

**LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**  
**Minutes** **January 14, 2020**

**OPENING OF MEETING – MARLIN KIMLE**

The directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Chairman Kimle called the meeting to order at 7:00 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, Marlin Kimle, Kevin Kissinger, Jay Meyer, Charles Rainforth, Lyle Schroer, Steve Shaw, Warren Taylor, Robert Trausch, Jesse VonSpreckelsen and Alan Wiedel.

**Board members absent:**

None.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Kyle Hauschild, Tyler Goeschel, Kevin Orvis, Marie Herbek, Erika Brinegar, Alicia Epps; Janet Valasek and Fred Stevens representing NRCS and numerous members of the public.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF 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 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 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Schroer to approve the agenda for the January 14, 2020 meeting as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**Minutes of December 10, 2019 Board Meeting**

There were no changes to the minutes.

**MOTION # 2 – Heinrichs moved, seconded by Brakhahn to approve the minutes of December 10, 2019 as circulated.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were received.

**TREASURER’S REPORT – Kevin Kissinger**

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

Kissinger reviewed the Little Blue NRD Treasurer’s 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 – 17 yes votes.

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

**MOTION # 4 - Kissinger moved, seconded by Brakhahn to approve the report and payment of bills as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

Kissinger reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project - South Treasurer's Report. **MOTION # 5 - Kissinger moved, seconded by Rainforth to approve the report and payment of bills as presented.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Glenn, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hollister, Kellogg, Kissinger, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Shaw, Taylor, Trausch, VonSpreckelsen, Wiedel and Kimle. Abstain: Hoffman.

**Report of Treasurer Bonding Requirements**

District policies require the District Treasurer be bonded for no less than \$50,000. The District currently retains a \$150,000 Public Official Bond for the Treasurer. The District also carries a Government Crime Policy in aggregate of \$200,000 which covers others authorized to handle district funds including the Assistant Treasurer, General Manager, Administrative Secretary, District Secretary, all NRCS Secretaries and our Water Project Clerk. These bonds provide some protection to the district from fraudulent actions relating to the District finances by those covered.

**Report on District Investment Procedures**

Hauschild explained the general procedures followed for making investments for the Little Blue NRD as well as for the North and South Water Projects.

**NOMINATIONS REPORT AND ELECTION OF NRD OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES**

The Nominations Committee – Warren Brakhahn, Bill Glenn and Jesse VonSpreckelsen met to select candidates for Board positions for the year 2020.

The Committee proposed the names of Marlin Kimle and Alan Wiedel for the position of Board Chairman. Brakhahn asked for further nominations from the floor. There being none, the nominations were closed, and a ballot vote taken. Kimle – 15 votes, Wiedel – 2 votes. Kimle was declared Chairman.

The Committee proposed the name of Alan Wiedel and Bill Glenn for the position of Board Vice-Chairman. Brakhahn asked for further nominations from the floor. There being none, the nominations were closed, and a ballot vote taken. Wiedel – 10 votes, Glenn – 6 votes. Wiedel was declared Vice-Chairman.

The Committee proposed the name of Jay Meyer and Warren Brakhahn for the position of Treasurer to replace Kevin Kissinger. Brakhahn asked for further nominations from the floor. There being none the nominations were closed. Meyer – 10 votes, Brakhahn – 7 votes. Meyer was declared Treasurer.

The Committee proposed the names of Mason Hoffman, Lyle Schroer and Steve Shaw for the position of Secretary. Brakhahn asked for further nominations from the floor. There being none, the nominations were closed, and a ballot vote taken. Hoffman – 8 votes, Schroer – 2 votes, Shaw – 7 votes. Hoffman was declared Secretary.

The Committee proposed the names of Lyle Heinrichs, Mason Hoffman and Chuck Rainforth for NARD Representative. There were no other nominations. A ballot vote was taken. Heinrichs – 15 votes, Hoffman – 9 votes, Rainforth – 9 votes. Heinrichs was declared NARD Representative

Due to a tie with Hoffman and Rainforth for alternate NARD Representative a ballot vote was taken. Hoffman – 10 votes, Rainforth - 7 votes. Hoffman was declared alternate NARD Representative.

### **APPOINTMENT OF VOTING DELEGATE FOR NARD LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE**

Not addressed.

### **AGENCY REPORTS**

#### **NRCS Report – Fred Stevens**

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

#### **NRC Report – Lyle Schroer**

Schroer gave a report on the NRC meeting.

### **DISTRICT APPOINTMENTS**

#### **Review of Auditor**

The District signed a five-year contract with Schulz & Associates P.C. for conducting the annual audit. The contract began in 2019 and will expire in 2023. The annual price of the contract was \$7,275.

#### **Review of District's Legal Counsel**

Hauschild reported the District uses Don Blankenau on an as needed basis. Other legal counsel may be called upon if necessary.

### **WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

The Water Resources Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

#### **Pumpage Report Enforcement**

36 letters were prepared to be sent to producers who have not submitted their 2019 pumpage report.

**MOTION # 6 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Kissinger to authorize the Chairman to sign 36 letters to be sent to producers who have not submitted their 2019 irrigation pumpage report.**

Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes

**Wilson Foundation Exception for LB21a Cost Share**

A request to make an exception to LB21a Cost share practice was received. **MOTION # 7 – Brakhahn moved, seconded by Hoffman to approve a maximum of \$5,000 to the Wilson Foundation exception for LB21a cost-share.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

**Other Business**

There was no other business.

**PROJECTS & PLANNING COMMITTEE – Chuck Rainforth**

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

**Motion to approve bid for K-Dike**

Bids were accepted for repairs to K-Dike and four bids were received. **MOTION # 8 – Rainforth moved, seconded by Kissinger to approve Stromer Land Leveling for \$12,700 bid for K-Dike work.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

**Motion to approve bids for NRD and NRD Water Project vehicle**

Three bids were received for the purchase of a pickup for both the NRD and rural water projects. **MOTION # 9 – Rainforth moved, seconded by Taylor to approve the F-150 XL bids from Kenesaw Motors for NRD and NRD Water Project vehicles in the amount \$28,416 each.** Carried by roll call vote – 17 yes votes.

**Motion to approve bid for 29 acres at Prairie Lake Property**

The lease agreement for 29 acres of cropland at Prairie Lake expired in 2019, bids were accepted for a new lease. **MOTION # 10 – Rainforth moved, seconded by Brakhahn to approve Ben Trausch's bid for 29 acres at Prairie Lake Property at \$185/acre with a lump sum of \$5,365.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Brakhahn, Glenn, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hollister, Kellogg, Kissinger, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Taylor, Trausch, VonSpreckelsen and Wiedel. No: Hoffman, Shaw and Kimle.

**Other Business**

There was no other business.

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There was no other business.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Kimle adjourned the meeting at 8:20 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 January 14, 2020, 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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