

LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Minutes **July 12, 2016**

OPENING OF MEETING – RANDY UHRMACHER

The directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, July 12, 2016 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, James Cunningham, Tim Else, Ross Fisher, Edward Fleharty, Lyle Heinrichs, Joe Hergott, Mason Hoffman, Everett Kellogg, Marlin Kimle, Kevin Kissinger, Charles Rainforth, Lyle Schroer, Matt Spencer, Gene Thomas, Alan Wiedel and Randy Uhrmacher.

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Onnen, Kevin Orvis, Daryl Andersen, Dylan Long, Marie Herbek, Marlene Faimon; Janet Valasek representing NRCS; numerous members of the Public.

PUBLICATION OF MEETING NOTICE

Legal notice of the regular meeting was provided to the *FAIRBURY JOURNAL NEWS* and the *HASTINGS TRIBUNE*. The agenda was provided 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.

ACTION TO ADOPT BOARD MEETING AGENDA

MOTION # 1 – Heinrichs moved, seconded by Rainforth to approve the agenda for the July 12, 2016 Board of Director’s Meeting as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Acceptance of Board Member Absences

No members were absent

Minutes of June 16, 2016 Board Meeting

There were no changes to the minutes.

MOTION # 2 – Kissinger moved, seconded by Schroer to approve the minutes of June 16, 2016 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 Kissinger 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 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 - 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 – 17 yes votes.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS Report – Janet Valasek

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

NRC Meeting Report – Joe Hergott

Hergott reported on the NRC meeting in Kearney.

STAFF REPORTS – Mike Onnen

The staff report was mailed to the Director's earlier. Onnen reviewed the report and answered questions. Daryl Andersen was presented the Honorary Sustainer Award by EA Engineering for his work in the Little Blue River Basin Water Management Plan.

REQUEST TO ADDRESS BOARD REGARDING WELL PROBLEM – Stan Higel

Stan Higel addressed the Board regarding issues near Alexandria with wells no longer being able to produce water.

REQUEST TO ADDRESS BOARD REGARDING WELL RETEST – Steve Schmidt

Steve Schmidt made a request he be allowed to retest a well that failed the 300 gallon per minute rule.

MOTION # 6 – Kissinger moved, seconded by Cunningham to deny the retest of Steve Schmidt well. Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Cunningham, Hergott, Hoffman, Kellogg, Kissinger, Rainforth, Schroer, Spencer, Uhrmacher. No: Brakhahn, Else, Fisher, Fleharty, Heinrichs, Kimle, Thomas and Wiedel.

PROJECTS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT – Marlin Kimle

A Projects and Planning Committee meeting was held July 5.

Action on Interlocal Agreement with Shickley

An Interlocal Agreement with the Village of Shickley for assistance with drainage improvements was presented for approval. **MOTION # 7 – Kimle moved, seconded by Thomas to approve the Interlocal Agreement with the Village of Shickley for drainage improvements in the Village.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Action on Interlocal Agreement with City of Deshler

An Interlocal Agreement with the Village of Deshler for assistance with a flood study was presented for approval. **MOTION # 8 – Kimle moved, seconded by Kissinger to approve the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Deshler for a flood study in the City.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Action on Crystal Lake Renovation Project

A request for assistance with local match for a grant to renovate Crystal Lake was presented for approval. **MOTION # 9 – Kimle moved, seconded by Hoffman to participate in the Crystal Lake Renovation Project and budget \$25,000 in each of the next two fiscal year budgets for this purpose.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Cunningham, Else, Fisher, Fleharty, Hergott, Hoffman, Kellogg, Kimle, Rainforth, Schroer, Spencer, Thomas and Wiedel. No: Brakhahn, Heinrichs, Kissinger and Uhrmacher.

Action to Sirens and Tornado Shelters for Recreation Areas

Grant monies to assist with the installation of sirens and tornado shelters for Liberty Cove and Lone Star Recreation Areas may become available. **MOTION # 10 – Kimle moved, seconded by Thomas to pursue applications for warning sirens and tornado shelters for the Lone Star and Liberty Cove Recreation Areas as opportunity for funding becomes available.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Else, Fleharty, Kimle, Rainforth, Schroer, Spencer, Thomas, Wiedel and Uhrmacher. No: Brakhahn, Cunningham, Fisher, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hoffman, Kellogg and Kissinger.

Action to Authorize Application for Stream Gauge Grant

The Committee discussed the possibility of installing three stream gauges in the southeast portion of the District. **MOTION # 11 – Kimle moved, seconded by Kissinger to make application to the Environmental Trust for up to three continuous stream gauge stations in the southeastern part of the district.**

After discussion Kimle and Kissinger rescinded the motion until further information can be gathered.

Action to Release Conservation Cost-Share Funds for Immediate Obligations

With 2017 cost-share requests already being received and the budget not being approved until September, a request was made to authorize obligation of cost-share funds for summer work. **MOTION # 12 – Kimle moved, seconded by Kissinger to release \$100,000 in cost-share funds for immediate obligation for summer construction work.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Cunningham, Else, Fisher, Fleharty, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hoffman, Kellogg, Kimle, Kissinger, Schroer, Spencer, Thomas, Wiedel and Uhrmacher. Absent: Rainforth.

Action on Prairie Hay Bids

Bids were received for hay harvest at Liberty Cove and Lone Star. **Motion # 13 – Kissinger moved, seconded by Thomas to accept the bid of Pat Faimon for the harvest of 64.9 acres of prairie hay at Liberty Cove in the amount of \$3,010, and accept the bids of Galen Niederklein and Scott Most for 13 acres and 6.5 acres respectively at a rate of \$30 per acre.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT – Matt Spencer

An Education and Research Committee meeting was held July 5.

Action on Time Lapse Photography Education Project

A time-lapse video project on the Platte River Basin was presented by the NARD for districts to participate. **MOTION # 14 – Spencer moved, seconded by Fleharty to not to participate in the three year time-lapse video/education project.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT – Warren Brakhahn

A Water Resources Committee meeting was held June 21.

Action on Solicitation of Vendors for Implementation of Meter Policy

Meter maintenance using outside vendors was presented for approval. **MOTION # 15 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Heinrichs to have staff solicit bids from outside sources for conducting inspections, battery replacements and servicing for water flow meters on a 4-year rotation.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Report on Rules Discussion

The Committee discussed specific rules and issues for future implementation.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Executive Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

Action to Request Mill Levy for FY 2017

State statutes require that the Board request a preliminary tax levy by August 1st of each year for the following years' budget preparation. **MOTION # 16 – Kissinger moved, seconded by Rainforth to adopt the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that, in accordance with State Statute 77-3443, the Little Blue Natural Resources District Board of Directors hereby requests a fiscal year 2017 levy allocation of \$ 1,574,007.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Discussion of Adoption of Credit Card Payments Policy

Onnen reported the District will be accepting credit card payments in the near future.

Discussion of Storage Building Expansion

A cost estimate was presented for expansion of our current storage building. **MOTION # 17 – Schroer moved, seconded by Spencer to add funds to the FY 2017 Budget for expansion of the NRD Shop Building, with the intended construction not to exceed \$30,000.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

ADJOURNMENT

Uhrmacher adjourned the meeting at 9:30 P.M.

COUNTY OF THAYER)

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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 July 12, 2016, 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.
