

LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

Minutes

August 12, 2025

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Jesse VonSpreckelsen

The Directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, August 12th, 2025, at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Chairman VonSpreckelsen called the meeting to order at 7:01 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, Steve Shaw, Warren Taylor, Jesse Vonspreckelsen, Lawrence Walker.

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

VonSpreckelsen 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

VonSpreckelsen 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 –Ochsner moved to approve the agenda for the August 12th, 2025, meeting as presented, seconded by Hoffman. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes.

ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

MOTION #2 – Knight moved to approve consent agenda items, seconded by Walker. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes.

Acceptance of Board Member Absences: Lyle Schroer

Approval of Minutes of July 8th, 2025, Board Meeting

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 Kenning.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

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 Ochsner.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

AGENCY REPORTS

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

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

NRC Report – Lyle Schroer was absent.

STAFF REPORTS – Nelson gave a brief Managers Report on NRD happenings and upcoming public hearings.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT – Greg Shuck, Clay County weed management, spoke about the importance of a continued relationship between LBNRD and RC&D Twin Valley. Todd Boller, Twin Valley WMA, talked to the Board about weed management activities. Merle Illian, RC&D Twin Valley, thanked the Board for past support and urged them to continue the partnership/sponsorship with Trailblazer RC&D and Twin Valley WMA.

Discussion/Action on Continued Membership with Trailblazer RC&D and Twin Valley WMA -Membership costs and district wide coverage was discussed. **MOTION #5 – Hoffman moved to continue membership with the stipulation that within 12 months, Adams County is brought into the service coverage, seconded by Hoeft.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Discussion/Action on a Grant Agreement with DWEE for Flow Meter Funding – Nelson reviewed the Grant Agreement to fund the purchase and placement of new flow meters. **MOTION #6 – Hoffman moved to approve the Grand Agreement with DWEE for Flow Meter Funding, seconded by Knight.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Discussion/Action on Violation of Cease-and-Desist Order– The board reviewed information on 2 operators who were out of compliance and violated Cease-and-Desist Orders **MOTION #7 – Hoops moved pursue legal action against Jordan Overturf and Andrew Blessin for violating Cease-and-Desist Orders, seconded by Hoffman.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Discussion/Action on Transfer Permit for Irrigation from SW1/4 01-02N-05W to NE1/4 11-02N-05W– Orvis presented a request to transfer water from SW1/4 01-02N-05W to NE1/4 11-02N-05W. **MOTION #8 – Hoops moved to approve the Transwer Permit, seconded by Shaw.** Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes, Paus-No, Knight-Abstained.

Discussion/Action on Variance Request in NE1/4 10-06N-10W-Adam Pavelka with Creed Farms, LLC presented information on a variance request. **MOTION #9 – Paus moved to approve the variance request, seconded by Shaw.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes, Hoffman-Abstained.

FY 25-26 Budget Review- Nelson presented the proposed budget for the fiscal year 25-26.

Discussion/Action on LID Exception - The Board of Directors discussed whether to increase the LID exception by 1% in accordance with State Budgeting procedures. **MOTION #10 – Hoffman moved to approve the LID exception increase of 1%, seconded by Bredthauer.** Failed by roll call vote – 13 no votes; Glenn, Hoeft, Onnen-Yes.

Discussion/Action on Advancing FY 25-26 Budget to Hearing Stage in September-MOTION #11 – Kenning moved to advance the FY 25-26 Budget to Hearing Stage in September, seconded by Taylor. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Update on the Potential Purchase of Land- MOTION #12 – Hoffman moved to go into Executive Session at 8:57 pm to discuss the Potential Purchase of Land, seconded by Bredthauer. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

MOTION #13 – Hoffman moved to end Executive Session at 9:27pm, seconded by Ochsner. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

Vonspreckelsen adjourned the meeting at 9:36 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 August 12th, 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.
