

LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT **Minutes** **August 11th, 2026**

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Jesse VonSpreckelsen

The Directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, August 11th, 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.

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR IN SUB-DISTRICT 7

Dietrich Brinegar submitted a letter of interest to fill the vacancy in Sub-District 7 and is present at this meeting.

MOTION #1 – Hoffman moved to appoint Dietrich Brinegar as the Director for Sub-District 7, seconded by Ochsner. Carried by roll call vote – 15 yes votes.

Brinegar was administered the Oath of Office and was seated as a voting member of the Board.

ROLL CALL DIRECTORS

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

Others Present: Scott Nelson, Tyler Goeschel, Kevin Orvis, Sara Schram, Alicia Epps, Jessica Hedges, Ryan Hellbusch, Jonathan Silva, Alexa Davis, Kennon Meyer.

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 #2 –Ochsner moved to approve the agenda for the August 11th, 2026, meeting as presented, seconded by Kenning. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

MOTION #3 –Hoffman moved to approve consent agenda items, seconded by Knight. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes.

Acceptance of Board Member Absences: Lawrence Walker

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

Approval of Certified Acres: Alicia Epps presented Certified Acres to the Board.

TREASURERS REPORTS – Alan Kenning

Copies of the Little Blue NRD Treasurer's Report were circulated. Kenning reviewed the report. **MOTION # 4 - Kenning moved to approve the Little Blue NRD Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Shaw.** Carried by roll call vote – 12 yes votes.

Kenning reviewed the Little Blue Public Water Project Treasurer's Report. **MOTION # 5 - Kenning moved to approve the Little Blue Public Water Project Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Glenn.** Carried by roll call vote – 12 yes votes.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS Report – Jonathan Silva gave a brief report on NRCS activities.

NARD Report – Mason Hoffman gave an update on NARD Benefits.

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

STAFF REPORTS – Scott Nelson gave a brief Managers Report on NRD and Water Project happenings, and recognized Jessica Hedges for achieving 5 years of service with the District.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT – There was no public comment.

ONE RED PRESENTATION

Alexa Davis, with NDWEE, gave a presentation on the new One Red program that the state is administering. This comes from a Federal Grant that the State received.

Discussion/Action on a Variance Request located in the NW1/4 16-4N-06W. Orvis presented information on the variance request. - **MOTION #6 – Shaw moved to Approve the Variance Request located in the NW1/4 16-4N-06W, seconded by Ochsner.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Discussion/Action on LBPWP Billing Software Quotes. Hellbusch presented information on 4 quotes that were received for the Water Project Billing Software – **MOTION #7 – Hoffman moved to approve the quote received by GWorks, after staff confirms potential yearly price increases, seconded by Paus.** Carried by roll call vote, 16 yes votes.

FY 2027 BUDGET REVIEW

Nelson went over the proposed budget for FY 2027 and answered questions. No formal action was taken.

Discussion/Action to Approve a 1% Increase to Restricted Fund Allowance. – Nelson reviewed the basics of a LID Exceptions. **MOTION #7 – Glenn moved to Approve a 1% Increase to Restricted Fund Allowance, seconded by Hoffman.** Motion failed by roll call vote, 14 no votes, Glenn and Hoeft - yes.

Discussion/Action to Advance FY 2027 Budget to Hearing Stage in September-MOTION #8 – Kenning moved to advance the FY 2027 Budget to the Hearing Stage in September, seconded by Brinegar. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

Executive Session. MOTION #9 – Knight moved to enter into Executive Session at 8:22 pm to discuss Potential and On-Going Litigation, seconded by Hoffman. Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

End Executive Session. **MOTION #10 – Hoffman moved to end the Executive Session at 9:00 pm, seconded by Schroer.** Carried by roll call vote – 16 yes votes.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

VonSpreckelsen adjourned the meeting at 9:04 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 14th, 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.
