



Little Blue Natural Resources District

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Projects & Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2019

Present Committee Members: Chuck Rainforth, Warren Taylor, Zach Hollister, Everett Kellogg, Bill Glenn

Present Staff: Kyle Hauschild, Donnie Engelhardt, Kent Thompson, Elysabeth Kierl, Erika Brinegar

Present Guests: Janet Vlasek (NRCS), Rob Lutz (EA), Brian Peterson & son, Sara Hemberger, Jerry Ginn (Reynolds Rep)

Rainforth called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. at NRD room, north of the Board Room in Davenport.

1. Ponding Issues from Sand Creek Weirs

Brian Petersen was concerned that the weirs southwest of Holstein were causing springs to come up in his son's field. Robert Lutz of EA stated the weirs are significantly below the wet spots. The weir that is above the wet spots is over 2 miles away, and the weir failed; it is not holding any water back. The committee recommended that LBNRD monitor the situation.

2. FEMA Funding for Sand Creek Weir Rehab

Some damages occurred on the weirs due to the high velocity of flood water and no vegetation since they're new structures. Four of the five sites will require repairs. Because there was a state of emergency declared for Adams County, FEMA funding will be available to cover 75% of the repairs with the NRD covering the remaining 25%. They are sending technicians out to see if it is approvable. **A motion was made by Zach Hollister, receiving a second Bill Glenn, and unanimously approved to recommend to the Board of Directors that LBNRD apply for the funding from FEMA/NRCS.**

3. Sand Creek Weir Repair Costs

Rob Lutz came estimated the cost of repairs for the weirs will be around \$36,000. It was not cost-effective to repair only Site 1 and see what would happen, because the mobilization costs are so high. Establishing vegetation will help slow down the water and protect the weirs in the future. They will also extend the sheet pile for more durability. **A motion was made by Zach Hollister, receiving a second from Warren Taylor, and unanimously approved to recommend to the Board of Directors to approve the repair costs of the weirs.**

4. Ditch-Work at Reynolds

Reynolds wants to redo about ½ the town's ditches. S & P Dirtwork estimated that it would cost \$72,135.26. LBNRD would split that 50%-50% with the village. Project coordinators want to complete this project in 2 years as opposed to the normal of 3-5 years. Reynolds has not completed any ditch-work for 40 years. **A motion was made by Bill Glenn, receiving a second from Zach Hollister, and unanimously approved to recommend to the Board of Directors to fund the Reynolds ditch-work project.**

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5. Ditch-Work at Belvidere

Village of Belvidere plans to complete ditch-work the summer of 2019. It is estimated to cost \$6,000; that cost would be split 50%-50% with the LBNRD. **A motion was made by Warren Taylor, receiving a second Everett Kellogg, and unanimously approved to recommend the Board fund the Belvidere ditch-work project.**

6. Ditch-Work at Hubbell

Village of Hubbell plans to complete ditch-work the summer of 2019. It is estimated to cost \$21,000, and that cost would be split 50%-50% with the LBNRD. Project is expected to last four or five years. **A motion was made by Zach Hollister, receiving a second from Chuck Rainforth, and unanimously approved to recommend the Board fund the Hubbell ditch-work project.**

7. Cornstalk Debris at K-Dike

Staff was seeking recommendations concerning cornstalk debris left from the flood at the K-Dike. Staff is concerned that this could cause erosion issues due to impeding grass growth and the stalks are too wet to burn effectively. The only recommendation presented was waiting until the summer when it dries out to clean them up. No action was taken.

8. Repairs for K-Dike

A rodent hole was blown out by the recent floodwaters, creating a large hole in the ground and under the K-Dike berm. The hole is dangerous and needs to be filled to prevent it from growing. Kent reported Plains Excavating put in an oral bid for \$5,000, and he would seek two other bids. No action was taken.

9. Sink Hole at Prairie Lake

Kent filled the sinkhole at Prairie Lake left from last year's tree removal project because of time constraints from contractors. The sinkhole was caused by trees being burnt, buried and then the dirt was settling around them. Kent saved the NRD \$620 by doing this himself. No action was taken.

10. Roseland Lake Cornstalk Removal

This item was not on the agenda. Kent removed cornstalks and saved the NRD \$625.

11. Buffer Strip Extension

Tri C Farms in Nuckolls County was awarded part of this buffer strip previously and sought to extend the buffer strip. The newly proposed buffer strip would be an annual payment of \$326.80 for funding on 10-year contract on two acres on the NE¼ 35-2-6W. **A motion was made by Bill Glenn, receiving a second from Zach Hollister, and unanimously approved to recommend approval of the Tri-C Farms buffer strip to the Board.**

12. Liberty Cove Tree Removal Project Update

This item was not on the agenda. Kent reported the Liberty Cove tree removal project is complete. An invoice for \$9,500 will be on the next monthly billing cycle.

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13. Cost-Share for Transfer Pipe

Julie D Rippen Trust and DBR Properties submitted two applications for cost-share on a buried pipe which was installed to convert gravity to pivot (26-06-08W installed 1,400 feet at \$2.78 per foot and 21-06-08W installed 850 feet at \$2.80 per foot). The LBNRDs portion would be \$3,136. **Warren Taylor moved with Chuck Rainforth seconding the motion, and unanimously approved to recommend approval to the Board for funding a total of \$3136 to the Rippen Trust for the buried pipe on sections 26-06-08W & 21-06-08W.**

14. Having Meetings in the North Room

Kyle asked about having meetings in the north room, and there were mostly positive comments about it. If the committees contained fewer members per group, the LBNRD would save on advertising costs because there would be no quorum.

15. Bruning Dam Gun Range

This item was not on the agenda. The Bruning Dam Gun Range was initially presented to the board in 2012. The Nebraska Game and Parks currently has funds available to fund the project. NEG&P asks that the LBNRD would pay for the project and the Games and Parks would reimburse 75% of funding upon completion. LBNRD would set the regulations of the shooting range with the NG&P enforcing rules. It would take one year to construct. Kent advised board he would invite Jeff Ralston to discuss the project with the board. The NRD would possibly provide the land and upkeep as \$25,000 of in-kind. No action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.