

LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

Minutes

May 12th, 2026

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Jesse VonSpreckelsen

The Directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, May 12th, 2026, at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Board President VonSpreckelsen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL DIRECTORS

Directors Present: Glen Bredthauer, Stewart Brinegar, Bill Glenn, Jessi Hoeft, Mason Hoffman, Brent Hoops, Alan Kenning, Kyle Knight, Russ Ochsner, Neal Onnen, Aaron Paus, Lyle Schroer, Steve Shaw, Warren Taylor, Lawrence Walker, Jesse VonSpreckelsen.

Others Present: Scott Nelson, Tyler Goeschel, Kevin Orvis, Sara Schram, Jessica Hedges, Janet Valasek.

VonSpreckelsen 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

VonSpreckelsen 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 –Paus moved to approve the agenda for the May 12th, 2026, meeting as presented, seconded by Ochsner. Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes, Knight abstained.

ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

MOTION #2 –Ochsner moved to approve consent agenda items, seconded by Hoffman. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes.

Acceptance of Board Member Absences: Glen Bonifas

Approval of Minutes of April 14th, 2026, Board Meeting

Approval of Certified Acres: There were no certified acres.

TREASURERS REPORTS – Alan Kenning

Copies of the Little Blue NRD Treasurer's Report were circulated. Kenning reviewed the report. MOTION # 3 - Kenning moved to approve the Little Blue NRD Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Ochsner. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Kenning reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project Treasurer's Report. MOTION # 4 - Kenning moved to approve the Little Blue Public Water Project Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Taylor. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS Report – Janet Valasek gave a brief report on NRCS activities.

NARD Report – Mason Hoffman gave a brief report on NARD.

NRC Report – Lyle Schroer gave a brief report on NRC.

STAFF REPORTS – Scott Nelson gave a brief Managers Report on NRD happenings.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT – There was no public comment.

Discussion/Action on the Purchase of Board Room Furniture – Nelson reviewed the proposed new board room furniture. **MOTION #5 – Hoffman moved to approve purchase of Board Room Furniture, seconded by Knight.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes.

Discussion/Action to Review and Approve Bids for LBPWP Bid Package #1. – Chris Miller with Miller & Associates reviewed the bids for LBPWP Bid Package #1 for Wells and Controls. **MOTION #6 – Paus moved to approve the low bid from Sargent Irrigation at \$1,666,022.00, seconded by Kenning.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes, Glenn abstained.

Discussion/Action to Review and Approve Bids for LBPWP Bid Package #2. – Miller reviewed the bids for LBPWP Bid Package #2 for Transmission Main and Booster Pump Station. **MOTION # 7 – Shaw moved to approve the low bid from Van Kirk Bros. Contracting at \$5,958,765.00, seconded by Hoffman.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes, Glenn abstained.

Discussion/Action to Review and Approve Bids for LBPWP Bid Package #3. – Miller reviewed the bids for LBPWP Bid Package #3 for a Ground Storage Tank. **MOTION #8 – Hoffman moved to approve the low bid package A from Van Kirk Bros. Contraction at \$408,195.00, seconded by Ochsner.** Carried by roll call vote – 9 yes votes, Bredthauer, Brinegar, Hoeft, Knight, and Paus – no, Glenn abstained.

2026 SPRING WATER LEVELS REPORT – Orvis reviewed the 2026 spring water level reports. Hydrogeologic Unit 2, having remained below the trigger level for 2 consecutive years, will move into allocations per our Rules and Regulations.

Discussion/Action on the Drilling of a Dual Cased Borehole Well near Edgar. – Knight presented information on a potential commercial well near Edgar. **MOTION #9 – Hoffman moved to support the project as presented, seconded by Paus.** Carried by roll call vote, 15 yes votes, Knight abstained.

Discussion/Action on GWMP Rule Changes – Nelson reviewed potential changes to the GWMP Rules. **MOTION # 10 – Hoffman moved to approve the GWMP Rule Changes, seconded by Walker.** Carried by roll call vote, 15 yes votes, Schroer – no.

Discussion/Action to set a Public Hearing Date & Time for GWMP and Recreation Area Rule Changes – Goeschel proposed July 14th at 6:30 pm and 6:45 pm for the Public Hearing Date & Time. **MOTION # 11 – Walker moved to set a Public Hearing Date & Time for GWMP and Recreation Area Rule Changes on July 14th, 2026 at 6:30 pm and 6:45 pm, seconded by Hoffman.** Carried by roll call vote, 15 yes votes, Schroer – no.

Discussion/Review of FY 2027 Budget – Nelson gave a brief overview of the upcoming budget for FY 2027.
No action was taken.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

VonSpreckelsen adjourned the meeting at 8:33 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 May 12th, 2026, 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.
