

LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Minutes **December 8, 2020**

OPENING OF MEETING – Marlin Kimle

The Directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, December 8, 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 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, Mason Hoffman, Everett Kellogg, Kevin Kissinger, Jay Meyer, Charles Rainforth, Lyle Schroer, Steve Shaw, Warren Taylor, Jesse VonSpreckelsen, Alan Wiedel and Marlin Kimle. Brent Hoops and Robert Trausch participated virtually per Executive Order 20-34.

OTHERS PRESENT

Kyle Hauschild, Tyler Goeschel, Marie Herbek, Kevin Orvis, Heidi McClintock, Alicia Epps, Erika Brinegar; Janet Valasek representing the NRCS; 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, 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 – Heinrichs moved, seconded by Hoffman to approve the agenda for the December 8, 2020 meeting as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Acceptance of Board Member Absences: There were no absences.

Approval of Minutes of November 10, 2020 Board Meeting: There were no changes to the minutes.

Certified Acres: Epps reported 138.01-acre changes.

MOTION # 2 – Kissinger moved, seconded by Rainforth to approve the minutes of November 10, 2020 as circulated and the certified acre report. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

TREASURERS REPORTS – 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 report as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

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

MOTION # 4 - Meyer moved, seconded by Hergott to approve the 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 Hoffman to approve the report as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

AGENCY REPORTS

NARD Report – Lyle Heinrichs: Heinrichs presented information on how the NARD Risk Pool will contribute to the purchase of a building for the NARD.

NRCS Report – Janet Valasek: Valasek gave report on happenings at the NRCS.

DISTRICT AUDIT: AUDITORS REPORT

Christy Haddan of Schulz and Associates reviewed the 2020 audits for the Little Blue NRD, Water Project North and Water Project South.

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Water Resources Committee met December 3, 2020.

Hein Co. “Nitrogen Fertilizer Restrictions” Complaint: A complaint was received about Hein Co. violating the “Nitrogen Fertilizer Restriction”. **MOTION # 6 – Shaw moved, seconded by Hoffman to send a letter of violation to Hein Co. Farms and to open the District’s Rules and Regulations in the future to look at the Violations, Enforcement & Penalties section to clarify the wording.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Glenn, Hergott, Hoffman, Kellogg, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Shaw, Taylor, Trausch, VonSpreckelsen, Wiedel and Kimle. Abstain: Heinrichs, Hoops and Kissinger.

Static Water Levels (Orvis): Orvis presented a report on the fall static water levels.

Other Business: Hauschild discussed possible changes to the District’s Rules & Regulations regarding violations, enforcement and penalties wording.

PROJECTS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

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

Discussion and Possible Motion to Approve Funding for Deshler Flood Study: Discussion was held on the possible funding for another Deshler Flood Study. The Committee tabled the discussion.

Motion to Approve Prices for Services: The updated price list for the products and services provided by the NRD was presented for approval. **MOTION # 7 – VonSpreckelsen moved, seconded by Meyer to approve the Product and Services Price List for 2021 as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Motion to Approve Recreation Area Rule Changes: Changes to the District’s Rec Area Rules were presented for approval. **MOTION # 8 – VonSpreckelsen moved, seconded by Hoffman to approve the changes to the District’s Rec Area Rules as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Other Business: There was no other business.

Kimle introduced Jessi Hoeft and Courtney Peeler who will join the Board in January. Kimle then recognized outgoing members Everett Kellogg and Charles Rainforth. Joe Hergott was recognized for 40 years of service as a Director.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were made.

OTHER BUSINESS

Schroer noted he had some personnel issues he would like to discuss.

Epps gave an update on the online reporting project with Beehive.

Hoffman asked to present a change to Operating Policy No. 15. Discussion was held. **MOTION # 9 – Kimle moved, seconded by Wiedel to send the changes to Operating Policy No 15 to Executive Committee.** Failed by roll call vote. Yes: Glenn, Hergott, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Wiedel and Kimle. No: Heinrichs, Hoffman, Hoops, Kellogg, Kissinger, Shaw, Taylor, Trausch and VonSpreckelsen.

MOTION # 10 – Hoffman moved, seconded by Hoops to approve changes to Operating Policy # 15 as written by the Upper Big Blue.

Discussion was held. **MOTION # 11 – Hoffman moved, seconded by Shaw to amend the previous motion to remove the final sentence of the proposed change.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Glenn, Heinrichs, Hoffman, Hoops, Kellogg, Kissinger, Taylor, Trausch and VonSpreckelsen. No: Hergott, Meyer, Rainforth, Schroer, Shaw, Wiedel and Kimle.

MOTION # 12 – Schroer moved, seconded by Hoffman to go into Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Executive Session called for the purpose of discussing personnel.

MOTION # 13 – Hoffman moved, seconded by VonSpreckelsen to come out of Executive Session at 9:18 p.m. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

ADJOURNMENT

Kimle adjourned the meeting at 9:19 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 8, 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.
