

LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Minutes **June 14, 2022**

OPENING OF MEETING – Alan Wiedel

The Directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, June 14, 2022, at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Chairman Wiedel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Wiedel led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Oath of Office was taken by Alan Kenning.

Roll call was held.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Board members present:

Glen Bredthauer, Bill Glenn, Lyle Heinrichs, Jessi Hoeft, Mason Hoffman, Brent Hoops, Alan Kenning, Jay Meyer, Lyle Schroer, Warren Taylor, Robert Trausch, Steve Shaw, and Alan Wiedel.

Board members absent:

Marlin Kimle, Courtney Luebben and Jesse VonSpreckelsen.

OTHERS PRESENT

Scott Nelson, Tyler Goeschel, Marie Herbek, Kevin Orvis, Erika Brinegar, Kathy Boysen; Don Blankenau, legal counsel; Janet Valasek, NRCS; 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 Hoffman to approve the agenda for the June 14, 2022, meeting as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Acceptance of Board Member Absences: Kimle, Luebben and VonSpreckelsen had notified the office of their intended absence.

Approval of Minutes of May 10th, 2022, Board Meeting: There were no changes to the minutes.

Approval of Certified Acres: No changes to certified acres were presented.

MOTION # 2 – Schroer moved, seconded by Taylor to approve the absences of Kimle, Luebben and VonSpreckelsen and the May 10, 2022, minutes as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 13 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 Shaw to approve the Little Blue NRD Treasurer's Report as presented. Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Bredthauer, Glenn, Hoeft, Hoffman, Hoops, Kenning, Meyer, Schroer, Shaw, Taylor, Trausch and Wiedel. Abstain: Heinrichs.

Meyer reviewed the Little Blue Public Water North Project Treasurer's Report. **MOTION # 4 - Meyer moved, seconded by Heinrichs to approve the Little Blue Public Water Project North Treasurer's report as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

Meyer reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project - South Treasurer's Report. **MOTION # 5 - Meyer moved, seconded by Hoops to approve the Little Blue Public Water Project South Treasurer's report as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

AGENCY REPORTS

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

NARD Report – Mason Hoffman: Hoffman and Heinrichs reported on the Basin Tour and NARD Board meeting held in Scottsbluff.

PRESENTATION OF DIRECTOR SERVICE AWARDS

Several service awards were presented to Directors. Alan Kenning accepted the award for Joe Hergott's 42 years of service, Robert Trausch for 4 years of service, Lyle Heinrichs for 28 years of service. Kevin Kissinger was absent to accept his award for 8 years of service.

ACTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION – LEGAL COUNSEL DISCUSSION

MOTION # 6 - Hoffman moved, seconded by Schroer to go into Executive Session at 7:22 p.m. for the purpose of discussing legal issues and that Mary Renn, Scott Nelson and Don Blankenau remain in the closed session. Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

Executive Session called for the purpose of discussing legal issues. Members of the public left the session.

ACTION TO EXIT CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION # 7 – Hoffman moved, seconded by Bredthauer to come out of Executive Session at 7:51 p.m. Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

Wiedel stated no action was taken during the closed session.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

Discussion/Action 414 (H) Retirement Plan Resolution: An updated Participation Agreement and Resolution for the NARD 414 (H) retirement plan was presented for approval. **MOTION # 8 – Wiedel moved, seconded by Shaw to approve the Nebraska Association of Resources District 414(H) Plan Participation Agreement and Little Blue NRD Board of Directors Resolution and authorize their signature.** Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

Discussion/Action 457 Retirement Plan Resolution: An updated Participation Agreement and Resolution for the NARD 457 retirement plan was presented for approval. **MOTION # 9 – Wiedel moved, seconded by Hoffman to approve the Nebraska Association of Resources District 457 Plan Participation Agreement and Little Blue NRD Board of Directors Resolution and authorize their signature.** Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes

Discussion/Action to Consider Increasing the District’s Liability Insurance Coverage: No action was taken.

Discussion/Action to Declare a Board Member Vacancy in Sub-District 5: Kevin Kissinger submitted a resignation letter as a member of the board of Directors. **MOTION # 10 – Meyer moved, seconded by Hoffman to accept the resignation of Kevin Kissinger with regret as a member of the board of directors and so declare a vacancy om Sub-District 5 and advertize for replacement candidates per guidelines of our Operating Policy.** Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

Discussion/Action FY 2023 Budget & Salaries: Nelson provided information to use when considering an amount to be included in the FY 2023 budget for staff salaries. **MOTION # 11 – Wiedel moved, seconded by Hoffman to authorize 7% salary increase for all staff for FY 2023.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Bredthauer, Glenn, Hoeft, Hoffman, Hoops, Kenning, Meyer, Shaw, Taylor, Trausch and Wiedel. No: Heinrichs and Schroer.

Other Business: There was no other business.

PROJECTS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Projects and Planning Committee did not have a report. Brinegar mentioned the committee would begin looking at a 5-year plan of projects and a meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Water Resources Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

Discussion/Action ARK Transfer Permit: One transfer permit variance request was received from ARK Farms. After discussion the request was tabled until the new well is test pumped in August or September.

Review of Conditional Use Rules: The Conditional Use Rules of the District’s Groundwater Management Plan was reviewed at the request of board members. No action was taken to make changes.

Other Business: There was no other business.

OTHER BUSINESS

Bill Glenn asked the board to be more vocal in advocating Best Management Practices throughout the NRD. Discussion was held.

ADJOURNMENT

Wiedel adjourned the meeting at 8:24 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 June 14, 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.
