

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

Lower Elkhorn NRD Office
1508 Square Turn Blvd, Norfolk, Nebraska
7:30 p.m. – Thursday, May 22, 2025

The Board of Directors Meeting of the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District was called to order by Chairman Matt Steffen on Thursday, May 22, 2025 at the Lower Elkhorn NRD, 1508 Square Turn Blvd., Norfolk, Nebraska. Chairman Steffen informed the Board and those attending of the Publication of Meeting Notice in the Norfolk Daily News on May 17, 2025, and of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act information posted on the wall.

Roll call was taken by Administrative Assistant Patty Martens with 12 of 15 Directors present. Members present were Jerry Allemann, Jim Aschoff, Mark Burenheide, Roger Gustafson, Andy Hrabanek, Lee Klein, Chad Korth, Kris Loberg, Jay Reikofski, Melissa Temple, Anthony Wisnieski, and Matt Steffen. Scott Clausen, Mike Fleer and Gary Loftis were absent from the meeting.

Motion was made by Korth and seconded by Klein to excuse the absence of Mike Fleer and Gary Loftis. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, Steffen. Nay: None. Absent: Clausen, Fleer, Loftis. Motion carried.

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

At this time, Chairman Steffen opened the floor to public comment. There were no comments from the public.

Motion was made by Klein and seconded by Hrabanek to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, Steffen. Nay: None. Absent: Clausen, Fleer, Loftis. Motion carried.

The Finance Subcommittee report was given by Treasurer Jerry Allemann. Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Wisnieski to approve income in the amount of 1,593,732.52 and expenses in the amount of \$449,183.66 for the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District. Aye: Aschoff, Burenheide, Gustafson, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Temple, Wisnieski, Steffen. Nay: None. Abstain: Allemann, Hrabanek, Reikofski. Absent: Clausen, Fleer, Loftis. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Klein to approve income in the amount of \$74,418.53 and expenses in the amount of \$54,910.48 for the Logan East Rural Water System. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Reikofski,

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Temple, Wisnieski, Steffen. Nay: None. Absent: Clausen, Fler, Loftis. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Aschoff to approve income in the amount of \$7,681.26 and expenses in the amount of \$6,811.97 for the Wau-Col Regional Water System. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, Steffen. Nay: None. Absent: Clausen, Fler, Loftis. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Hrabanek to recommend to the Board to approve the Fiscal Year 2025 auditing agreement with Dana F. Cole & Company. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, Steffen. Nay: None. Absent: Clausen, Fler, Loftis. Motion carried.

The conservation cost share report was given by Assistant General Manager Curt Becker. A copy of the report is attached to the official minutes.

The Nebraska Association of Resources District report was not given as Director Gary Loftis was absent from the meeting. General Manager Brian Bruckner noted the upcoming NARD Board meeting in Valentine, Nebraska which will be held in June.

The Nebraska Natural Resources Commission – No report.

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

Northeast Nebraska RC&D information was given by Melissa Temple. Bruckner presented some information on future E-Waste and Household Hazardous Waste Collections for the Nebraska Loess Hills. A copy of the report is attached to the official minutes.

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 of the report is attached to the official minutes.

The Logan East Rural Water System report was presented by Director Roger Gustafson and Brian Bruckner as Logan East RWS Manager Shawn Blahak was absent from the meeting. A copy of the report is attached to the official minutes.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Aschoff to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2025 Logan East RWS Advisory meeting. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, Steffen. Nay: None. Absent: Clausen, Fler, Loftis. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Reikofski and seconded by Korth to approve the Interlocal Agreement with the City of West Point for their levee project and authorize the General Manager to sign. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg,

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Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, Steffen. Nay: None. Absent: Clausen, Fleer, Loftis. Motion carried.

Update on Winslow Buyout and Demolition Project Request and Interlocal Agreement – Assistant Manager Curt Becker informed the Board that the District cannot legally enter into the agreement.

Discussion and/or Action on Maple Creek WFPO Design Phase – Assistant Manager Curt Becker attended the Clarkson City Council meeting in May. They will meet again to discuss specifics in regards to the proposed project.

Nebraska Environmental Trust Project Update – Groundwater for Public Health – Water Resources Manager Doug Hallum presented information and specifics on the three year project which started in the spring of 2024 and ends in July of 2027. The project goals are to test 5% of the LENRD District's registered wells for ag related chemicals and secondly, to test registered domestic wells for EPA Part 503 analysis.

Logan East Rural Water System – Special Meeting to Discuss System Expansion – Brian Bruckner informed the Board on the current status and costs of adding the Logan East Rural Water System to the City of Oakland's new water treatment plant.

The LENRD had been looking for a location for a new well for the LERWS, as the City of Craig had previously approached the LENRD wanting to connect to the system. The Logan East Rural Water System, which is at full capacity, will have access of up to 200,000 gallons of water per day from the new City of Oakland water treatment plant, allowing for the connection of Craig.

Motion was made by Steffen and seconded by Burenheide to excuse the absence of Scott Clausen. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, Steffen. Nay: None. Absent: Clausen, Fleer, Loftis. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 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 22, 2025 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.

Kris Loberg, Secretary