

# LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

## Minutes

June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026

### CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Jesse VonSpreckelsen

The Directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, June 9th, 2026, at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Board President VonSpreckelsen called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ROLL CALL DIRECTORS

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

Others Present: Scott Nelson, Tyler Goeschel, Kevin Orvis, Sara Schram, Jessica Hedges, Ryan Hellbusch, 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 –Ochsner moved to approve the agenda for the June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026, meeting as presented, seconded by Hoffman. Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes.

### ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

MOTION #2 –Schroer moved to approve consent agenda items, seconded by Hoffman. Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes.

Acceptance of Board Member Absences: Aaron Paus, Lawrence Walker

In Memoriam: The Board acknowledges with deep sadness the passing of Director Stewart Brinegar.

Approval of Minutes of May 12<sup>th</sup>, 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 Bredthauer. Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes, Taylor abstained.

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 Shaw.**  
Carried by roll call vote – 14 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 to Ratify Bond Purchase Agreement for Little Blue Public Water Project–. **MOTION #5 – Hoefft made a motion to (a) amend the resolution adopted by the board on June 11, 2024 to include the Treasurer within the definition of “Authorized Officers” as set forth in such resolution and (b) ratify, confirm and approve the Treasurer’s execution and delivery of the Bond Purchase Agreement, dated May 29, 2026, relating to the District’s Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2026, as an official act of the board.**  
Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes, Glenn abstained.

Discussion/Action to Create a Gravity to SDI Conversion Cost Share Program. – Goeschel suggested to the Board the possibility of creating a Cost Share Program to encourage farmers to convert Gravity Irrigation to SDI Conversion. No formal action was taken by the Board.

Review/Discussion on Draft FY 2027 Budget. – Nelson reviewed the first draft of FY 2027 Budget.

Discussion/Action on FY 2027 Salaries & Benefits. – Nelson reviewed two potential Salary Increase options – **MOTION #6 – Hoffman moved to enter Executive Session at 8:30 pm to discuss FY 2027 Salaries & Benefits seconded by Hoefft.** Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes.

**MOTION #7 – Hoffman moved to end Executive Session at 8:39 pm, seconded by Schroer.** Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes.

**MOTION #8 – Ochsner moved to approve salary increases of 3% and \$10,000 in merit increases, seconded by Kenning.** Carried by roll call vote – 14 yes votes.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

VonSpreckelsen adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

