

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

7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 24, 2021

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 Mark Hall on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at the Lower Elkhorn NRD, 1508 Square Turn Blvd, Norfolk, Nebraska. Chairman Hall informed the Board and those attending of the Publication of Meeting Notice in the Norfolk Daily News on June 16, 2021.

Roll call was taken by Programs Coordinator Patty Martens with 13 of 14 Directors present. Present: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, Loftis, McHenry, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Absent: Noonan. Subdistrict 3 vacancy due to a resignation of Bob Huntley.

Motion was made by Hansen and seconded by Loftis to excuse the absence of Bob Noonan. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, Loftis, McHenry, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Noonan. Motion Carried.

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

Due to the director vacancy in Subdistrict 3, the board advertised for candidates to fill the vacancy. Applications have been received from two interested in the position. The directors interviewed Libby McKay and Anthony Wisnieski. At the conclusion of tonight's meeting the board will make the appointment to fill the Subdistrict 3 vacancy.

The reading and/or action on the minutes of the May 27, 2021 Board of Directors meeting was next on the agenda. Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Schultz that the minutes of the May 27, 2021 Board of Directors meetings be approved. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, Loftis, McHenry, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Noonan. Motion Carried.

The Finance Subcommittee report was given by Dennis Schultz. Motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Clausen to approve income in the amount of \$508,428.19 and expenses in the amount of \$697,481.41 for the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, Loftis, McHenry, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Noonan. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Loftis to approve income in the amount of \$109,690.15 and expenses in the amount of \$34,174.26 for the Logan East Rural Water System as printed and distributed. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, Loftis, McHenry, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Noonan. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Clausen *to approve income in the amount of \$8,326.26 and expenses in the amount of \$6,290.70 for the Wau-Col Regional Water System.* Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, Loftis, McHenry, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Noonan. 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 Joel Hansen. He reported on the NARD board meeting and basin tour held June 7-8 and hosted by Papio NRD.

The Nebraska Natural Resources Commission report was not given.

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

Gary Loftis reported on the Loess Hills RC&D. A copy is attached to the official minutes.

Whitney Gappa reported on the Bazile Groundwater Management Area. A report is attached to the official minutes.

The Administrative Report was given by General Manager Mike Sousek. A copy is attached to the official minutes.

A presentation was given by Dr. Chittaranjan Ray, Professor and Director of the Nebraska Water Center and Michael Kaiser, Assistant Professor of Soil and Water Sciences. The pair discussed many soil chemistry concepts and answered questions.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Loftis *to accept the Logan East Rural Water System Advisory Committee minutes of June 14, 2021.* Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, Loftis, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Noonan. Present Not Voting: McHenry. Motion Carried.

The Information, Planning, Programs, Projects, Equipment & Legislation Committee of the Whole report was given by Roger Gustafson.

Connor Baldwin, Groundwater Management Area Specialist, reported that all Annual Reports for Phase 2 and 3 in Pierce and Madison Counties have been turned in.

Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Korth *to reject all bids for the Willow Creek Dam Pore Pressure Mitigation – Phase 1 Project and to authorize the General Manager to sign a contract with Dietz Well for completion of 2 test holes and two production wells at Willow Creek Dam not to exceed \$92,240.00.* Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, Loftis, McHenry, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Noonan. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Hansen to ratify the submittal of the LR23 report that was requested from the LENRD Board of Directors by the Nebraska Legislature and put together by the staff of the LENRD. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, Loftis, McHenry, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Noonan. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Steffen and seconded by Loftis to accept the proposal from the University of Nebraska to conduct certain research related to Characterization of Groundwater Nitrate using Stable Isotope Analysis in the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District and to authorize the General Manager to sign the project agreement, not to exceed \$17,712.00, on behalf of the District. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, Loftis, McHenry, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Noonan. Motion Carried.

The Executive Board report was given by Roger Gustafson. Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Schultz to approve the Salary Allowance Adjustments of 5.60% and to approve the step and grade changes proposed by management for Fiscal Year 2022. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: Korth. Absent: Noonan. Motion Carried.

Chairman Hall reviewed the procedure for the appointment to the Board of Directors, Subdistrict 3. Voting was by voice vote according to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. The successful candidate must have the majority of those voting, 7 votes.

Anthony Wisnieski – 10: Jerry Allemann, Scott Clausen, Roger Gustafson, Kurt Janke, Chad Korth, Jay Reikofski, Dennis Schultz, Matt Steffen, Rod Zohner, Mark Hall

Libby McKay – 3: Joel Hansen, Gary Loftis, Scott McHenry

The oath of office was administered to Mr. Wisnieski.

Meeting adjourned at 9:54 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 June 24, 2021 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.

Jerry Allemann, Secretary

Others Present:
None