

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

7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 23, 2024

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, April 25, 2024, at the Lower Elkhorn NRD, 1508 Square Turn Blvd., Norfolk, Nebraska. Chairman Roger Gustafson informed the Board and those attending of the Publication of Meeting Notice in the Norfolk Daily News on May 15, 2024 and the Nebraska Open Meetings Act information posted on the wall.

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

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

At this time, Chairman Gustafson opened the floor to public comment followed by a Certification of Acres Hearing (separate minutes).

Motion was made by Clausen and seconded by Zohner *that the minutes of the April 25, 2024 Board of Directors meeting be approved*. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The Finance Subcommittee report was given by Mark Hall. Motion was made by Clausen and seconded by Wisnieski *to approve income in the amount of \$1,683,788.62 and expenses in the amount of \$467,098.73 for the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District*. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Clausen, Fler, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Abstain: Burenheide, Hall, Reikofski. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Loftis *to approve income in the amount of \$82,158.99 and expenses in the amount of \$39,663.86 for the Logan East Rural Water System*. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Aschoff *to approve income in the amount of \$6,689.08 and expenses in the amount of \$5,718.90 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. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Wisnieski and seconded by Aschoff *to recommend to the Board to approve the Fiscal Year 2024 auditing agreement with Dana F. Cole & Company*. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen,

Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: 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 District report was given by Mark Hall. Hall mentioned the Basin Tour to be held in McCook, Nebraska on June 10 and 11<sup>th</sup>.

There was nothing to report for The Nebraska Natural Resources Commission as Garry Anderson was not in attendance.

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

The Nebraska Loess Hills and Northeast Nebraska RC&D reports were next on the agenda. Loftis had nothing to report as he did not attend the Loess Hills meeting. Hall missed the Northeast Nebraska meeting but noted they did receive a hazardous waste collection approval.

The Bazile Groundwater Management Area report was given by Lisa Lauver. A copy of the report is attached to the official minutes.

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

Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Steffen to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2024 Logan East RWS Advisory Meeting. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Reikofski and seconded by Burenheide to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2024 Wau-Col RWS Advisory Meeting. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Steffen, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

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

The North Fork of the Elkhorn River WFPO Plan update was given by Andrea Gebhart, Project Manager and Ann Nissen, Water Resources Engineer, both of JEO Consulting Group. The duo provided a project overview, recap of existing conditions, and structural and non-structural alternatives being looked at for the WFPO (Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations).

Motion was made by Korth and seconded by Clausen to recommend that the LENRD support the City of Wayne Prairie Park Project at an amount of \$100,000. Funding will be provided in one yearly payment per year, for three years.

Discussion followed.

Moved by Loftis and seconded by Wisnieski to amend the original motion changing the amount from \$100,000 to \$150,000. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Loberg, Loftis, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: Aschoff, Burenheide, Korth, Reikofski, Steffen. Motion carried.

Vote on amended motion: to recommend that the LENRD support the City of Wayne Prairie Park Project at an amount of \$150,000. Funding will be provided in one yearly payment per year, for three years, as follows: \$50,000 in FY 2025, \$50,000 in FY 2026, and \$50,000 in FY 2027. Approval of this motion will also direct staff to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Wayne to spell out the terms associated with the financial support of this special project. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: Aschoff, Burenheide, Reikofski, Steffen. Amended Motion carried.

Lastly on the agenda was the consideration of the Administrative Policy for Processing Variance Requests to Construct Irrigation Wells that will be certified irrigated lands in the Lower Elkhorn NRD. It was concluded that further discussion is needed. The policy will be reviewed and presented at a future date.

Others Present: Layne Roth, Jill Brodersen, Jason Karsky, Steve Rames

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 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 May 23, 2024 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,