

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

7:30 p.m., Thursday, March 26, 2020
Lower Elkhorn NRD
1508 Square Turn Blvd, Norfolk, Nebraska

The Board of Directors Meeting of the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District was called to order by Chairman Gary Loftis on Thursday, March 26, 2020 at the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District, 1508 Square Turn Blvd., Norfolk, Nebraska. Chairman Loftis informed the Board and those attending of the Publication of Meeting Notice in the Norfolk Daily News on March 21, 2020. As per the Governor's Executive Order 20-03 the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District Board of Directors meeting was held as an audio/video meeting only. A copy of the Open Meetings Act (Neb. Rev. State Statute 84-1407 through 84-1414) is posted at the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District office and a copy is available upon request.

Roll call was taken by Administrative Supervisor Vickie DeJong with 15 of 15 Directors present. Present: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Schultz, Steffen, Zimmerman, Loftis. Absent: None.

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

Chairman Loftis explained that when Past Chairman Dennis Schultz was elected Treasurer the position of Past Chairman opened on the Executive Board. Nominated for the Past Chairman position were Dave Kathol and Mark Hall. Roll call vote was held:

Hall: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hall, Korth, Noonan, Steffen. (7)

Kathol: Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, McHenry, Schultz, Zimmerman, Loftis. (8)

Dave Kathol was elected to the Past Chairman position on the Executive Board.

The reading and/or action on the minutes of the February 27, 2020 Board of Directors meeting was next on the agenda. Motion was made by Steffen and seconded by Kathol that the minutes of the February 27, 2020 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Schultz, Steffen, Zimmerman, Loftis. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

The Finance Subcommittee report was given by Treasurer Dennis Schultz. Motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Huntley to approve income in the amount of \$290,563.24 and expenses in the amount of \$711,688.18. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Schultz, Steffen, Zimmerman, Loftis. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Kathol to approve income in the amount of \$93,627.76 and expenses in the amount of \$41,452.85 for the Logan East Rural Water System as printed and distributed. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Schultz, Steffen, Zimmerman, Loftis. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Hansen to approve income in the amount of \$6,920.85 and expenses in the amount of \$4,413.82 for the Wau-Col Regional Water System. Aye:

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

Motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Kathol to approve the updated Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District Financial Operating Policy – Expenditures of Funds. (Copy attached to the official minutes.) Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Schultz, Steffen, Zimmerman, Loftis. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

A copy of the conservation cost share report is attached to the official minutes.

The Nebraska Association of Resources Districts report was given by Scott McHenry. He reported on the NARD Board Meeting held March 9 in Lincoln and legislative bills.

The Nebraska Natural Resources Commission report was submitted by Garry Anderson. (Copy attached to official minutes.)

The Natural Resources Conservation Service report was given by Robin Sutherland, District Conservationist. (Copy attached to official minutes.)

Kurt Janke reported on the Northeast Nebraska RC&D and Gary Loftis reported on the Loess Hills RC&D. (Copy attached to official minutes.)

The Bazile Groundwater Management Area report was given by Connor Baldwin, Bazile Groundwater Management Area Project Coordinator. (Copy attached to the official minutes.)

The Administrative Report was given by General Manager Mike Sousek. (Copy attached to the official minutes.)

The Logan East Rural Water System Advisory Committee report was given by Roger Gustafson. Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Clausen to accept the Logan East Rural Water System Advisory Committee minutes of March 9, 2020. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Schultz, Steffen, Zimmerman, Loftis. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

The Information, Planning, Programs, Projects, Equipment & Legislation Committee of the Whole report was given by Kurt Janke. Motion was made by Janke and seconded by Schultz to approve and authorize the General Manager to sign the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Scribner and Dodge County for the Elkhorn River Bank Stabilization Project. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Schultz, Steffen, Zimmerman, Loftis. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Janke and seconded by McHenry to approve the Battle Creek Watershed Improvement Project Work Plan – Environmental Assessment contract with JEO Consulting Group in an amount not to exceed \$390,000. The purpose of this contract is to develop an approved Watershed Flood Prevention Operations plan with NRCS. Aye: Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Schultz, Steffen, Zimmerman, Loftis. Nay: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hall. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

Members of the public expressed their comments to the board on the Battle Creek Watershed Improvement Project Work Plan.

Motion was made by Janke and seconded by Hansen to instruct the staff to develop an application for a new Watershed Flood Prevention Operations grant through the NRCS to ultimately develop a plan for the Maple Creek Watershed. Aye: Gustafson, Hall, Hansen, Huntley, Janke, Kathol, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Schultz, Steffen, Zimmerman, Loftis. Nay: Allemann, Clausen. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 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 March 26, 2020, 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.

Matt Steffen, Secretary

Others Present:
Greg Schmidt
Arlene Zohner