

**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, June 26, 2025

The Board of Directors Meeting of the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District was called to order by Chairman Matt Steffen on Thursday, June 26, 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 June 23, 2025, and of 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, Mike Fler, Roger Gustafson, Andy Hrabanek, Lee Klein, Chad Korth, Kris Loberg, Gary Loftis, Jay Reikofski, Melissa Temple, Anthony Wisnieski, and Matt Steffen.

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

There were no comments from the public.

Motion was made by Hrabanek and seconded by Klein to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, and Steffen. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The Finance Subcommittee report was given by Treasurer Jerry Allemann. Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Klein to approve income in the amount of \$543,689.86 and expenses in the amount of \$521,225.28 for the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski. Nay: None. Abstain: Steffen. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Loftis to approve income in the amount of \$108,599.50 and expenses in the amount of \$38,103.80 for the Logan East Rural Water System. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, and Steffen. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Gustafson to approve income in the amount of \$8,834.58 and expenses in the amount of \$5,750.42 for the Wau-Col Regional Water System. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, and Steffen. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Protecting Lives – Protecting Property – Protecting the Future
Agenda subject to change 24 hours prior to meeting.

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 given by Director Gary Loftis who reported on the recent NARD meeting. Melissa Temple reported on the NARD Basin Tour.

The Nebraska Natural Resources Commission – No report.

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

The Nebraska Loess Hills report was given by Gary Loftis. Northeast Nebraska RC&D information was given by Melissa Temple.

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 Logan East RWS Manager Shawn Blahak. A copy of the report is attached to the official minutes.

Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Gustafson to approve the minutes of the May 29, 2025 Logan East RWS Special Advisory meeting. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, and Steffen. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Aschoff to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2025 Logan East RWS Advisory meeting. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, and Steffen. Nay: None. Motion carried.

At this time, Source Water Protection employee Jim Olson reported on his new position and his future plans for this position.

Motion was made by Reikofski and seconded by Clausen to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2025 Wau-Col RWS Advisory meeting. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, and Steffen. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Reikofski and seconded by Gustafson to instruct staff to work with Nebraska USDA-NRCS staff to request funding for the design phase of the Nickerson Dike Project of the Maple Creek Watershed Plan through the WFPO Program. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Wisnieski, and Steffen. Nay: None. Motion carried.

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Motion was made by Reikofski and seconded by Klein to adopt the Water Administration Plan for the LENRD instream flow appropriation A-19580 on the Elkhorn River as recommended by Staff. Aye: Allemann, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Korth, Loberg, Loftis, Temple, Steffen. Nay: Aschoff, Reikofski, Wisnieski. Motion carried.

At this time, General Manager Brian Bruckner informed the Board of a request for support for the Loess Hills RC&D household hazardous waste collections. Bruckner also informed the Board of a request for support by the Northeast Nebraska Weed Management Area to help control noxious and invasive weeds.

A status update on the proposed expansion of the Logan East Rural Water System was given by Bruckner.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Reikofski to approve the salary living adjustment of 3.5% and to approve the step and grade changes proposed by management for Fiscal Year 2026. Aye: Allemann, Aschoff, Burenheide, Clausen, Fler, Gustafson, Hrabanek, Klein, Loberg, Loftis, Reikofski, Temple, Steffen. Nay: Korth, Wisnieski. Motion carried.

Others present: Mark Hall

The meeting adjourned at 9:21 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 June 26, 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