

LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Minutes **October 11, 2016**

OPENING OF MEETING – RANDY UHRMACHER

The directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, October 11, 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, Amy Wenske; 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 – Spencer moved, seconded by Schroer to approve the agenda for the October 11, 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 September 13, 2016 Board Meeting

There were no changes to the minutes.

MOTION # 2 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Rainforth to approve the minutes of September 13, 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 Wiedel 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 Thomas 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.

NARD Conference and Meeting Report – Lyle Heinrichs

Heinrichs reported on the NARD Conference and meeting held in Kearney September 26 and 27.

STAFF REPORTS – Mike Onnen

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

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PRESENTATION – Steve Eddy, Hastings

Weather Service

Steve Eddy of the National Weather Service in Hastings talked about stream gauging and the data collected from them. He encouraged the board to consider being an active partner in the stream gauging network.

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE – Warren Brakhahn

The Water Resources Committee met September 28, 2016

Action on Transfer Permit for Krabel Trucking

One Transfer Permit was presented for approval. **MOTION # 6 Brakhahn moved, seconded by Hoffman to recommend the approval of the groundwater transfer of Krabel Trucking/Randy Uhrmacher, operator, from the E½ 21-07N-10W to the W½ 21-07N-10W, Adams County.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Cunningham, Else, Fisher, Fleharty, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hoffman, Kellogg, Kimle, Kissinger, Rainforth, Schroer, Spencer, Thomas and Wiedel. Abstain: Uhrmacher

Discussion of IMP Stakeholder Proposal for Allocations

The IMP Stakeholders passed a motion in support of a groundwater allocation to be implemented throughout the District beginning in 2018. Discussion was held. **MOTION # 7 – Schroer moved, seconded by Kissinger to table action at this time on the Integrated Management Plan Stakeholders recommendation to implement a district-wide allocation plan and to instruct District staff to compile information pertinent to the technical aspects of implementation of an allocation plan.**

Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

MOTION # 8 – Spencer moved, seconded by Else to revise the Groundwater Management Plan with the objective of stabilizing the decline of the groundwater resource. Further to that objective, the revision must include provisions making controls equivalent to those currently listed as Level III controls immediately available for the board to implement as the board deems necessary.

Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Cunningham, Else, Fleharty, Hergott, Schroer, Spencer, Thomas, Wiedel and Uhrmacher. No: Brakhahn, Fisher, Heinrichs, Hoffman, Kellogg, Kimle, Kissinger and Rainforth.

Discussion of a District-wide Stay or Moratorium

Discussion was held on this. **MOTION # 9 – Kissinger moved, seconded by Heinrichs to table the discussion of stays and moratorium until we have our discussion at the work session.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Cunningham, Else, Fisher, Fleharty, Heinrichs, Hoffman, Kellogg, Kimle, Kissinger, Rainforth, Schroer, Spencer, Thomas, Wiedel and Uhrmacher. No: Hergott.

Action to Begin Revisions of Groundwater Management Plan

Action for this was included in a previous motion.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT – Randy Uhrmacher

The Executive Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

New Computers for office

Four new computers are needed this year. **MOTION # 10 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Kissinger the Board accepts the bid of Papio-Missouri River NRD for the purchase of four new computers and 2 monitors.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Cunningham, Else, Fleharty, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hoffman, Kellogg, Kimle, Kissinger, Rainforth, Schroer, Spencer, Thomas, Wiedel and Uhrmacher. Absent: Fisher.

Discussion on Storage Building Expansion

The expansion of the east shop was included in the FY 2017 budget. **MOTION # 11 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Fleharty to authorize staff to prepare bids and advertise for construction bids from potential contractors for the extension of the shop building.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

New position for Database Specialist

To keep up with the database changes and certification of acres it is proposed to hire additional staff. **MOTION # 12 – Fleharty moved, seconded by Rainforth to advertise for a District Secretary Position, and create a new Database Specialist Position.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Furnishings for Office

New furnishings for the office were also included in the budget. **MOTION # 13 – Fleharty moved, seconded by Rainforth to authorize staff to secure bids for the necessary office furnishings.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Cunningham, Else, Fisher, Fleharty, Heinrichs, Hergott, Kellogg, Kimle, Kissinger, Rainforth, Schroer, Spencer, Thomas, Wiedel and Uhrmacher. Absent: Hoffman.

Web Page Design Bids

An updated webpage design was proposed. **MOTION # 14, Fleharty moved, seconded by Brakhahn to solicit bids from contractors to develop a user friendly and interactive web page.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Personnel Policy # 5 – Classification of Employees

Due to a change in Federal Employment law a change to Personnel Policy # 5 was presented for approval. **MOTION # 15 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Fleharty recommend making changes to the Personnel Policy # 5 regarding Classification of Employees by moving the Operations Supervisor position to non-exempt, and adding the Database Specialist and Watershed Coordinator to the non-exempt list, effective November 1, 2016.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Personnel Policy # 16 – Work Hours

Clarification to Personnel Policy # 16 was presented for approval. **MOTION # 16 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Thomas to approve the changes to Personnel Policy # 16 as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Personnel Policy # 21 – Employee Expense Reimbursement

Clarification to Personnel Policy # 21 was presented for approval. **MOTION # 14 – Fleharty moved, seconded by Hoffman to amend Policy # 21 to include if the employee leaves directly from home to drive to the activity, the mileage normally driven in the commute from home to the office and back, must be subtracted from the total mileage claimed.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Public Comment

Two comments were received. Jordan Harms had a question regarding the upcoming Board workshop. Kerwin Elting inquired about areas being unable to pump nine acres.

ADJOURNMENT

Uhrmacher adjourned the meeting at 9:39 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 11, 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.
