

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

7:30 p.m., Thursday, January 26, 2012

Lifelong Learning Center

601 East Benjamin, Norfolk, Nebraska

The Board of Directors Meeting of the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District was called to order by Chairman Rod Zessin on Thursday, January 26, 2012 at the Lifelong Learning Center, 601 East Benjamin, Norfolk, Nebraska. Chairman Zessin informed the Board and those attending of the Publication of Meeting Notice in the Norfolk Daily News on January 20, 2012 and the Nebraska Open Meetings Act information posted by the entrance door.

Roll call was taken by Administrative Secretary Vickie DeJong with 11 of 15 Directors present. Present: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. Absent, Present Later: Krueger.

Motion was made by Huntley and seconded by Tighe to approve an extended excused leave of absence to Director Marion Shafer for health reasons until such time he can return to the board. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Krueger, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED

Motion was made by Hansen and seconded by Anderson to adopt the agenda. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Krueger, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

The reading and/or action on the minutes of the December 22, 2011 Board of Directors meeting was next on the agenda. Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Kluthe that the minutes of the December 22, 2011 Board of Directors meeting be approved as distributed. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Krueger, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

The Finance Subcommittee report was given by Subcommittee Vice-Chairman Tim Tighe. Motion was made by Tighe and seconded by Huntley to approve income in the amount of \$442,477.45 and expenses in the amount of \$251,766.06 as printed and distributed. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Krueger, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion was made by Tighe and seconded by Wesely to approve income in the amount of \$70,069.24 and expenses in the amount of \$66,368.86 for the Logan East Rural Water System as printed and distributed. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion was made by Tighe and seconded by Huntley to approve the income in the amount of \$18,168.49 and expenses in the amount of \$13,957.30 for the Wau-Col Regional Water System as printed and distributed. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

The conservation cost share report was given by Assistant Manager Ken Berney.

The Nebraska Association of Resources Districts report was given by Ken Peitzmeier. He reported on the Legislative Conference held in Lincoln on January 24 & 25.

A Nebraska Natural Resources Commission report was given by Garry Anderson. He reported on the latest Commission meeting held on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service report was given by Robin Sutherland. She reported on personnel, activities, land treatment, programs and upcoming events. (A copy of the report attached to the official minutes.)

The PrairieLand RC&D report was given by Chris Carlson, the Northeast Nebraska RC&D report was given by Stan Baier and the Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D report was given by Gary Loftis.

The Administrative Report was given by staff employees.

The Logan East Rural Water System Advisory Committee report was given by Gary Loftis and RWS Advisory Committee Chairman Ron Dierking. Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Wesley to approve the appointment of Brian Hagerbaumer for the replacement of Jeff Rabe on the Logan East RWS Advisory Committee for a three year term. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Tighe to approve the reappointment of Ron Dierking and Fred Christensen to the Logan East RWS Advisory Committee for a three year term. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Wesely to approve the increase of the bulk rate for the Village of Herman, Uehling and Winslow to \$1.90 per thousand gallons. The minimum requirements are to remain the same. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion was made by Loftis and seconded by Krueger to accept the Logan East Rural Water System Advisory Committee minutes of January 9, 2012. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

The Wau-Col Regional Water System Advisory Committee report was given by Stan Baier. Motion was made by Baier and seconded by Hansen to accept the Wau-Col Regional Water System Advisory Committee minutes of January 17, 2012. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion was made by Baier and seconded by Anderson to approve the resolution authorizing the operation of service of the Wau-Col Regional Water System Improvement Project Area water main from the Village of Coleridge to the Village of Belden and authorize the Chairman and Secretary to sign the resolution. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

The Information, Planning & Programs Subcommittee report was given by Subcommittee Chairman Bill Meyer. Motion was made by Meyer and seconded by Kluthe to include \$8000 in the Fiscal Year 2013 budget for Conservation / Ag Conference Scholarship Program. Incentive payment to approved participants will be 75% of the cost of the conference registration, and may include 75% of mileage and lodging if the conference is more than 50 miles from their residence, with a limit of \$250 per producer/per event/per year.

