. No: Kissinger and VonSpreckelsen.

Action on Urban Conservation Program

Policies of the Urban Conservation Program and Urban Parks Program were reviewed. **MOTION # 7 - Kimle moved, seconded by Wiedel to approve the Urban Conservation Assistance Program and Urban Parks and Recreation Trails Assistance Program with amendments recommended by the Committee.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Fleharty, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hoffman, Kellogg, Kimle, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Shaw, Spencer, Thomas, VonSpreckelsen, Wiedel and Uhrmacher. No: Kissinger.

Updates on Water Sustainability Fund Applications and Action

A report was provided on the progress of the Water Sustainability Fund, Environmental Trust and 319 WQ projects. **MOTION # 8 – Kimle moved, seconded by Hergott to authorize applications to Water Sustainability Fund and Environmental Trust associated with the oxbow reconnection projects for groundwater recharge.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Fleharty, Hergott, Hoffman, Kellogg, Kimle, Kissinger, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Shaw, Spencer, Thomas, VonSpreckelsen, Wiedel and Uhrmacher. No: Heinrichs.

Other Business

There was no other business.

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT – Warren Brakhahn

The Water Resources Committee met July 18.

Action Regarding Rippe Request for Variance to Construct Water Well in Stay Area

One variance request was presented for approval. **MOTION # 9 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by VonSpreckelsen to approve the variance request of Dustin Rippe for the installation of the livestock well in the NE ¼ Section 19-T2N-R3E Jefferson County, and approve the transfer permit for water to be moved from NE ¼ Section 19-T2N-R3E to the feedlot in NE ¼ of Section 25-T2N-R2E.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Fleharty, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hoffman, Kissinger, Meyer, Shaw, Thomas, VonSpreckelsen, Wiedel and Uhrmacher. No: Brakhahn, Kellogg, Kimle, Rainforth, Schroer and Spencer.

FY 2018 Budget

The FY 2018 budget was reviewed.

Other Business

There was no other business.

REPORT ON LITTLE BLUE PUBLIC WATER PROJECT MEETING – Kevin Orvis

Orvis reported on the discussions held with the City of Fairbury and the recent Advisory Board meeting. **MOTION # 10 – Thomas moved, seconded by Hergott to submit a letter to the City of Fairbury requesting them to consider upgrading their water lines.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON FY 2018 LITTLE BLUE PUBLIC WATER PROJECT BUDGET

Onnen reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project – North budget.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON FY 2018 LITTLE BLUE PUBLIC WATER PROJECT – SOUTH BUDGET

Onnen reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project – North budget.

MOTION # 11 – Rainforth moved, seconded by Spencer to accept the FY 2018 Draft Budgets of the Little Blue Public Water Project – North in the amount of \$134,900 and the Little Blue Public Water Project - South in the amount of \$135,800 and submit the same for public hearing on September 12, 2017. Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON FY 2018 DISTRICT GENERAL BUDGET

Onnen reviewed the FY 2018 District general budget. **MOTION # 12 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Rainforth to accept the FY 2018 General Draft Budget of the Little Blue Natural Resources District, with a total budget requirement of \$4,018,057 and a tax asking of \$1,719,927.39 and submit the same for public hearing on September 12, 2017.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

MOTION # 13 – Kissinger moved, seconded by Hoffman to transfer \$77,000 from the NRD general investment account to a new sinking fund account earmarked for the Adams County Bridge Protection Project. Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

ACTION ON RESOLUTION REGARDING LIMIT OF ALLOWABLE BUDGET GROWTH

MOTION # 14 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Wiedel to approve the Resolution to allow a one percent addition to the FY 2018 Restricted Fund Authority. Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Fleharty, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hoffman, Kellogg, Kimle, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Shaw, Spencer, Thomas, VonSpreckelsen, Wiedel and Uhrmacher. No: Kissinger.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Action on Personnel Policies

Legal Counsel reviewed and updated the District's Personnel Policy. **MOTION # 15 – Fleharty moved, seconded by Rainforth to adopt the revised Personnel Policy Manual as distributed with a provision that employees that are currently over the new accrual sick leave cap, would be grandfathered and retain their accrued sick leave cap.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Action on LARM Annual Renewal Commitment Resolution

The renewal for the District insurance coverage with LARM was presented for approval. **MOTION # 16 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Fleharty to approve the 2017-2018 Renewal Resolution with LARM and commit to the 180 day, 2-year commitment for services.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Other Business

There was no other business.

NARD RESOLUTION FOR RURAL WATER-DISASTER ASSISTANCE

A resolution to be presented at the NARD Conference was presented. **MOTION # 17 – Fleharty moved, seconded by Brakhahn to submit the resolution regarding Natural Disaster Assistance Funding Through NEMA to the NARD Annual Conference, as distributed.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business

ADJOURNMENT

Uhrmacher adjourned the meeting at 9:42 P.M.

COUNTY OF THAYER)
)
STATE OF NEBRASKA)

I, the undersigned, Secretary of the Little Blue Natural Resources District, hereby certify that these are true and correct minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the District held on August 8, 2017, that all of the subjects discussed at the meeting were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the principal office of the District during normal business hours, and except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda was not altered later than twenty-four (24) hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting; that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was posted and available to the public; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; and, that all news media requesting notification of the meeting of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.
