

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

7:30 p.m. Thursday, August 24, 2023

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 Roger Gustafson on Thursday, August 24, 2023, at the Lower Elkhorn NRD, 1508 Square Turn Blvd., Norfolk, Nebraska. Chairman Gustafson informed the Board and those attending of the Publication of Meeting Notice in the Norfolk Daily News on August 18, 2023.

Roll call was taken by Administrative Assistant Patty Martens with 13 of 15 Directors present. Present: Jerry Allemann, James Aschoff, Mark Burenheide, Scott Clausen, Michael Fler, Mark Hall, Chad Korth, Jay Reikofski, Matt Steffen, Melissa Temple, Anthony Wisnieski, Rod Zohner, Roger Gustafson. Absent: Kris Loberg, Gary Loftis.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Korth to excuse the absences of Kris Loberg and Gary Loftis. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Loberg, Loftis. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Korth and seconded by Fler to adopt the agenda. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Loberg, Loftis. Motion carried.

The reading and/or action on the minutes of the July 27, 2023 Board of Directors meeting was next on the agenda. Motion was made by Reikofski and seconded by Aschoff that the minutes of the July 27, 2023 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Loberg, Loftis. Motion carried.

The Finance Subcommittee report was given by Anthony Wisnieski. Motion was made by Wisnieski and seconded by Hall to approve income in the amount of \$226,186.90 and expenses in the amount of \$398,981.95 for the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Loberg, Loftis. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Wisnieski and seconded by Burenheide to approve income in the amount of \$101,417.67 and expenses in the amount of \$43,322.49 for the Logan East Rural Water System as printed and distributed. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Loberg, Loftis. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Wisnieski and seconded by Allemann to approve income in the amount of \$3,876.97 and expenses in the amount of \$6,860.62 for the Wau-Col Regional Water System. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Reikofski, Steffen,

Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Loberg, Loftis. 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 next on the agenda. Mark Hall noted that the NRD Annual Conference will be held in Kearney on September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

The Nebraska Natural Resources Commission report was not given as Garry Anderson was not in attendance.

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

The Nebraska Loess Hills and Northeast Nebraska RC&D reports were referenced in Dropbox as neither Loftis nor Hall were able to attend the meetings. A copy of both reports are attached to the official minutes.

The Bazile Groundwater Management Area report was referenced in Dropbox by Brian Bruckner as Lisa Lauver, Project Coordinator for the BGMA, was not in attendance. A report is attached to the official minutes.

The Administrative Report was given by Interim General Manager Brian Bruckner. A copy is attached to the official minutes.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Korth to approve the Logan East RWS Fiscal Year 2024 Budget as presented. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Loberg, Loftis. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Allemann to accept the Logan East Rural Water System Advisory Committee minutes of August 14, 2023. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Loberg, Loftis. Motion carried.

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

Motion was made by Steffen and seconded by Clausen to approve updates to the average cost dockets for the Agroforestry, Cover Crop, and Conservation Cost-share Programs as recommended by staff. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Loberg, Loftis. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Korth to award the North Fork Elkhorn River Watershed Plan / Environmental Document Project to JEO Consulting Group and authorize the General Manager to sign a contract with JEO Consulting Group for this project,

not to exceed \$615,880.00 Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Loberg, Loftis. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Steffen and seconded by Korth to approve an additional 2 acre inches of groundwater, only for irrigation wells subject to an annual groundwater allocation in the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District Quantity Management Subareas, to be utilized for germination and establishment of a cover crop, after September 15, 2023, and to grant District staff administrative authorization to approve use of the additional allocation prior to September 15, 2023, and to grant District staff administrative authorization to approve use of the additional allocation prior to September 15 on a case-by-case basis. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Loberg, Loftis. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Steffen and seconded by Korth to accept the Scope of Work and Flow Meter Maintenance Agreement from Derek and Austin Becker which outlines the requirements for the completion of Flow Meter Preventative Maintenance Services within the Lower Elkhorn NRD, and to authorize the Interim General Manager to sign the agreement on behalf of the agreement. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Loberg, Loftis. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Fler and seconded by Clausen to approve an additional 1% increase in Restricted Funds Authority for Fiscal Year 2024. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: Korth. Absent: Loberg, Loftis. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Fler and seconded by Clausen to advertise and present the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Budget and Long Range Plan at a Public Hearing on Thursday, September 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lower Elkhorn NRD boardroom, 1508 Square Turn Blvd., Norfolk, Nebraska. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Loberg, Loftis. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 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 August 24, 2023 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.

---

Jay Reikofski, Secretary