

LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

Minutes

July 8, 2021

OPENING OF MEETING – Marlin Kimle

The Directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Chairman Kimle called the meeting to order at 7:10 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, Brent Hoops, Kevin Kissinger, Courtney Luebben, Lyle Schroer, Steve Shaw, Warren Taylor, Robert Trausch, Jesse VonSpreckelsen, Alan Wiedel, Jay Wilder and Marlin Kimle.

Directors absent:

Mason Hoffman and Jay Meyer.

OTHERS PRESENT

Scott Nelson, Tyler Goeschel, Marie Herbek, Kevin Orvis, Erika Brinegar; Don Blankenau, legal counsel; Janet Valasek representing NRCS; Chris Miller of Miller & Associates; 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 Kissinger to approve the agenda for the July 13, 2021 meeting as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Acceptance of Board Member Absences: Hoffman and Meyer notified the office of their intended absence.

Approval of Minutes of June 8, 2021 Board Meeting: There were no changes to the minutes.

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

MOTION # 2 – Shay moved, seconded by Taylor to approve the minutes of June 8, 2021 as circulated. Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

ACTION ON TREASURER’S REPORT – Alan Wiedel

Copies of the Little Blue NRD Treasurer's Report were circulated. Wiedel reviewed the report.

MOTION # 3 - Wiedel moved, seconded by Heinrichs to approve the Little Blue NRD Treasurer’s Report as presented. Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Glenn, Heinrichs, Hergott, Hoeft, Hoops, Luebben, Schroer, Shaw, Taylor, Trausch, VonSpreckelsen, Wiedel, Wilder and Kimle. Abstain: Kissinger.

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

MOTION # 4 - Wiedel moved, seconded by Hergott to approve the Little Blue Public Water Project - North Treasurer’s Report as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

Wiedel reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project - South Treasurer's Report.

MOTION # 5 - Wiedel moved, seconded by Kissinger to approve the Little Blue Public Water Project - South Treasurer’s Report as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS Report: Valasek gave a brief report on the happenings at the NRCS.

NARD Report: No report was presented.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

Discussion/Action on Adams County FY 2022 Mill Levy Request: **MOTION # 6 - Heinrichs moved, seconded by Schroer to adopt the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that, in accordance with State Statute 77-3443, the Little Blue Natural Resources District Board of Directors hereby requests a fiscal year 2022 levy allocation of \$1,938,767.72 and authorize the Chairman to sign.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

Discussion/Review Draft FY 2022 Budget: Nelson reviewed the Projects and Planning, Groundwater and Research and Education FY 2022 budgets. Discussion was held.

Discussion/Action on FY 2022 Salaries & Benefits: **MOTION # 7 - Heinrichs moved, seconded by VonSpreckelsen to approve the proposed FY 2022 salary adjustments.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

Discussion/Action to Review Amendment to Financial Policy 27: Changes to the Operating Policy # 27 was presented for approval. **MOTION # 8 – Shaw moved, seconded by Kissinger to repeal Operating Policy # 27 and adopt the proposed Operating Policy # 27.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

Discussion/Action to Create a Resolution Related to Executive Order 14008 “Tracking the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad”. Discussion was held, no action was taken until further information is gathered.

Other Business: There was no other business.

PROJECTS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

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

Discussion/Action to Approve Hay Bids at Select District Owned Properties: Bids were accepted for the cutting and hay removal on District properties. Bids were received for four of the five sites advertised.

MOTION # 9 – VonSpreckelsen moved, seconded by Shaw to accept the high bids for hay removal at Liberty Cove, Bruning Dam, Roseland Lake, Prairie Lake and Lone Star. Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

Discussion/Action to Approve a Resolution for the Little Blue Valley Water System: A Resolution to create an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Fairbury and the Little Blue NRD was presented for approval. **MOTION # 10 – VonSpreckelsen moved, seconded by Luebben to approve the Resolution creating an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Fairbury and the Little Blue NRD and authorized the Chairman to sign the Resolution.** Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

Discussion/Review Draft FY 2022 Budget: VonSpreckelsen reviewed the FY 2022 budget.

Other Business: There was no other business.

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Water Resources Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

Discussion/Review Draft FY 2022 Budget: The FY 2022 budget was reviewed by Shaw. The meter maintenance program was discussed.

Other Business: A complaint has been made on new well development, discussion was held and staff will do further research.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were received.

OTHER BUSINESS

Schroer noted concerns have been made regarding the entrance into Liberty Cove. Staff indicated they have already been making plans to repair this.

ADJOURNMENT

Kimle adjourned the meeting at 8:25 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 July 13, 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.
