

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

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 23, 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 Tuesday, November 23, 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 November 12, 2021.

Roll call was taken by Administrative Assistant Patty Martens with 13 of 15 Directors present. Present: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Absent: Janke, Korth.

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

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

The reading and/or action on the minutes of the October 28, 2021 Board of Directors meeting was next on the agenda. Motion was made by Allemann and seconded by Clausen that the minutes of the October 28, 2021 Board of Directors meetings be approved. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Janke, Korth. Motion Carried.

The Finance Subcommittee report was given by Dennis Schultz. Motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Hansen to approve income in the amount of \$111,994.04 and expenses in the amount of \$305,923.20 for the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Janke, Korth. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Loftis to approve income in the amount of \$80,792.66 and expenses in the amount of \$47,218.28 for the Logan East Rural Water System as printed and distributed. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Janke, Korth. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Hansen to approve income in the amount of \$6,859.32 and expenses in the amount of \$5,122.23 for the Wau-Col Regional Water System. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Janke, Korth. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Schultz and seconded by Noonan to accept the Fiscal Year 2021 Audit as prepared by Dana F Cole & Company. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Janke, Korth. 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. He reported on the November 8, 2021 NARD Board of Directors Meeting which was held in Chadron, Nebraska.

The Nebraska Natural Resources Commission report was not given.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service report was not given. A copy of the report is attached to the official minutes.

Gary Loftis reported on the Loess Hills RC&D. A copy is attached to the official minutes.

Whitney Gappa reported on the Bazile Groundwater Management Area. A 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.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Loftis to approve the purchase by Logan East Rural Water System of a Cummins 20KW natural gas generator, at a cost of \$11,330.24, to power telemetry for the wells. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Janke, Korth. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Zohner to accept the Logan East Rural Water System Advisory Committee minutes of November 8, 2021. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Janke, Korth. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Loftis to consider a resolution calling for the early redemption of the District's water Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2017. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Janke, Korth. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Loftis to consider a resolution to authorize the issuance of Water Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$3,650,000 to refinance the District's Water Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2017, in order to achieve interest cost savings. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis,

McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Janke, Korth. 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 authorize the General Manager to sign an interlocal agreement with the Lewis and Clark NRD, Cedar County and Dixon County as presented to join the Cedar / Dixon Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Lower Elkhorn NRD Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan with the next update due in 2025. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Janke, Korth. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Schultz to instruct staff to apply for funds from the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant for the 2025 update to our joint Lower Elkhorn NRD and Cedar / Dixon County Hazard Mitigation Plans with the current application period due to Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) by December 17, 2021. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Janke, Korth. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Hansen to approve eight Community Forestry Program applications for a total LENRD cost of \$31,795.13 as presented. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Janke, Korth. Motion Carried.

COMMUNITY FORESTRY INCENTIVE			
Fiscal Year 2023			
APPLICANT	DESCRIPTION	PROJECTED COST	FUNDING REQUESTED
City of Randolph	Memorial Cemetery Renovation	\$6,936.53	\$5,000.00
City of Beemer	Beemer Ballroom Park Project	\$7,500.00	\$5,000.00
West Point Schools	Athletic Facility Windbreak	\$4,070.00	\$2,200.00
City of Oakland	Restoring Oakland's Trees	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00
City of Norfolk	7th Street Beautification	\$6,630.00	\$4,972.50
City of West Point	Park Improvement	\$2,963.50	\$2,222.63
City of Wisner	Citywide Tree Improvement	\$6,772.25	\$5,000.00
City of Wausa	Ballpark Improvement	\$5,605.00	\$2,400.00
	TOTAL	\$50,477.28	\$31,795.13

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Loftis to adopt the final ranking of applications for a standard variance as proposed by district staff in the Excel Spreadsheets titled "Exhibit A – 10/50 Area" and "Exhibit B – Non 10/50 Area". Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Janke, Korth. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Allemann to allow up to 292 acre feet of new peak-season streamflow depletions for the District's 10/50 area, and up to 2542.15 new groundwater irrigated acres in the District's NON 10/50 area in accordance with the District Rules 13 and 15, and to authorize staff to issue variances for the recommended applications contained in Exhibits A and B, subject to the conditions for approval. Approval of this motion will simultaneously instruct staff to notify non-approved applicants of the outcome and inform them of possible opportunities to re-apply in the future. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Abstain: Steffen. Absent: Janke, Korth. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Gustafson and seconded by Hansen to accept the bid from Platte Valley Implement for a 2022 John Deere Gator HPX615E in the amount of \$10,696.14. Aye: Allemann, Clausen, Gustafson, Hansen, Loftis, McHenry, Noonan, Reikofski, Schultz, Steffen, Wisnieski, Zohner, Hall. Nay: None. Absent: Janke, Korth. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 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 November 23, 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

Others Present:
None