

LITTLE BLUE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Minutes **September 10, 2024**

6:30 PM – Public Hearing on Proposed FY 2025 Budgets

Open Hearing & Public Notice

Wiedel opened the public hearing for the FY 25 budget review at 6:37 p.m. and presented the publication of notice placed in the Hastings Tribune on September 3, 2024, and the Fairbury Journal-News on September 4, 2024.

Presentation of proposed FY 2025 Budget of Little Blue Public Water Project and LBNRD

Nelson reviewed the FY 2025 budgets of the Little Blue NRD.

Questions, Comments, Testimony

There were no questions, comments or testimony.

Close of Hearing

Wiedel closed the hearing at 6:44 p.m.

6:45 PM – Public Hearing to Set the FY 2025 Budget Final Tax Request

Open Hearing & Public Notice

Wiedel opened the public hearing to set the FY 25 budget final tax request at 6:45 p.m. and presented the publication of notice placed in the Hastings Tribune on September 3, 2024, and the Fairbury Journal-News on September 4, 2024. Nelson reviewed the FY 2025 tax request and mill levy.

Questions, Comments, Testimony

No questions, comments or testimony were received.

Close of Hearing

Wiedel closed the hearing at 6:48 p.m.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Alan Wiedel

The Directors of the Little Blue Natural Resources District met in regular session on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at the Little Blue Natural Resources District Office, Davenport, Nebraska. Chairman Wiedel called the meeting to order at 6:48 p.m.

Wiedel led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

Directors Present: Glen Bonifas, Glen Bredthauer, Bill Glenn, Mason Hoffman, Brent Hoops, Alan Kenning, Courtney Luebben, Jay Meyer, Russ Ochsner, Steve Shaw, Warren Taylor, Jesse VonSpreckelsen and Alan Wiedel.

Director's Absent: Jessi Hoefl, Kyle Knight, Aaron Paus and Lyle Schroer.

Others Present: Scott Nelson, Tyler Goeschel, Marie Herbek, Kevin Orvis, Jessica Hedges, Alicia Epps, Kathy Boysen; Janet Valasek, NRCS; members of the public.

Wiedel 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

Wiedel 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, seconded by Hoffman to approve the agenda for the September 10, 2024 meeting as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Acceptance of Board Member Absences: Hoeft, Knight, Paus and Schroer notified the office of their intended absence.

Approval of Minutes of August 13th, 2024 Board Meeting: There were no changes to the minutes.

Approval of Certified Acres: A list of certified acres changes was presented, discussion was held.

MOTION # 2 – Kenning moved, seconded by Hoffman to approve the absence of Hoeft, Knight, Paus and Schroer, the minutes of the August 13, 2024 meeting as presented and the certified acre changes. Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

TREASURERS REPORTS – Bill Glenn

Copies of the Little Blue NRD Treasurer's Report was circulated. Glenn reviewed the report.

MOTION # 3 - Glenn moved, seconded by Bonifas to approve the Little Blue NRD Treasurer's Report as presented. Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

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

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS Report – Janet Valasek: Valasek gave a brief report on happenings at the NRCS and answered questions.

NARD Report – Mason Hoffman: Hoffman reported he will be attending the NARD Conference on September 23 – 24.

NRC Report – Lyle Schroer: Schroer was absent.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

John Ferebee inquired about the reason the Rural Water Project is seeking a new water source.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

Discussion/Action on Accounting Proposals: Bids to out-source the district's accounting were solicited, one bid was received. **MOTION # 5 – Wiedel moved, seconded by Hoffman to accept the bid from HBE Accounting for providing accounting and budget service to the district.** Carried by roll call vote. Yes: Bonifas, Bredthauer, Glenn, Hoffman, Hoops, Kenning, Luebben, Meyer, Ochsner, Taylor, VonSpreckelsen and Wiedel. No: Shaw.

Action to Approve FY 2025 Property & Liability Insurance Renewal Quote: The quote for renewal of property insurance was presented for approval. **MOTION # 6 – Wiedel moved, seconded by Meyer to approve FY 2025 property & insurance liability renewal quote from FNIC.** Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

Action to Approve FY 2025 Little Blue NRD Water Projects and District General Budgets: The Little Blue NRD and Little Blue Public Water Project FY 2025 budgets were presented for approval. **MOTION # 7 – Wiedel moved, seconded by Hoops to approve the FY 2025 Little Blue NRD budget in the amount of \$15,338,007 with a tax asking of 2,120,301.52 and the Little Blue Public Water Project budget in the amount of \$10,648,079.** Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

Action to Approve FY 2025 Little Blue NRD General Property Tax Levy: **MOTION # 8 – Wiedel moved, seconded by Shaw that the Little Blue NRD Board of Directors accept the Resolution on the final adoption of FY 2025 budget and property tax request of \$2,120,301.52 which will require a property tax levy rate of 0.019037.** Carried by roll call vote – 13 yes votes.

Other Business: There was no other business.

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Water Resources Committee met prior to the regular meeting.

Discussion/Action on Variance Request by Glen Maschman: No action was needed.

Review 2024 Nitrate Report: Goeschel reviewed the 2024 Nitrate Report compiled from water samples taken across the district. After discussion it was decided to address the possibility of expanding the Bruning Water Quality Sub-area at the October meeting. **MOTION # 9 – Hoops moved, seconded by Luebben to address the possibility of expanding the Bruning Water Quality Sub-area at the October meeting.**

Other Business: Further discussion was held on the requirements of each sub-area designation and possibly having a guest speaker to explain options.

PROJECTS & PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Projects and Planning Committee did not meet.

OTHER BUSINESS

Nelson reported on the Manager's meeting held August 26 – 28 in Beatrice and reviewed the Manager's Report.

ADJOURNMENT

Wiedel adjourned the meeting at 7:55 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 September 10, 2024, 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.
