

**LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**  
**Minutes** **February 12, 2019**

**OPENING OF MEETING – MARLIN KIMLE**

The directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Chairman Kimle called the meeting to order at 7:28 p.m.

Kimle led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kimle 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, William Glenn, Lyle Heinrichs, Joe Hergott, Mason Hoffman, Zachary Hollister, Everett Kellogg, Kevin Kissinger, Jay Meyer, Charles Rainforth, Lyle Schroer, Steve Shaw, Warren Taylor, Robert Trausch and Marlin Kimle.

**Board members absent:**

Jesse VonSpreckelsen and Alan Wiedel.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Donnie Engelhardt, Kevin Orvis, Marie Herbek, Alicia Epps, Kent Thompson, Elysabeth Kierl, Amy Zoller; Janet Valasek representing NRCS and numerous members of the public.

**PUBLICATIONS OF BOARD MEETING NOTICE**

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 – Kissinger moved, seconded by Schroer to approve the agenda for the February 12, 2019 meeting as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

**ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**Acceptance of Board Member Absences**

VonSpreckelsen and Wiedel had notified the office of their intended absence.

### **Approval of Minutes of January 8, 2019 Board Meeting**

There were no changes to the minutes.

### **MOTION # 2 – Shaw moved, seconded by Heinrichs to approve the absences of VonSpreckelsen and Wiedel and minutes of January 8, 2018 as circulated.**

Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Glenn, Heinrichs, Hoffman, Hollister, Kellogg, Kissinger, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Shaw, Taylor, Trausch and Kimle. Abstain: Hergott.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments.

### **TREASURER’S REPORT – Kevin Kissinger**

Copies of the Little Blue NRD Treasurer's Report were circulated. Kissinger reviewed the report.

### **MOTION # 3 – Kissinger moved, seconded by Rainforth to approve the Little Blue NRD treasurer’s report and payment of bills as presented.**

Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

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

### **MOTION # 4 - Kissinger moved, seconded by Hergott to approve the report and payment of bills as presented.**

Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

Kissinger reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project - South Treasurer's Report. **MOTION # 5 -**

### **Kissinger moved, seconded by Heinrichs to approve the report and payment of bills as presented.**

Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

### **AGENCY REPORTS**

#### **NRCS Report – Janet Valasek, Nuckolls County**

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

#### **NARD Conference & Board Meeting Report – Lyle Heinrichs**

Heinrichs gave a report on the NARD Conference held in Lincoln recently.

#### **Update on IMP – Amy Zoller, DNR**

Amy reviewed minor changes made to the IMP and answered questions. Action on the Plan will be taken at the March meeting.

### **STAFF REPORTS – Elysabeth Kierl**

The staff report was mailed to the Director’s earlier. Kierl reviewed the report and answered questions.

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

The Water Resources Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

#### **Report on 2018 Irrigation Use**

Kevin Orvis reviewed 2018 Irrigation Use report for the District.

### **Action on Failure to Submit 2018 Pumping Report**

Two individuals have not submitted their 2018 Pumpage Report as of the time of the meeting. Orvis requested approval to send the individuals a certified letter requesting them to send in their report before the March meeting. If the reports are not submitted discussion will be held on what action is necessary.

### **Action on Certification of Acres with Tax Records**

Staff requested clarification on individuals that are paying irrigated taxes on land but have not been actively irrigating the crops. There was no action recommended by the committee, but direction was given to staff that as District regulations state the lands must be irrigated once out of three years to qualify as certified.

### **Discussion & Possible Action on Certification of Irrigated Acres Yet to be Completed**

There are several Certified Acre forms that have not been received. Discussion was held on action to be taken. **MOTION # 6 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Rainforth to give staff 10 working days to call or get ahold of landowner, if after 10 days they do not reply staff will send a certified letter stating the rules will be enforced.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Glenn, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hoffman, Hollister, Kellogg, Kissinger, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Taylor, Trausch and Kimle. No: Shaw.

### **Other Business**

There was no other business.

## **PROJECTS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT – Charles Rainforth**

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

### **Action on Easements for Recharge Projects (Mike Allen)**

Two easements were presented for approval. **MOTION # 7 – Rainforth moved, seconded by Schroer to approve the 25-year easement on the Mike Allen tract in the Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) of Section Twenty-Six (26), Township Six (6) North, Range Ten (10) West, in Adams County, Nebraska for construction, monitoring and maintenance of Site 1B and 1C of the Oxbow Reconnection Recharge Project.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

### **Action on Bids for Monitoring Wells Associated with Recharge Projects**

Bids were taken for monitoring wells to be installed for the Oxbow Recharge Projects, three bids were received. **MOTION # 8 – Rainforth moved, seconded by Taylor to approve Plains Environmental Services Inc. of Salina KS for \$22,432.75 to install six monitoring wells for the Oxbow Recharge Projects.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Glenn, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hoffman, Hollister, Kellogg, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Shaw, Taylor, Trausch and Kimle. Absent: Kissinger.

### **Action on Four Buffer Strips**

Four Buffer Strip contracts were presented for approval. **MOTION # 9 – Glenn moved, seconded by Hoffman to approve the 4 buffer strip applications of Tri C Farms in Nuckolls County and Susan E Fredricks Rev Trust, CDK Farms LLC, and Robert and Sheryl Heil in Adams County, for a total of 6.8 acres and a dollar amount of \$1,468.40.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

**Action on Sealed Bids on 2006 Ford Pickup**

Bids were taken for the sale of the 2006 Ford Pickup. **MOTION # 10 – Rainforth moved, seconded by Brakhahn to accept the bid from James Johnson in the amount of \$3,529.00 for the 2006 Ford pickup.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Glenn, Heinrichs, Hoffman, Hollister, Kellogg, Kissinger, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Shaw, Taylor, Trausch and Kimle. No: Hergott.

**Action on Liberty Cove Tree Removal**

Bids were solicited for the removal of trees at Liberty Cove Recreation Area and three were received. **MOTION # 11 – Rainforth moved, seconded by Brakhahn to accept the bid of Statz Tree Cutting of Nelson in the amount of \$9,500.00 for clearing of all fire damaged trees at Liberty Cove Recreation Area.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

**Discussion of New Rates for Rural Water Projects**

With the expected increase of the cost of water from the City of Fairbury the Rural Water Projects Advisory Board recommended an increase in rates to the Projects customers. **MOTION # 12 – Rainforth moved, seconded by Shaw to accept the new rates for the Rural Water Projects North and South.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Glenn, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hoffman, Hollister, Kellogg, Meyer, Rainforth, Shaw and Trausch. No: Brakhahn, Kissinger, Schroer, Taylor and Kimle.

**Action on Grant Application for Rural Water Project Test Holes**

A Resolution to apply for a grant from the State of NE Department of Environmental Quality was presented for approval. **MOTION # 13 – Rainforth moved, seconded by Hoffman to approve the grant application for the Rural Water Projects to the State of Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality for test holes for water supply to the Projects.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

**Other Business**

Thompson requested to change the tree orders deadline to March 15<sup>th</sup>. **MOTION # 14 – Rainforth moved, seconded by Brakhahn to change the tree order deadline from April 1 to March 15 for district planted trees.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were received.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Kimle adjourned the meeting at 9:24 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 February 12, 2019, 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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