

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

7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 23, 2022

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 23, 2022, at the Lower Elkhorn NRD, 1508 Square Turn Blvd, Norfolk, Nebraska. Chairman Mark Hall informed the Board and those attending of the Publication of Meeting Notice in the Norfolk Daily News on June 15, 2022.

Roll call was taken by Administrative Assistant Patty Martens with 14 of 15 Directors present. Present: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner. Absent: Korth.

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

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

The reading and/or action on the minutes of the May 26, 2022 Board of Directors meeting was next on the agenda. Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Wisnieski that the minutes of the May 26, 2022 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Korth. Motion carried.

The Finance Subcommittee report was given by Anthony Wisnieski. Motion was made by Wisnieski and seconded by Clausen to approve income in the amount of \$1,361,545.81 and expenses in the amount of \$539,488.70 for the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Korth. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Wisnieski and seconded by Schultz to approve income in the amount of \$74,494.60 and expenses in the amount of \$33,675.89 for the Logan East Rural Water System as printed and distributed. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Korth. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Wisnieski and seconded by Hansen to approve income in the amount of \$8,684.67 and expenses in the amount of \$6,650.16 for the Wau-Col Regional Water System. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Korth. 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 that the NRD Basin Tour was held on June 6th and 7th in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. The tour included several projects in regards to water recharge, habitat restoration and forestry in the Pine Ridge.

There was nothing to report from the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service report was referenced in Dropbox by General Manager Mike Sousek as Robin Sutherland was not in attendance. A copy of the report is attached to the official minutes.

Gary Loftis reported on the Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D. Loftis reported that because of fuel costs, staffing changes, and potential tire quantity, the RC&D Board of Directors decided not to have a scrap tire collection in 2022.

There was not a report on the Bazile Groundwater Management Area, however, Lisa Lauver has filled the position of Bazile Groundwater Management Area Project Coordinator. Lisa introduced herself and provided information on her background and previous employment history.

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

Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Clausen to approve an increase to the water rates by 5% as of January 2023 for the Logan East Rural Water System. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Korth. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Gustafson to approve repairs including the casing liner, screens, and pumping parts on well #3 in the Logan East Rural Water System by Sargent Irrigation at a maximum cost of \$165,000. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Korth. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Gustafson to begin the process of purchasing a one acre site of land in Township 22, Range 09, Section 9 for construction of a new pumping well in the Logan East Rural Water system in the amount of \$60,000. Purchase will be contingent on satisfactory water samples and geological formations. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Korth. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Wisnieski to accept the Logan East Rural Water System Advisory Committee minutes of June 13, 2022. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Korth. Motion carried.

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

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Zohner to authorize the General Manager to sign the proposed amendment to the interlocal agreement with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for Willow Creek Reservoir as presented. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Korth. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Hansen to authorize the General Manager to negotiate with the well driller to complete two pressure relief production wells at Willow Creek Dam and authorize the chairman to sign a contract with the selected well driller. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Korth. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by McHenry to approve the Resolution and Participation Agreement for The Nebraska Association of Resources District 414(H) Plan and authorize the General Manager to sign said resolution and agreement. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Korth. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Hansen to approve the Resolution and Participation Agreement for The Nebraska Association of Resources District 457 Deferred Compensation Plan and authorize the General Manager to sign said resolution and agreement. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Korth. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Loftis to approve the salary allowance adjustment of 8% and to approve the step and grade changes proposed by management for Fiscal Year 2023. Aye: Allemann, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: Clausen. Absent: Korth. Motion carried.

At 8:49 p.m., Chairman Hall proposed the board enter into an Executive Session for the protection of reputation. Motion was made by Steffen and seconded by McHenry to enter into executive session for protection of reputation. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Korth. Motion carried.

At 9:20 p.m. motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Hansen to reenter regular session. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Korth. Motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 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 23, 2022 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