

**LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**

**Minutes**

**December 12, 2017**

**OPENING OF MEETING – RANDY UHRMACHER**

The directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Chairman Uhrmacher called the meeting to order at 7:35 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 anyone 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, Steve Shaw, Matt Spencer, Jesse VonSpreckelsen, Alan Wiedel and Randy Uhrmacher.

**Members Absent:**

Gene Thomas.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Mike Onnen, Donnie Engelhardt, Kent Thompson, Marie Herbek, Marlene Faimon; Janet Valasek and Peggy Shaw-McBee 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 – Hergott moved, seconded by Spencer to approve the agenda for the December 12, 2017 meeting as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Onnen noted Thomas had notified the office of his intended absence.

**Minutes of November 14, 2017 Board Meeting**

There were no changes to the minutes.

**MOTION # 2 – Heinrichs moved, seconded by Rainforth to approve the minutes of November 14, 2017 as circulated.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 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 financial report and payment of bills as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Brakhahn reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project – North Treasurer's Report. **MOTION # 4 - Brakhahn moved, seconded by Hergott to approve the report and payment of bills as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Brakhahn reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project - South Treasurer's Report. **MOTION # 5 - Brakhahn moved, seconded by Rainforth to approve the report and payment of bills as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

### **REPORT OF THE AUDITOR – CHRISTY HADDAN OF SHULTZ & ASSOCIATES**

Copies of the Little Blue NRD, Little Blue Public Water Project and Little Blue Public Water Project - South audits for the year ending June 30, 2017 were presented. Christy Haddan was present to review the audits and answer questions. **MOTION # 6 – Heinrichs moved, seconded by Wiedel to approve the FY 2017 Auditor's Reports conducted by Schultz & Associates, as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

### **AGENCY REPORTS**

#### **NRCS Report – Peggy Shaw-McBee**

Shaw-McBee gave a brief report on the happenings in the NRCS.

#### **NRC Meeting Report – Lyle Schroer**

Schroer reported on their November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting held in Kearney.

### **STAFF REPORTS – Kent Thompson**

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

### **BLUE BASIN MODEL PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION – Marie Krausnick, UBBNRD**

### **Discussion and Possible Action on Contract for Modeling Services**

Krausnick presented a draft contract for modeling services between the Department of Natural Resources, Upper Big Blue NRD, Little Blue NRD, Tri Basin NRD and Big Blue NRD's. Discussion was held and Krausnick answered questions. **MOTION # 7 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Rainforth to authorize the manager to sign the modeling services contract between Brown & Caldwell, Inc., Ne DNR, LBNRD, LBBNRD, UBBNRD and TBNRD when all contract provisions, as presented, are properly resolved.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

### **WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT – Warren Brakhahn**

The Water Resources Committee met December 5.

#### **Action to Change Pumpage Reporting Deadline**

The current pumpage report reporting deadline is December 15. Staff suggested changing this deadline to December 31 and to add this to the District's Rules and Regulations. **MOTION # 8 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Kissinger to change the pumpage report deadline to December 31st and include that date in the new rules being drafted.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Fleharty, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hoffman, Kellogg, Kimle, Kissinger, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Shaw, Spencer, VonSpreckelsen and Uhrmacher. Absent: Wiedel.

#### **Action on Request for Well Conversion to Irrigation**

A request to convert a commercial well to irrigation use was received. The committee moved to deny the request, discussion was held. **MOTION # 9 – Hergott moved, seconded by Fleharty to reconsider the request for converting the commercial well in Section 23-2-2, Jefferson County to an irrigation well.** Failed by roll call vote. Yes: Hergott. No: Brakhahn, Fleharty, Heinrichs, Hoffman, Kellogg, Kimle, Kissinger, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Shaw, Spencer, VonSpreckelsen, Wiedel and Uhrmacher.

#### **Report on Hearing for PRRIP Stay Designation.**

Onnen reported on a public hearing held on placing a stay on new well drilling and expansion of acres in northwest Adams County.

#### **Action to Declare a New Water Use Stay in the PRRIP Area of Adams County**

**MOTION # 10 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Hoffman to impose an immediate temporary 180 day stay on the construction of high-capacity water wells and expansion of irrigated acres in the area designated by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources as lands subject to the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

#### **Action to Suspend Well Drilling Stay in Remaining LBNRD**

**MOTION # 11 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Rainforth to lift the temporary stay on new well permits and well development effective December 13, 2017 for that portion of the Little Blue NRD which was impacted by Board action on June 15, 2017.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

#### **Report on VIMP Stakeholders Process and Goals and Objectives**

Onnen reported on the VIMP stakeholders meeting held November 16. These goals and objective will be presented for further discussion at a future Water Resources Committee meeting.

#### **Other Business**

There was no other business

## **PROJECTS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT – Marlin Kimle**

The Projects and Planning Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

### **Action on Cost-Share for Moellenbrandt Dam**

A dam application was presented for approval. **MOTION # 12 – Kimle moved, seconded by Wiedel to give tentative approval for the Moellenbrandt Dam in Section 25 T2N-R3E, Jefferson County and authorize design of the project.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

### **Action on Changes for Cost-Share Docket**

Changes to LB-21 A cost-share practice was presented for approval. **MOTION # 13 – Kimle moved, seconded by Schroer to approve the changes in the LB 21A cost-share practice guidelines.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

### **Complete Soil Testing Cost-Share Under Water Quality Funds**

Changes to WQ-30 cost-share practice and the addition of WQ-31, Complete Soil-Health Test, was presented for approval. **MOTION # 14 – Kimle moved, seconded by Fleharty to approve the change WQ 30 practice and the new practice of “Complete Soil Health Test” cost-share to be funded through the Water Quality Funds of the District, as presented.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Fleharty, Heinrichs, Hergott, Kellogg, Kimle, Kissinger, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Shaw, Spencer, VonSpreckelsen, Wiedel and Uhrmacher. Abstain: Hoffman.

### **Hay Bid for Prairie Lake**

Bids were accepted for prairie hay bales at Prairie Lake. **MOTION # 15 – Kimle moved, seconded by Fleharty to approve the high bid of Greg Heinrichs of Glenvil for the sale of prairie hay at a price of \$55 per bale.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

### **Other Business**

There was no other business

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Executive Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

### **Report on Consideration for Expense Policies Revisions**

The Committee did recommend any changes to the Expense Policies.

### **Action to Appoint Nominations Committee**

The Committee reviewed the list of board members who have served on the Nominations Committee in the past. **MOTION # 16 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Kissinger to approve the 2018 Nominations Committee of Ed Fleharty, Mason Hoffman, and Matt Spencer.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Heinrichs, Hergott, Kellogg, Kimle, Kissinger, Meyer, Rainforth, Shaw, VonSpreckelsen, Wiedel and Uhrmacher. Abstain: Fleharty, Hoffman, Schroer, Spencer.

### **Action on Senator Dinner**

The Committee did not recommend holding a Senator’s Dinner during the Legislative Conference in January.

### **Other Business**

There was no other business.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Terry Madson expressed concern with the Transfer of Water for use other than irrigation in the proposed Rules & Regulations and the amount of 500 acre (feet) per year.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Onnen noted a Water Resources Committee meeting is scheduled for January 4.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Uhrmacher adjourned the meeting at 9:40 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 December 12, 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.

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