

LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2022

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Alan Wiedel

The Directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Thursday, December 15, 2022 at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Chairman Wiedel called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Wiedel led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

Directors Present: Glen Bredthauer, Bill Glenn, Lyle Heinrichs, Mason Hoffman, Brent Hoops, Alan Kenning, Marlin Kimle, Courtney Luebben, Jay Meyer, Aaron Paus, Lyle Schroer, Steve Shaw, Warren Taylor, Robert Trausch, Jesse VonSpreckelsen and Alan Wiedel.

Directors Absent: Jessi Hoeft.

Others Present: Scott Nelson, Tyler Goeschel, Marie Herbek, Kevin Orvis, Erika Brinegar, Jessica Hedges, Tim Hecke; Don Blankenau, legal counsel; Jon Mohr, LRE Water; members of the public.

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

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, 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 – Heinrichs moved, seconded by Kimle to approve the agenda for the December 15, 2022 meeting as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Acceptance of Board Member Absences: Hoeft notified the office of her intended absence.

Approval of Minutes of November 8, 2022 and November 29, 2022, Board Meetings: There were no changes to the minutes.

Approval of Certified Acres: There were no certified acres presented.

MOTION # 2 – Shaw moved, seconded by Kenning to approve the absence of Hoeft and the minutes of November 8, 2022 and November 29, 2022, as circulated. Carried by roll call vote – 16 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 Heinrichs to approve the Little Blue NRD Treasurer’s Report as presented. Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Bredthauer, Heinrichs, Hoffman, Hoops, Kenning, Kimle, Luebben, Meyer, Paus, Schroer, Shaw, Taylor, Trausch, VonSpreckelsen and Wiedel. Abstain: Glenn.

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

MOTION # 4 - Meyer moved, seconded by Schroer to approve the Little Blue Public Water Project - North Treasurer’s Report as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

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

MOTION # 5 - Meyer moved, seconded by Heinrichs to approve the Little Blue Public Water Project - South Treasurer’s Report as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS Report – Janet Valasek: Valasek was not present to give a report.

NARD Report: Hoffman gave a brief report on the happenings with the NARD.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

Discuss Forming a Nominating Committee for 2023 Board Officers. The nominating committee for the election of board positions at the January meeting are Brent Hoops, Bill Glenn and Courtney Luebben.

Discuss 2023 Committee Member Assignments; Nelson reviewed the process of committee member assignments and reminded everyone to start thinking about which committee they would like to serve on.

Review/Approve Bids for a New UTV: Bids were accepted for the purchase of a new UTV, six bids were received. **MOTION # 6 - Kimle moved, seconded by Hoffman to accept the bid from HFX Powersports of Hastings in the amount of \$9,995 for the purchase of a new 2022 Honda Pioneer 520 UTV.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Discussion/Action to Allow Staff to Enroll in 2023 Water Leaders Academy Program: Tyler Goeschel requested to attend the Nebraska Water Leaders Academy as a representative of the district. **MOTION # 7 – Wiedel moved, seconded by Hoffman to approve Tyler Goeschel attend the 2023 Water Leaders Academy with the agreement he reimburse the district for the cost if he leaves his employment with the district within two years of the completion date.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Motion to Approve the FY 2022 Audit: The FY 2022 audit was presented at the November 8th meeting. **MOTION # 8 – Wiedel moved, seconded by VonSpreckelsen to approve the FY 2022 audit as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Other Business: There was no other business.

PROJECTS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

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

Review/Action with the Village of Alexandria for Potential LBPWP Water Source

Review Possibility of LBPWP Water Source on Bill & Mary Glenn Property

Discussion/Action to Select LBPWP Water Source and Pursue Funding from USDA Rural Development: Nelson and Orvis reviewed ongoing discussions and possibilities for the Rural Water Projects water source. **MOTION # 9 – Hoops moved, seconded by Schroer to pursue the development of wells on the Bill & Mary Glenn property and USDA Rural Development loan funding for the Little Blue Public Water Projects.** Failed by roll call vote. Yes: Hoops, Paus, Schroer, Taylor, Trausch and Wiedel. No: Bredthauer, Heinrichs, Hoffman, Kenning, Kimle, Luebben, Meyer, Shaw and VonSpreckelsen. Abstain: Glenn

MOTION # 10 – VonSpreckelsen moved, seconded by Kenning to pursue forming an Interlocal Agreement with the Village of Alexandria and USDA Rural Development and Nebraska Water Sustainability funding for the Little Blue Public Water Projects. Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Bredthauer, Heinrichs, Hoffman, Hoops, Kenning, Kimle, Luebben, Meyer, Shaw, Taylor, Trausch and VonSpreckelsen. No: Paus, Schroer and Wiedel. Abstain: Glenn.

Other Business: There was no other business.

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

A Water Resources Committee meeting was held prior to the regular meeting.

Motion to Approve NDNR WSF Grant Agreement for Funds to Update the District’s Hydro-Geologic Report: LRE Water submitted a grant application to the NDNR WSF to update the District’s July 2011 Hydro-Geologic Report. **MOTION # 11 – Hoops moved, seconded by Hoffman to approve the NDNR WSF Grant Award Agreement to hire LRE to update the district’s July 2011 Hydro-Geologic report and authorize the signature of the agreement.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Review Fall 2022 Water Levels Report: Hecke reviewed the 2022 fall water levels report. Most of the geographic area of the district saw an average decline from -1.00 to -2.00 feet.

Other Business: There was no other business.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Susan Thomas spoke in appreciation for the time and effort put into planning for the future of the rural water projects.

OTHER BUSINESS

Nelson note the district’s Kenesaw-Juniata WFPO Project grant was approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Wiedel adjourned the meeting at 8:40 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 15, 2022, 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.
