

LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Minutes **December 14, 2021**

OPENING OF MEETING – Marlin Kimle

The Directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, 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 Meetings Act was posted and available for anyone who may want to review the document.

Roll call was held.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Board members present:

Bill Glenn, Lyle Heinrichs, Joe Hergott, Jessi Hoeft, Mason Hoffman, Brent Hoops, Courtney Luebben, Jay Meyer, Lyle Schroer, Steve Shaw, Robert Trausch, Jesse VonSpreckelsen, Alan Wiedel and Marlin Kimle.

Directors absent:

Kevin Kissinger, Warren Taylor and Jay Wilder.

OTHERS PRESENT

Scott Nelson, Tyler Goeschel, Marie Herbek, Kevin Orvis, Erika Brinegar; Don Blankenau, legal counsel; Janet Valasek, NRCS; numerous members of the public.

PUBLICATIONS OF BOARD MEETING NOTICE

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, newspapers in the district and posted at the NRCS offices in the district and the Little Blue NRD office.

ADOPTION OF BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Kimle noted agenda item 14, Public Comment, is moved to after item 9, Audit. **MOTION # 1 – Heinrichs moved, seconded by Hoffman to approve the agenda for the December 14, 2021, meeting as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes.

ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Acceptance of Board Member Absences: Kissinger and Taylor notified the office of their intended absence and Wilder was absent due to illness.

Approval of Minutes of November 9, 2021, Board Meeting: There were no changes to the minutes.

Approval of Certified Acres: No changes in certified acres were reported.

MOTION # 2 – Heinrichs moved, seconded by Luebben to approve the absence of Kissinger, Taylor and Wilder and the minutes of November 9, 2021, as circulated. Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes.

ACTION ON TREASURER’S REPORT – Jay Meyer

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

MOTION # 3 - Meyer moved, seconded by Hergott to approve the Little Blue NRD Treasurer’s Report as presented. Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Hergott, Hoeft, Hoops, Luebben, Meyer, Schroer, Shaw, Trausch, VonSpreckelsen, Wiedel and Kimle. No: Heinrichs. Abstain: Glenn and Hoffman.

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

MOTION # 4 - Meyer moved, seconded by Hergott to approve the Little Blue Public Water Project - North Treasurer’s Report as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes.

Meyer reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project - South Treasurer's Report.

MOTION # 5 - Meyer moved, seconded by Glenn to approve the Little Blue Public Water Project - South Treasurer’s Report as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes.

AUDIT – CHRISTY HADDAN, SCHULZ & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

Christy Haddan of Schulz and Associates reviewed the 2021 audits for the Little Blue NRD, Water Project North and Water Project South.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Damon Thomas and David Endorf commented on their concern about the well development for the Little Blue Valley Water System.

AGENCY REPORTS

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

NARD Report – Mason Hoffman: Hoffman reported on Legislative Bill LR23 and discussion was held.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee met December 7.

Action to Approve Redistricting Map Based on 2020 Census Data

Sub-district boundary updates are necessary due to completion of the 2020 census. Goeschel presented the proposed boundary updates for approval. **MOTION # 6 – Hergott moved, seconded by Meyer to approve the redistricting map based on 2020 census data.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Glenn, Hergott, Hoeft, Hoffman, Hoops, Luebben, Meyer, Schroer, Shaw, Trausch, VonSpreckelsen, Wiedel and Kimle. No: Heinrichs.

Review 2022 Election Filing Procedure & Deadline

Herbek provided the list of incumbents for the 2022 election along with the timeline and procedures the district and incumbents are required to follow.

Discuss Forming a Nominating Committee for 2022 Board Officers

The nominating committee for the election of Board positions at the January meeting are Jesse VonSpreckelsen, Kevin Kissinger and Brent Hoops.

Discuss Committee Member Assignments

It was recommended that the present policy on committee member assignments not change.

Discuss Timeline for Completing General Manager Performance Evaluation

The annual performance review of the General Manager was distributed to each director for completion and then returned to the chairman to be compiled.

Review Potential Revisions to the District's Operating Policy

Proposed changes to the Operating Policy were reviewed and presented for approval. **MOTION # 7 – Hoops moved, seconded by Shaw to approve the proposed changes to the Operating Policy with the addition of allowing Committee's to meet virtually.** Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes.

Review Potential Revisions to the District's Personnel Policy

Proposed changes to the Operating Policy were reviewed and presented for approval. **MOTION # 8 – VonSpreckelsen moved, seconded by Schroer to approve the proposed changes to the Personnel Policy.** Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes.

Other Business

There was no other business.

PROJECTS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

There were no items to discuss.

WATER COMMITTEE

The Water Resources Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

Review of McMag 2000 Flow Meter for Use in the LBNRD

The McMag 2000 Flow Meter was presented to be added to the district's list of approved flow meters. **Shaw moved, seconded by Heinrichs to add the McMag 2000 Flow Meter to the list of district approved flow meters.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Fall Water Level Report

Orvis reviewed the fall water level report. Most of the geographic areas of the district saw a decline from 0 to -0.2 feet.

OTHER BUSINESS

Herbek mentioned the upcoming Legislative Conference in January; VonSpreckelsen commented on the new on-line reporting; Luebben reported she has heard rave reviews on Prairie Lake development; Hergott brought up reporting water use from the District's reservoirs; Shaw inquired about when the comments of concern on the Little Blue Valley Water System will be addressed, discussion was held.

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 December 14, 2021, 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.
