

**LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**  
**Minutes** **June 8, 2021**

**OPENING OF MEETING – Marlin Kimle**

The Directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Chairman Kimle called the meeting to order at 7:20 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, Kevin Kissinger, Jay Meyer, Lyle Schroer, Steve Shaw, Warren Taylor, Robert Trausch, Jesse VonSpreckelsen, Alan Wiedel, Jay Wilder and Marlin Kimle.

**Directors absent:**

Courtney Peeler.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Scott Nelson, Marie Herbek, Kevin Orvis; Don Blankenau, legal counsel; Janet Valasek representing 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 – Schroer moved, seconded by Taylor to approve the agenda for the June 8, 2021 meeting as presented.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

**ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

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

Approval of Minutes of May 11, 2021 Board Meeting: There were no changes to the minutes.

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

**MOTION # 2 – Heinrichs moved, seconded by Schroer to approve the minutes of May 11, 2021 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 Kissinger to approve the Little Blue NRD Treasurer’s 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 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: Valasek gave a brief report on the happenings at the NRCS.

NARD Report: Hoffman reported on the NARD directors meeting held May 7.

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

Discussion/Action to Create a Resolution Related to Executive Order 14008 “Tracking the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad”. Discussion was held on creating a resolution to address Executive Order 14008.

**MOTION # 6 – Hoffman moved, seconded by Schroer to have legal counsel draft a resolution addressing Executive Order 14008 and present it at the July meeting.** Failed by roll call vote. Yes: Glenn, Hergott, Hoffman, Meyer, Schroer, Wiedel and Kimle. No: Heinrichs, Hoeft, Hoops, Kissinger, Shaw, Taylor, Trausch, VonSpreckelsen and Wilder.

Discussion/Review Draft FY 2022 Budget: Nelson gave an overview of some items to be included in the FY 2022 budget.

Discussion/Action on FY 2022 Budget Salaries & Benefits: Executive Session will be held at the end of the meeting.

Other Business: There was no other business.

### **PROJECTS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

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

Discussion/Action on Land Acquisition for Little Blue Valley Water System: Nelson gave an update on the progress of the LBVWS land acquisition. **MOTION # 7 – VonSpreckelsen moved, seconded by Shaw for Nelson to pursue legal adoptions with legal counsel for the negotiation and possible purchase of land for the Little Blue Valley Water System wells.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Motion to Amend Cost Share Agreement for Phil Neuerburg Dam Repair: The Phil Neuerburg Dam repair had been approved for 75% of total cost not to \$33,525.56. After delay of the repair DNR has since declared the dam to be a high hazard dam which would increase the cost of repair. Discussion was held. **MOTION # 8 – VonSpreckelsen moved, seconded by Shaw to approve increasing cost share on the Phil Neuerburg Dam repair to 75% of total cost not to exceed \$50,000.** Carried by roll call vote: Yes: Glenn, Hoeft, Hoffman, Hoops, Kissinger, Meyer, Schroer, Shaw, Taylor, Trausch, VonSpreckelsen, Wiedel, Wilder and Kimle. No: Heinrichs. Abstain: Hergott.

Motion to Approve Phase III of IV Reynolds Drainage Project for \$14,655.10:

Motion to Approve Phase III of V Belvidere Drainage Project for \$7,072.06:

Motion to Approve Phase IV of VI of Shickley Drainage Project for \$8,750.

**MOTION # 9 – VonSpreckelsen moved, seconded by Kissinger to approve Phase III of IV Reynolds Drainage Project in the amount of \$14,655.10, Phase III if V Belvidere Drainage Project in the amount of \$7,072.06 and Phase IV of VI Shickley Drainage Project in the amount of \$8,750.00.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Discussion/Action on Decision of Soliciting Hay Bids at Select District Owned Properties:  
Discussion was held as to whether the District should offer some of the recreation area grass to be hayed. **MOTION # 10 – VonSpreckelsen moved, seconded by Kissinger for staff to solicit hay bids on select district owned properties and present the bids at the July meeting.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Other Business: There was no other business.

## **WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

The Water Resources Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

Discussion/Action to Provide a Letter of Support to the Nature Conservancy Towards Applying for a Grant for the “Farming The Blue River Project”: The Nature Conservancy requested the District’s support of their proposal to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Conservation Partners Program, titled “Farming for the Blue River”. No action was taken by the Committee.

Well Variance Request from Consolidated Sand & Gravel Company in Jefferson County: Consolidated Sand & Gravel requested a well variance to construct a well located in Subarea 8. **MOTION # 11 – Shaw moved, seconded by Hoffman to approve a well variance for Consolidated Sand & Gravel located in Subarea 8 in Jefferson County.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Other Business: There was no other business.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were received.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**MOTION # 12 – VonSpreckelsen moved, seconded by Kissinger to go into Executive Session at 8:55 for the purpose of discussing personnel.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Executive Session called at 8:55 for the purposed to discuss personnel.

**MOTION # 13 – Hoffman moved, seconded by VonSpreckelsen to come out of Executive Session at 9:10.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Kimle adjourned the meeting at 9:10 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 8, 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.

\_\_\_\_\_