

**LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**  
**Minutes** **October 13, 2015**

**OPENING OF MEETING – CHARLES RAINFORTH**

The directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Chairman Rainforth called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Rainforth led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rainforth noted that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings 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, James Cunningham, Tim Else, Ross Fisher, Edward Fleharty, Joe Hergott, Neal Hoff, Everett Kellogg, Marlin Kimle, Kevin Kissinger, Lyle Schroer, Matt Spencer, Gene Thomas, Randy Uhrmacher, Alan Wiedel and Charles Rainforth.

**Directors Absent:**

Lyle Heinrichs.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Mike Onnen, Daryl Andersen, Kevin Orvis, Marie Herbek, Marlene Faimon; Dave Bedlan Representing NRCS, Andy Raun.

**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.

**ACTION TO ADOPT BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

Onnen noted discussion would be held on the Rural Water Projects finances during item # 19, Other Business. **MOTION # 1 – Hoff moved, seconded by Fleharty to approve the agenda for the October 13, 2015 meeting as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

**ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**Acceptance of Board Member Absences**

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

**Minutes of September 8, 2015 Board Meeting**

There were no changes to the minutes.

**MOTION # 2 – Hoff moved, seconded by Brakhahn to approve the absence of Heinrichs and the minutes of September 8, 2015.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

### **ACTION TO APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT – Neal Hoff**

Copies of the Little Blue NRD Treasurer's Report were circulated. Hoff reviewed the report. **MOTION # 3 – Hoff moved, seconded by Fleharty to approve the report and payment of bills as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Hoff reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project Treasurer's Report.

**MOTION # 4 - Hoff moved, seconded by Fleharty to approve the report and payment of bills as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

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

### **AGENCY REPORTS**

#### **NRCS Report – Dave Bedlan**

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

#### **NARD Conference & Meeting Report – Mike Onnen**

Onnen reported on the NARD Conference held September 26-27 in Kearney.

#### **NRC Meeting Report – Joe Hergott**

Hergott reviewed the NRC meeting which was held in conjunction with the NARD Conference in Kearney.

### **STAFF REPORTS – Daryl Andersen**

The staff report was mailed to the Director's earlier. Andersen reviewed the report and answered questions. Onnen followed with a report on the water line replacement for the Rural Water Projects and the meeting held with the Tri-Basin NRD regarding water quantity.

### **WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT – Randy Uhrmacher**

The Water Resources Committee met prior to the regular Board meeting.

#### **Action on Request for Variance on Meter Requirements**

A variance request to the installation of a flow meter on a well used to pump water into a fish pond was received. **MOTION # 6 – Uhrmacher moved, seconded by Brakhahn to approve the variance from the metering rule for the D. W. Kingsley Farms, Inc. located in the SW ¼ NW ¼ Section 19-T6N-R12W, Adams County, require annual reporting as a condition, and if no annual report is provided, the variance shall be revoked.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

#### **Action on Transfer Permit Request for Ron Olson**

One transfer permit was submitted for approval. **MOTION # 7 – Uhrmacher moved, seconded by Kissinger to approve the irrigation transfer permit of Ron Olson from a well in W1/2 NW ¼ Section 6-T3N-R2E to lands in SE SE of Sec. 36-T4N-R1E and the NE NE Sec. 1 T3N-R1E, Jefferson County, contingent on the implementation of the conservation plan.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

**Action on Wording Change for Rules and Regulations**

The rewording of several terms used in the District's Groundwater Rules were offered for consideration.

**MOTION # 8 – Uhrmacher moved, seconded by Brakhahn to state the intent of the Board that should the allocation of groundwater become necessary in the future, all existing water uses which have been certified with the District, shall be eligible to receive an allocation of groundwater.**

Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

**ACTION ON RESEARCH AGREEMENT WITH UNL REGARDING SENSE PROJECT**

The Cooperative Agreement for the research project SENSE which is between the University of NE and the Little Blue NRD was submitted for approval. **MOTION # 9 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by**

**Fleharty to approve the Research Agreement for the SENSE Project with the University of Nebraska, with one change that the payment would be made in equal installments over three fiscal years, as originally presented by UNL staff.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

**ACTION ON BIDS ON WATER PROJECT EXCESS PIPE**

No bids were received. Discussion was held.

**ACTION ON LITTLE BLUE RIVER BASIN WATERSHED PLAN**

The Blue Basin Watershed Plan has been completed and was presented for approval. Hoff suggested that one goal of the Plan should be to reverse the groundwater decline, not just slow them. **MOTION # 10 – Fleharty moved, seconded by Brakhahn to adopt the Blue River Basin Watershed Plan as presented and refer it to the appropriate committees for further actions and implementation.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Cunningham, Else, Fisher, Fleharty, Hergott, Hoff, Kellogg, Kimle, Schroer, Spencer, Thomas, Uhrmacher, Wiedel and Rainforth. No: Kissinger.

**Action on Bids for Sale of Prairie Hay**

Bids were let for the sale of hay that has been harvested at Prairie Lake and Bruning Recreation Areas. No bids were received for the Bruning hay and one bid was received for Prairie Lake. **MOTION # 11 – Thomas moved, seconded by Brakhahn to accept the bid of Brian Becker of Hastings for the Prairie Lake hay at a price of \$72/ ton.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

**Action to Change November Board Meeting Date**

Due to a conflicting meeting with Village of Kenesaw it was requested the date of the November meeting be moved to November 12. **MOTION # 12 – Hergott moved, seconded by Spencer to hold the November Board Meeting on Thursday, November 12, 2015 at 7:30 PM.** Carried by roll call vote.

Brakhahn, Else, Fisher, Fleharty, Hergott, Hoff, Kellogg, Kimle, Kissinger, Schroer, Spencer, Thomas, Uhrmacher, Wiedel and Rainforth. No: Cunningham.

**BOARD DEVELOPMENT – NRD'S HISTORY & PURPOSES**

Onnen gave a presentation on the history of the NRD's which he presented to League of Women's Voters in Hastings.

**Other Business**

Discussion was held on the replacement of water line at the Rural Water Projects and the means of how it will be paid. The bill should be received and paid at the November meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Rainforth adjourned the meeting at 9:10 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 October 13, 2015, 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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