Moved to amend by Anderson and seconded by Krueger to include the \$8000 as part of the Conservation Cost Share budget. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely. Nay: Huntley, Meyer, Zessin. Absent: Carlson, Meyer, Zessin. AMENDMENT CARRIED.

Vote on amended motion: Aye: Anderson, Baier, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Peitzmeier, Wesely. Nay: Hansen, Huntley, Meyer, Tighe, Zessin. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. AMENDED MOTION CARRIED.

Motion was made by Meyer and seconded by Tighe to approve a rule for the Conservation Cost Share Program that conservation projects may not be cost shared with the Lower Elkhorn NRD funds if they are ineligible for EQIP funding because of non-compliance with the Federal Farm Program. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

The Projects, Equipment & Legislation Subcommittee report was given by Subcommittee Vice-Chairman Stan Baier. Motion was made by Baier and seconded by Huntley to approve the Competitive State Grant application for the Willow Creek State Recreation Area Prairie and contribute \$2500 per year; Fiscal Year 2013, 2014 and 2015, upon approval of the grant application. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion was made by Baier and seconded by Huntley to accept the bid of \$17,750 from Greenline Equipment for the purchase of a John Deere Gator, an 8 foot rotary cutter for Maple Creek Recreation Area, rototiller and a bucket with grapple for the skid loader.

Moved to amend by Tighe and seconded by Hansen to replace "to accept the bid of \$17,750 from Greenline Equipment for" and add "not to exceed \$17,750. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. AMENDMENT CARRIED.

Vote on amended motion: to approve the purchase a John Deere Gator, an 8 foot rotary cutter for Maple Creek Recreation Area, rototiller and a bucket with grapple for a skid loader, not to exceed \$17,750. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. AMENDED MOTION CARRIED.

Motion was made by Baier and seconded by Huntley to approve crop damage payments in the amount of \$10,747.91 for the Wau-Col Regional Water System. Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Krueger, Loftis, Meyer, Peitzmeier, Wesely, Zessin. Nay: None. Abstain: Tighe. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion was made by Baier and seconded by Huntley *to approve Midwest Sound and Lighting option #2, in the amount of \$7569 for the purchase and installation of a complete microphone and speaker system for the board room.* Aye: Anderson, Baier, Hansen, Huntley, Kluthe, Meyer, Peitzmeier. Nay: Krueger, Loftis, Tighe, Wesely, Zessin. Absent: Carlson, Schultz, Shafer. MOTION CARRIED.

The election of officers was conducted by General Manager Stan Staab. According to the By-Laws, any officer is limited to two successive one year terms. Therefore since no current officer has served two successive years they are all eligible for their current office. However, current Treasurer Marion Shafer indicated that he did not desire to be reelected in 2012. Voting was held by ballot. Ballots will be held in the headquarters office for 30 days for public review.

Nominated for Chairman was Rod Zessin. After ballots were counted it was announced that Director Rod Zessin was elected Chairman for 2012. (Zessin – 12)

Nominated for Vice-Chairman was Joel Hansen. After ballots were counted it was announced that Director Joel Hansen was elected Vice-Chairman for 2012. (Hansen – 12)

Nominated for Secretary was Gary Loftis. After ballots were counted it was announced that Director Gary Loftis was elected Secretary for 2012. (Loftis – 11)

Nominated for Treasurer was Mike Krueger. After ballots were counted it was announced that Director Mike Krueger was elected Treasurer for 2012. (Krueger 12)

Nominated for NARD Delegate was Ken Peitzmeier. After ballots were counted it was announced that Director Ken Peitzmeier was elected NARD Delegate for 2012. (Peitzmeier – 12)

Nominated for NARD Alternate was Bob Huntley. After ballots were counted it was announced that Director Bob Huntley was elected NARD Alternate for 2012. (Huntley – 11)

Motion was made by Meyer and seconded by Wesely *to adjourn.* Motion carried with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 9:36 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 January 26, 2012 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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Gary Loftis, Secretary

Others Present:  
Scott Wessel, Norfolk