

**LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**  
**Minutes** **July 13, 2010**

**OPENING OF MEETING – RICHARD KAHMAN**

The directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, July 13, 2010 at the Davenport Community Building, Davenport, Nebraska.

Chairman Kahman called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Kahman led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kahman 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, Ross Fisher, Edward Fleharty, Jeremy Groves, Charles Rainforth, John Rieckman, Steve Shaw, Jerrad Stroh, Gene Thomas, Wryan Wright and Richard Kahman.

**Directors Absent:**

Jim Cunningham and Joe Hergott arrived at 7:40; Lyle Heinrichs arrived at 7:50.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Mike Onnen, Daryl Andersen, Kevin Orvis, Marlene Faimon, Marie Herbek; Janet Valasek representing the NRCS.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICIAL DISTRICT NOTICE PUBLICATIONS**

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**

Onnen noted that the following change had properly been added to the posted board meeting agenda at least 24 hours prior to the commencement of the meeting: add to item #10, Report on Monitoring Well Development and to item #17, add Report on Wellhead Protection. **MOTION # 1 – Thomas moved, seconded by Rainforth to approve the agenda for the July 13, 2010 meeting as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 11 yes votes.

**ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA - ACCEPTANCE OF BOARD MEMBER ABSENCES AND MINUTES OF JUNE 8, 2010 BOARD MEETING**

Onnen noted that Allen and Lemke had notified the office of their intended absence and were excused. **MOTION # 2 – Stroh moved, seconded by Thomas to accept the absence of Allen and Lemke and to approve the minutes of June 8, 2010.** Carried by roll call vote – 11 yes votes.

**TREASURER'S REPORT – Ed Fleharty**

Copies of the Little Blue NRD Treasurer's Report were circulated. Fleharty reviewed the report. **MOTION # 3 – Fleharty moved, seconded by Stroh to approve the report and payment of bills as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 11 yes votes.

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

**MOTION # 4 - Fleharty moved, seconded by Hergott to approve the report and payment of bills as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

Fleharty reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project - South Treasurer's Report. **MOTION # 5 - Fleharty moved, seconded by Stroh to approve the report and payment of bills as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

**AGENCY REPORTS**

**NRCS Report – Janet Valasek**

Valasek gave a brief report of the activities in the NRCS offices and answered questions.

**NARD Report – Lyle Heinrichs**

Heinrichs reported on the Basin Tour held June 21 and 22.

**NRC Report – Joe Hergott**

Hergott reported on the meeting he attended in Norfolk on June 17.

**Trailblazer RC&D Report**

Copies of the May 24, 2010 Trailblazer RC&D Report were mailed to the Directors earlier.

**STAFF REPORTS – Marlene Faimon**

Faimon reviewed the staff report that had been mailed to the Director's earlier.

**Monitoring Well Development**

Kevin Orvis led a discussion on the future of the Monitoring Well Development project.

**MOTION # 6 - Stroh moved, seconded by Wright to add several additional wells to the Monitoring Well Development Project in the central part of the District and to negotiate with Holdrege Well Service to install the wells .** Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes.

**PROJECT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT – Ed Fleharty**

The Project and Planning Committee met June 24.

**Status Report on Little Sandy Creek Progress**

Onnen reported on progress being made in the planning process for construction of Dam Site 73.

### **Recreation Area Rules and Regulation and Policies**

The Committee reviewed several camping rules and policies for the District's recreational areas.

**MOTION # 7 - Fleharty moved, seconded by Rainforth to approve the revised Recreation Area Rules and Regulations and to recommend them to a public hearing to be held on August 10, 2010.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Cunningham, Fisher, Fleharty, Groves, Hergott, Rainforth, Rieckman, Stroh, Thomas, Wright and Kahman. No: Heinrichs and Shaw.

### **Discussion of Future Projects and Activities**

Future projects the District will focus on were discussed. The Committee's general consensus was to not use NRD funds to assist other political entities with their projects.

## **LITTLE BLUE PUBLIC WATER PROJECT MEETING REPORT**

The Little Blue Public Water Projects Advisory Board met June 22

### **Project Finances and Dept Repayment Schedule**

The Advisory Board discussed using funds that the Water Projects have in savings to pay down debt. It was their recommendation to do so. **MOTION # 8 - Heinrichs moved, seconded by Brakhahn to develop a plan to pay down debt and therefore reduce the interest paid on those debts for the Little Blue Public Water Projects.** Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes.

## **ACTION TO APPROVE CONSULTING FIRM FOR HYDROGEOLOGIC STUDY**

The District has been approved to receive an IWMPP Grant for a District-wide hydro-geologic study. A review committee met with three firms that offered proposals for completing the project. The pros and cons of each firm's proposal were discussed. **MOTION # 9 – Rainforth moved, seconded by Fisher to contract with JEO Consulting Group to conduct a hydro-geologic study of the District for the lump sum or actual cost not to exceed \$99,308.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Cunningham, Fisher, Fleharty, Groves, Hergott, Rainforth Rieckman, Shaw, Stroh, Thomas, Wright and Kahman. No: Brakhahn and Heinrichs.

## **ACTION TO APPROVE TAX REQUEST FOR FY 2011 DISTRICT BUDGET**

State statutes require that the Board request a preliminary tax levy by August 1<sup>st</sup> of each year for the following years' budget preparation. **MOTION # 10 – Fleharty moved, seconded by Rainforth that the Little Blue NRD adopt the resolution requesting a preliminary tax levy allocation of \$1,193,999.51 for fiscal year 2011.** Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes.

## **REPORT ON NRD PUBLIC RELATIONS MEETING AND LEGISLATIVE DIRECTIONS**

No report was given on this.

## **BOARD DEVELOPMENT – HEALTH – WELLNESS EFFORTS PAY DIVIDENDS**

Marie gave a short presentation on the District's Wellness Program and reported that the Little Blue NRD has been selected to receive the Governor's Wellness Award.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Andersen reported that JEO is interested in assisting communities implement more Wellhead Protection activities. They are requesting our District to contact communities to check if they would be interested in this. If so, a grant could be written to facilitate wellhead protection projects for communities that have an approved plan.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Kahman adjourned the meeting at 9:20 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 July 13, 2010, 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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