

**MINUTES OF
LOWER ELKHORN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

7:30 p.m., Thursday, February 22, 2018

Lower Elkhorn NRD

601 East Benjamin, Norfolk, Nebraska

The Board of Directors Meeting of the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District was called to order by Chairman Dennis Schultz on Thursday, February 22, 2018 at the Lower Elkhorn NRD, 601 East Benjamin, Norfolk, Nebraska. Chairman Schultz informed the Board and those attending of the Publication of Meeting Notice in the Norfolk Daily News on February 15, 2018 and the Nebraska Open Meetings Act information posted.

Roll call was taken by Administrative Supervisor Vickie DeJong with 14 of 15 Directors present. Present: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Absent: Barr.

Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Hansen to excuse the absence of Jill Barr. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Schultz. Nay: Steffen. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Hansen and seconded by Huntley to adopt the agenda. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: None. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

A Public Hearing was held regarding the Certification of Acres. Refer to the minutes for Certification of Acres Public Hearing.

Motion was made by Korth and seconded by Janke to enter into Executive Session for the protection of public interest due to strategy planning. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: None. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

Chairman Schultz stated that the Board would move into Executive Session for the protection of public interest due to strategy planning and that the General Manager and Lower Elkhorn NRD Legal Counsel Don Blankenau be asked to stay.

Moved into Executive Session at 8:04 p.m.

Motion was made by Huntley and seconded by Janke to return to regular session. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: None. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

Reentered regular session at 9:04 p.m.

The reading and/or action on the minutes of the January 25, 2018 Board of Directors meeting was next on the agenda. Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Hansen that the minutes of the January 25, 2018 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: None. Absent:

Barr. Motion Carried.

The Finance Subcommittee report was given by Treasurer Dave Kathol. Motion was made by Kathol and seconded by Loftis to approve income in the amount of \$400,632.76 and expenses in the amount of \$504,875.45. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: Korth. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Kathol and seconded by Krueger to approve income in the amount of \$71,240.16 and expenses in the amount of \$30,710.15 for the Logan East Rural Water System as printed and distributed. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: None. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Kathol and seconded by Hansen to approve income in the amount of \$5,164.16 and expenses in the amount of \$3,543.48 for the Wau-Col Regional Water System. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: None. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

The conservation cost share report was given by Project Manager Curt Becker. A copy of the report is attached to the official minutes.

The Nebraska Association of Resources Districts report was given by Gary Loftis.

No Nebraska Natural Resources Commission report was given.

A Natural Resources Conservation Service report was given by Robin Sutherland, District Conservationist. (A copy of the report attached to the official minutes.)

Gary Loftis reported on the Loess Hills RC&D and Bob Huntly reported on the Northeast Nebraska RC&D. Annual reports of each RC&D were presented to the board.

The Bazile Groundwater Management Area report was given by Assistant Manager Brian Bruckner. A copy of Coordinator Phil Steinkamp's report is attached to the official minutes.

The Administrative Report was given by General Manager Mike Sousek. (A copy of the report attached to the official minutes.)

The Logan East Rural Water System Advisory Committee report was given by Gary Loftis. Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Gustafson to accept the bid of \$38,339.00 from McKinnis roofing and Sheet Metal for the replacement of roofs on the RWS Oakland office and three well houses, this includes a 20 year warranty. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: None. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Krueger to accept the Logan East Rural Water System Advisory Committee minutes of February 12, 2018. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: None. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

The Wau-Col Regional Water System Advisory Committee report was given by Joel Hansen. Motion was made by Hansen and seconded by Loftis to reappoint Gary Howey, Angie Ohlrich and Joel Hansen to a three year term on the Wau-Col Regional Water System Advisory Committee. Aye:

Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: None. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Hansen and seconded by Huntley to accept the Wau-Col Regional Water System Advisory Committee minutes of February 2, 2018. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: None. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

The Committee of the Whole report was given by Vice-Chairman Mike Krueger.

Dave Rus, USGS, gave a status report on the “Relating Harmful Algal Blooms to Potential Causes in Willow Creek Reservoir” study and Ben Dietsch updated the board on the report “Streamflow Trends in the Elkhorn River Basin”.

Katie Cameron, the Coordinator of the Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assessment (ENWRA), gave an update to the board on the upcoming AEM (Airborne Electromagnetic) flights.

Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Hansen to recommend to the board to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Aqua Geo Frameworks, not to exceed \$220,000, to complete additional AEM surveys in the District, in conjunction with the 2018 ENWRA AEM surveys. (Copy attached to official minutes.) Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: None. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Hansen to recommend to the board to amend the motion approved on July 27, 2017 to read: “To direct the staff to reserve up to \$75,000 of the remaining funds provided by the Lower Elkhorn Water and Soil Conservation Program – Application #4122 to be used to provide cost-share up to \$500 per flow meter for high-capacity wells classified for use as commercial/industrial, livestock, public water supply and any series of wells pumping greater than 50 gallons per minute, and to utilize available unreserved funds to provide cost-share in the amount of \$250 each, for the installation of flow meters on irrigation wells, on a first-come, first-served basis until unreserved funds are exhausted and require installation of flow meters within this category to be installed by December 31, 2017.” Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: None. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Janke to authorize the Chairman to sign the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Randolph for – US Army Corps of Engineers Section 205 - Middle Logan Creek channel enlargement / floodplain reduction project. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: None. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Korth to enter into Executive Session for the protection of reputation in regard to personnel issues. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Krueger, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen. Nay: Hansen, Loftis, Schultz. Present, Not Voting: Korth. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

Chairman Schultz stated that the Board would move into Executive Session for the protection of reputation in regard to personnel issues and that the General Manager be asked to stay.

Moved into Executive Session at 11:04 p.m.

Motion was made by Kathol and seconded by Hansen *to return to regular session*. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, Krueger, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Steffen, Schultz. Nay: None. Absent: Barr. Motion Carried.

Reentered regular session at 11:25 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 p.m.

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings had and done by the Board of Directors on February 22, 2018, that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting, the minutes of the Chairman and the Board were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body, that all news media requesting notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

Mark Hall, Secretary