

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

7:30 p.m. Thursday, February 23, 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, February 23, 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 February 15, 2023.

Roll call was taken by Administrative Assistant Patty Martens with 15 of 15 Directors present. Present: Jerry Allemann, James Aschoff, Mark Burenheide, Scott Clausen, Michael Fler, Mark Hall, Chad Korth, Kris Loberg, Gary Loftis, Jay Reikofski, Matt Steffen, Melissa Temple, Anthony Wisnieski, Rod Zohner, Roger Gustafson. Absent: None.

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

The reading and/or action on the minutes of the January 26, 2023 Board of Directors meeting was next on the agenda. Motion was made by Reikofski and seconded by Clausen *that the minutes of the January 26, 2023 Board of Directors meeting be approved*. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: None. 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 \$404,984.60 and expenses in the amount of \$353,033.04 for the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District*. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Wisnieski and seconded by Loftis *to approve income in the amount of \$82,381.13 and expenses in the amount of \$57,857.15 for the Logan East Rural Water System as printed and distributed*. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Wisnieski and seconded by Temple *to approve income in the amount of \$13,539.61 and expenses in the amount of \$6,420.31 for the Wau-Col Regional Water System*. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: None. 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 Mark Hall. Mark spoke of the upcoming March 6 NARD quarterly meeting.

The Nebraska Natural Resources Commission report was not given.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service report was given by Resource Conservationist Waylon Petsche. A copy of the report is attached to the official minutes.

Gary Loftis reported on the Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D. Loftis reported that their grant has been approved for (3) household hazardous waste collections in the RC&D area in 2023. A copy of the Loess Hills RC&D report is attached to the official minutes.

The Bazile Groundwater Management Area was referenced in Dropbox as Lisa Lauver was not in attendance. 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.

Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Korth to accept the Logan East Rural Water System Advisory Committee minutes of February 13, 2023. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Reikofski and seconded by Zohner to raise the water rates by 20 cents per 1,000 gallons for the Wau-Col Regional Water System because of the increase in cost from suppliers. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Reikofski and seconded by Loberg to accept the Wau-Col Rural Water System Advisory Committee minutes of February 2, 2023. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: None. 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 instruct Staff to incorporate the Soil Moisture Sensor Incentive Lease Program, as presented, into the Lower Elkhorn NRD Conservation Cost-Share Program. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Steffen and seconded by Loftis to instruct Staff to prepare and issue Notice of Violation documents to landowners whose irrigation wells have exceeded the annual allocation for groundwater withdrawal as established for irrigation wells in the Eastern Madison and Wayne County Quantity Management Subareas, and to schedule public hearings for each landowner before the District's Board of Directors. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Steffen and seconded by Hall to authorize the General Manager to sign the contract with Longitude 103 for the NRD app, not to exceed \$18,000 for development, and to have General Manager work with the Department of Natural Resources to secure \$10,000 to be used for the development of the NRD app. Yearly cost for this NRD app will be \$18,000. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: Korth, Loberg. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Flatwater Free Press Town Hall Meeting was next on the agenda. General Manager Mike Sousek informed the Board of the place, time and those on the meeting panel. He also spoke of the purpose of the meeting and how the LENRD will have the opportunity to engage with the public on various topics.

Motion was made by Matt and seconded by Fler to accept the bid from Dinkel Implement of Norfolk, NE for the rental of a New Holland tractor in the amount of \$6,500, not to exceed 250 hours. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: Korth. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Matt and seconded by Temple to instruct staff to release and advertise the request for proposals, as presented, for the update to the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 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 23, 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.

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Jay Reikofski, Secretary

Others Present: None