

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

7:30 p.m. Thursday, October 24, 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, October 24, 2024, 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 October 18, 2024 and the Nebraska Open Meetings Act information posted on the wall.

Roll call was taken by Administrative Assistant Patty Martens with 13 of 15 Directors present. Members present were Jerry Allemann, Jim Aschoff, Scott Clausen, Mike Flear, Mark Hall, Chad Korth, Kris Loberg, Gary Loftis, Jay Reikofski, Melissa Temple, Anthony Wisnieski, Rod Zohner, and Roger Gustafson. Mark Burenheide and Matt Steffen were absent.

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

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

At this time, Chairman Gustafson opened the floor to public comment. Layne Roth, followed by Lynne Allemann, addressed the Board.

Motion was made by Clausen and seconded by Hall *to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting*. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Clausen, Flear, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Burenheide, Steffen. Motion carried.

The Finance Subcommittee report was given by Mark Hall. Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Allemann *to approve income in the amount of \$439,913.10 and expenses in the amount of \$472,815.51 for the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District*. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Clausen, Flear, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Reikofski, Temple, Gustafson. Nay: None. Abstain: Lofts, Wisnieski, Zohner. Absent: Burenheide, Steffen. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Korth *to approve income in the amount of \$100,012.36 and expenses in the amount of \$36,112.34 for the Logan East Rural Water System*. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Clausen, Flear, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Burenheide, Steffen. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Korth to approve income in the amount of \$7,284.70 and expenses in the amount of \$4,636.75 for the Wau-Col Regional Water System. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Burenheide, Steffen. 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 – Hall noted that the next meeting will be held on November 4, 2024.

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 reported that Loess Hills RC&D collected around 3,000 lbs. of e-waste at their event in September. A copy of the Loess Hills RC&D report is attached to the official minutes. Mark Hall noted that the first Northeast Nebraska RC&D household hazardous waste collection event will be held on Saturday, October 26 in Wayne, NE at the city auditorium.

The Bazile Groundwater Management Area report was referenced in Dropbox by General Manager Brian Bruckner as Lisa Lauver was not in attendance. 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.

The Logan East Rural Water System report was given by Logan East Rural Water System Manager Shawn Blahak. A copy is attached to the official minutes.

Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Gustafson to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2024 Logan East RWS Advisory Meeting. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Burenheide, Steffen. Motion carried.

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

Motion was made by Clausen and seconded by Loftis to approve the Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act Policy as presented by Staff. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Burenheide, Steffen. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Reikofski and seconded by Korth to authorize District staff to request up to \$30,000 in available funding from the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, and to utilize LENRD FY 25 Budgeted Funds for Water Resources Hydrogeologic Research as necessary to retool the LENRD Monitoring Well Network as recommended by District staff.

Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Clausen, Fler, Hall, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Nay: None. Absent: Burenheide, Steffen. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Reikofski and seconded by Wisnieski to approve the amendments to the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District Bylaws and Travel Policy as presented.

Discussion followed.

The Travel Policy amendment presented to the Board in the original motion reads: In addition, attendance by a member of the Board at any LENRD or NARD sponsored event that is hosted outside of the district, but within Nebraska, shall be exempt from Executive Board approval.

Motion was made by Temple and seconded by Loftis to amend the Travel Policy to read "In addition, attendance by a member of the Board at any NRD or NARD or any other attendance to events that the Board is notified by the LENRD staff, which is hosted outside of the District but within Nebraska, shall be exempt from the Executive Board approval." Aye: Hall, Loftis, Temple. Nay: Allemann, Aschoff, Clausen, Fler, Korth, Loberg, Reikofski, Wisnieski, Zohner, Gustafson. Absent: Burenheide, Steffen. Motion failed.

Vote on original motion. Aye: Fler, Hall, Loberg, Loftis, Temple, Wisnieski, Zohner. Nay: Allemann, Aschoff, Clausen, Korth, Reikofski, Gustafson. Absent: Burenheide, Steffen. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 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 October 24, 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.

Jay Reikofski, Secretary