

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

7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 22, 2021

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 Mark Hall on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at the Lower Elkhorn NRD, 1508 Square Turn Blvd, Norfolk, Nebraska. Chairman Hall informed the Board and those attending of the Publication of Meeting Notice in the Norfolk Daily News on April 14, 2021.

Roll call was taken by Administrative Supervisor Vickie DeJong with 13 of 15 Directors present. Present: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Absent: Huntley, Loftis.

Motion was made by Janke and seconded by Schultz *to excuse the absence of Bob Huntley and Gary Loftis*. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Huntley, Loftis. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Hansen and seconded by Schultz *to adopt the agenda*. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Huntley, Loftis. Motion Carried.

The reading and/or action on the minutes of the March 25, 2021 Board of Directors meeting was next on the agenda. Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Clausen *that the minutes of the March 25, 2021 Board of Directors meetings be approved*. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Huntley, Loftis. Motion Carried.

The Finance Subcommittee report was given by Dennis Schultz. Motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Clausen *to approve income in the amount of \$448,137.44 and expenses in the amount of \$335,822.80 for the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District*. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Huntley, Loftis. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Gustafson *to approve income in the amount of \$76,588.04 and expenses in the amount of \$30,763.84 for the Logan East Rural Water System as printed and distributed*. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Huntley, Loftis. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Hansen *to approve income in the amount of \$6,270.31 and expenses in the amount of \$5,063.62 for the Wau-Col Regional Water System*. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Huntley, Loftis. 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 Districts report was given by Joel Hansen. No meeting has been since his last report.

The Nebraska Natural Resources Commission report was not given.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service report was given by Waylon Petsche, Resource Conservationist. A copy of the report is attached to the official minutes.

No RC&D reports were given.

The Bazile Groundwater Management Area report was given by Whitney Gappa, Bazile Groundwater Management Area Project Coordinator. A copy of the report is attached to the official minutes.

The Administrative Report was given by General Manager Mike Sousek. A copy is attached to the official minutes.

Jordan Shields, a PhD student with the University of Nebraska Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department, whose research is funded in part by the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District, provided an update on his study “Visualizing and Assessing Nitrogen Contamination in Northeast Nebraska.” In his progress update Jordan outlined some of the preparatory work that has been required to digitize and integrate data from the LENRD, static water level information provided by the United States Geological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture soils maps, groundwater quality information from the Nebraska Water Quality Clearinghouse, residual soil nitrate information from the Nebraska Vadose Zone Project, and other publicly available forms of data. Jordan provided an overview of his progress to date and indicated that he will be providing regular updates to the LENRD as the project evolves.

The Logan East Rural Water System Advisory Committee report was given by RWS Manager Shawn Blahak and Roger Gustafson. Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Clausen pending legal counsel review, to approve an interlocal agreement between the City of Oakland and the Lower Elkhorn NRD/Logan East Rural Water System, to allow the City of Oakland an Emergency hook up to the Logan East RWS 10” main by connecting to a fire hydrant on the north edge of Oakland. Oakland will pay the costs of a hydrant and installation. Logan East RWS will pay for the meter, backflow devise and hose. Logan East RWS tower levels must be maintained at all times. The water will be charged at the current Logan East RWS bulk rate. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Huntley, Loftis. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Schultz to approve that Logan East

RWS employees, Shawn Blahak and J.J. Johansen, may spend up to \$5500 on security improvements. This will include alarms using the MicroComm notification system at towers, booster pump stations, well and door security on the cement block well house. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Huntley, Loftis. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Clausen to accept the Logan East Rural Water System Advisory Committee minutes of April 12, 2021. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Huntley, Loftis. Motion Carried.

The Information, Planning, Programs, Projects, Equipment & Legislation Committee of the Whole report was given by Roger Gustafson. Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Hansen to approve the Urban Recreation Area Development and Urban Conservation Program applications, as recommended by staff:

Urban Recreation Area and *Urban Conservation Program Applications			
Applicant	Description	Projected Cost	Funding Requested
City of Madison	Add Swimming Pool Picnic Shelter	\$29,750	\$14,875
Norfolk Public Schools	Add Playground Equipment	\$66,300	\$25,000
Woodland Park	Replace Playground Equipment	\$13,739	\$6,869
City of Pierce	Gilman Park Pathway	\$14,270	\$7,135
Village of Carroll	Replace Playground Equipment	\$30,939	\$15,469.50
Village of Concord	Add Playground Equipment	\$1,984	\$992
City of Wakefield	Splash Park	\$185,000	\$25,000
City of Randolph	Playground Equipment Benches, Signage	\$26,377.10	\$13,188.55
Village of Hadar	Camper Pads Basketball Court	\$17,240	\$8,620
Village of Emerson	Picnic Shelter Swing Set & Lighting	\$25,500	\$12,750
*Village of Uehling	Ditch Repairs & Mitigation	\$242,000.00	\$15,125.00
Total:		\$653,099.10	\$145,024.05

Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Zohner, Hall. Nay: Steffen. Absent: Huntley, Loftis. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Clausen to accept the bid from JP Electric Inc., for two electrical panels in the amount of \$39,250 for Maskenthine Recreation

Area. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: Korth. Absent: Huntley, Loftis. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Hansen to authorize the District staff to issue notices of violation, as deemed necessary, to farm owners and/or operators who are out of compliance with the Phase 2 and 3 Area report requirements. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: Korth. Absent: Huntley, Loftis. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Schultz to approve the Sandhills Energy LLC Consent and Crossing Agreement (Logan East Rural Water System) and authorize the General Manager to sign it. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Huntley, Loftis. Motion Carried.

The Executive Board report was given by Roger Gustafson. Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Schultz to approve the updated Employee Handbook, dated April 2021. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Janke, Korth, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Huntley, Loftis. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 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 April 22, 2021 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.

Jerry Allemann, Secretary