

**Minutes of the
Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District
Committee of the Whole**

Thursday, July 10, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

Lower Elkhorn NRD

1508 Square Turn Blvd, Norfolk, Nebraska

1. Chairman Matt Steffen informed the Board and those attending of the Publication of Meeting Notice in the Norfolk Daily News on July 3, 2025 and of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act information posted on the wall.

Directors in attendance were Jerry Allemann, Jim Aschoff, Mark Burenheide, Scott Clausen, Mike Fleeer, Roger Gustafson, Andrew Hrabanek, Lee Klein, Chad Korth, Kris Loberg, Gary Loftis, Jay Reikofski, Matt Steffen, and Anthony Wisnieski. Melissa Temple was absent from the meeting.

2. Public Comment – There were no comments from the Public.

3. Projects and Programs

- a. Northeast Nebraska Weed Management Area – Doug Deck, Wayne County Weed Superintendent, was present and updated the Board on efforts to secure additional funding through a Nebraska Environmental Trust grant for battling noxious and invasive weeds.

Recommended Motion: To provide financial assistance to the Northeast Nebraska Weed Management Area, not to exceed \$6,000.00 annually for FY26, FY27, and FY28, to be used as matching funds for a 3-year grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET). Extension of the \$6,000.00 is contingent on successful procurement of the NET grant and will only be expended on lands within the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District.

- b. Battle Creek WFPO Open House Update – General Manager Brian Bruckner provided an update to the Committee on the planned open house public meeting at the Battle Creek High School on Thursday, July 31 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM.
 - c. Conservation Cost Share Program – Program Coordinator Kristie Freudenburg presented proposed changes to the Conservation Cost Share Docket.

Recommended Motion: To approve updates to the average cost dockets for the Agroforestry, Cover Crop, and Conservation Cost Share Programs as recommended by the staff.

Protecting Lives – Protecting Property – Protecting the Future

Agenda subject to change 24 hours prior to meeting.

4. Water Resources

- a. Field Activities Update – Water Resources Manager Doug Hallum updated the Committee on progress made on summer projects and programs including domestic sampling, Groundwater for Public Health, beach sampling, Willow Creek sampling, chemigation inspections, variance and acre certification, and summer and statewide sampling.
- b. Meter Maintenance – Water Resources Manager Doug Hallum discussed the current meter maintenance program, challenges that have been identified, and different options for the program going forward.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.