

LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

Minutes

April 8, 2025

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Brent Hoops

The Directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, April 8th, 2025, at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Vice Chairman Hoops called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL DIRECTORS

Directors Present: Glen Bonifas, Glen Bredthauer, Stewart Brinegar, Bill Glenn, Jessi Hoeft, Mason Hoffman, Brent Hoops, Alan Kenning, Kyle Knight, Russ Ochsner, Neal Onnen, Aaron Paus, Lyle Schroer, Steve Shaw, Warren Taylor, Jesse Vonspreckelsen, Lawrence Walker.

Others Present: Scott Nelson, Tyler Goeschel, Kevin Orvis, Jessica Hedges, Sara Schram, Alicia Epp, Janet Valasek; NRCS, District Scholarship recipients, members of the public.

Hoops noted that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted and available for anyone who may want to review the document.

PUBLICATIONS OF BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Hoops announced the 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 sent 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 –Hoffman moved to approve the agenda for the April 8, 2025, meeting as presented, seconded by Ochsner. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes, VonSpreckelsen Abstained.

ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Acceptance of Board Member Absences: There were no absences.

Approval of Minutes of March 11, 2025, Board Meeting: MOTION #2 –Paus moved to approve the minutes for the March 11th, 2025, meeting as presented, seconded by Schroer. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes, VonSpreckelsen abstained.

Approval of Certified Acres: There were no certified acres.

TREASURERS REPORTS – Bill Glenn

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

MOTION # 3 - Glenn moved to approve the Little Blue NRD Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Ochsner. Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes, Hoeft, Shaw, VonSpreckelsen abstained.

Glenn reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project Treasurer's Report. MOTION # 4 - Glenn moved to approve the Little Blue Public Water Project Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Kenning. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes, VonSpreckelsen abstained.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS Report – Janet Valasek gave a brief report on NRCS happenings.

NARD Report – Mason Hoffman: Hoffman gave a brief report on the NARD.

NRC Report – Lyle Schroer: Schroer gave a brief report on the NRC.

PRESENTATION OF DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Jessica Hedges presented 6 district-area students with \$500 scholarships towards furthering their education. Scholarships were awarded to John Paul Hrnchir, Jacob Beavers, Eli Weber, Brent Buescher, Ethan Shaw, and Conner Schardt.

Discussion/Action on a variance request to add acres in NW1/4-31-07-06W Kevin Orvis presented a request to add 3.29 irrigated acres to an existing field and a discussion was held. **MOTION #5 – Ochsner moved to approve the variance request with the stipulation that no end gun be added to the swing arm, seconded by Glenn.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes, Hoffman abstained.

Discussion/Action on a Variance Request to add acres in NE14-12-06-10W Kevin Orvis presented a request to add 10 irrigated acres to an existing field and a discussion was held. **MOTION #6 – Bonifas moved to deny the addition of irrigated acres, seconded by Hoffman.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes, Kenning and Knight abstained.

Discussion/Action on a Variance Request to Add Acres in NE1/4-28-03-05W. Kevin Orvis presented a request to add irrigated acres to an existing field and a discussion was held. **MOTION #7 –Hoops moved to approve the addition of irrigated acres, seconded by Bonifas.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Discussion/Action on a Variance Request to Add Acres in C N1/2-27-05-10W. Kevin Orvis presented a request to add 3.87 irrigated acres. **MOTION #8 – Ochsner moved to approve the addition of irrigated acres, seconded by Shaw** Carried by roll call vote – 12 yes votes, Brinegar, Hoffman, Knight, and Onnen abstained, Kenning voted no.

Discussion/Action on a Variance Request to Transfer Certified Irrigated Acres from NW-29-04-04W to SE1/4-31-04-04W. Kevin Orvis presented a variance request to transfer Certified Irrigated Acres and a discussion was held. **MOTION #9 – Hoops moved to approve the Transfer of Certified Irrigated Acres, seconded by Taylor.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Discussion/Action on Water Quality Sub-Area Non-Reporters. Information was presented regarding Water Quality Sub-Area non-reporters, and a discussion was held. **The Board Directed staff to proceed with Cease-and-Desist Orders for non-reports.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION #10 – Hoops moved to go into executive session at 8:15 pm to discuss FY 2026 Salary and Benefits, seconded by Hoffman. Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

MOTION #11 – Hoops moved to end executive session at 8:36 pm, seconded by Hoffman. Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jessi Hoeft and Tyler Goeschel gave a brief report on their recent Washington DC trip.

ADJOURNMENT

Vonspreckelsen adjourned the meeting at 8:52 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 April 8th, 2025, 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.

DRAFT
