

**LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**  
**Minutes** **December 10, 2024**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Alan Wiedel**

The Directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Chairman Wiedel called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS**

**Directors Present:** Glen Bonifas, Glen Bredthauer, Bill Glenn, Jessi Hoeft, Mason Hoffman, Brent Hoops, Alan Kenning, Kyle Knight, Courtney Luebben, Jay Meyer, Russ Ochsner, Aaron Paus, Lyle Schroer, Steve Shaw, Warren Taylor, Jesse VonSpreckelsen, and Alan Wiedel.

**Director’s Absent:** Courtney Luebben

**Others Present:** Scott Nelson, Tyler Goeschel, Kevin Orvis, Jessica Hedges, Alicia Epps, Sara Schram; Don Blankenau, Legal Counsel; Janet Valasek, NRCS; Mike Placke, JEO Consulting Group; members of the public.

Wiedel 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**

Wiedel 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 – VonSpreckelsen moved to approve the agenda for the December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meeting as presented, seconded by Hoffman.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

**ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**Acceptance of Board Member Absences:** Luebben notified the office of their intended absence.

**Approval of Minutes of November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Board Meeting:** There were no changes to the minutes.

**Approval of Certified Acres:** no certified acres currently.

**TREASURERS REPORTS – Bill Glenn**

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

**MOTION # 2 - Glenn moved to approve the Little Blue NRD Treasurer’s Report as presented, seconded by Hoffman.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes, Glenn abstained.

Glenn reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project Treasurer's Report. **MOTION # 3 - 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.

### **AGENCY REPORTS**

**NRCS Report – Janet Valasek:** Valasek gave a brief report on happenings at the NRCS and answered questions.

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

**NRC Report – Lyle Schroer:** Schroer had nothing to report

### **OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT**

David Endorf shared concerns related to the Rural Water Project. Kevin Kissinger and Dan Gangwish shared their opposition to potential revisions to the Water Quantity GWMP Rules & Regulations.

### **32-MILE CREEK WATERSHED**

Mike Placke with JEO Consulting Group gave a brief update on the progress on the 32-Mile WFPO Project and answered questions.

**MOTION #4 -Kenning moved to approve the FY 2024 Audit Report as presented, seconded by Schroer.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes, Knight abstained.

### **DIRECTOR SERVICE RECOGNITION**

Scott Nelson recognized and thanked outgoing Board Members for their years of service: Alan Widel, 12 years of service; Jay Myer 8 years of service; Courtney Luebben, 4 years of service.

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Discussion was held on the forming of a Nominating Committee for 2025 Board Officers.

### **BOARD COMMITTEES**

Discussion/Action on the Elimination of Board Committees. Hoops suggested that the efficiency of the Board would be improved by eliminating formal Board Committees and opting for Ad Hoc committees on an as needed basis. The Executive Committee will remain as is. **MOTION #5 – Hoops moved to dissolve the Water and Planning Committees in favor of Ad Hoc Committees, seconded by Hoffman.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes, 1 no vote.

### **LONG-RANGE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

Scott Nelson discussed the need to Approve the Long-Range Implementation Plan with revisions that were made. **MOTION #6 – VonSpreckelsen moved to approve the Long-Range Implementation Plan, seconded by Hoffman.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

### **WELL VARIANCE REQUEST 15-05-07W – CLAY COUNTY**

James Riese presented a well variance request to the Board to bring an inactive well back into service to improve irrigation efficiency and a brief discussion was held. **MOTION #7 – Shaw moved to reactivate the well on section 15-05-07W – Clay County, seconded by VonSpreckelsen.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes, Knight abstained.

**POTENTIAL REVISIONS TO WATER QUANTITY GWMP RULES & REGULATIONS.**

The committee had no changes to make to the rules and regulations at this time. A discussion was held regarding the possibility of adjusting allocations for the 2025 crop year. **MOTION #8 – Hoffman moved to table any discussions regarding revisions to the Water Quantity GWMP Rules and Regulations, seconded by Knight.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes, Wiedel abstained

Update on Legal Complaint Filed Against the Little Blue Public Water Project: **MOTION # 9 – Hoffman moved, to go into Executive Session at 9:21 p.m. for the purpose of discussing active litigation, seconded by Ochsner.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

**MOTION # 10 – Hoffman moved to come out of Executive Session at 9:40 p.m., seconded by Kenning.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Wiedel adjourned the meeting at 9:41 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 December 10, 2024, 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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