

LEWIS & CLARK NRD MINUTES

August 17, 2023

Chair Weinandt called the August 17, 2023, meeting of the Lewis & Clark Natural Resources District (LCNRD) Board of Directors to order at 7:01 p.m. in the conference room at the LCNRD office. Chair Weinandt stated to the public present that prior notice of the meeting had been publicized according to policy designated by the board. Chair Weinandt announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is located on the west wall of the meeting room. Roll call of members. Present: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kollars, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. Absent: None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda reviewed. *It was moved by Kramer, seconded by Heine to approve minutes of the July 20, 2023, board meeting and the July 21 to August 17, 2023, consent agenda. The consent agenda includes financial reports, cost share approvals, claims, corrections, and additions (attached to file copy of minutes). Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kollars, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried (10-0-0).*

AGENCY ACTIVITIES AND REPORTS

Wau-Col Rural Water Activities: No report, next meeting will be September 7th at 7:00 pm at the Belden Library.

Natural Resources Commission activities (NRC): Steffen no report.

NARD Activity: Kramer reported on NARD activities. There are no proposed legislative resolutions. Dave Condon was appointed as the 2023 NARD Annual Conference voting delegate and Marcel Kramer the alternate by Chair Weinandt.

NRCS Report: Rebekah Poppe, District Conservationist, reviewed NRCS activities.

Rural Water Advisory Committee: Weinandt and Fiedler reported on CKRWP activities and presented recommendations from the August 10, 2023; meeting of the Cedar Knox Rural Water Project Advisory Committee as follows:

- *To approve minutes of the July 13, 2023, Cedar Knox Rural Water Project Meeting.*
- *To approve expenses from July 14, 2023 - August 10, 2023.*
- *To approve the payment to NDEE, for the plan review of the Distribution System Project and Elevated Storage Tank, approved by the LCNRD Board of Directors at the July 20, 2023, meeting.*
- *To approve autopay to process the Great Plains Communications bill each month.*
- *To approve renewing the contract with Omni Tech for one year at the current rate of \$1500.00 per year with notice that this will be the last year the contract will be renewed.*
- *To approve a 5% increase in rates with resulting income going to the Source Solution and System Upgrades Fund account. Monthly Minimums will be \$44.52, an increase of \$2.12. The monthly Maintenance Fee will be \$11.13, an increase of \$0.53. The per 1,000-gallons water rate will be \$6.07, an increase of \$0.29/1000 gallons. New Rates will go into effect October 1, 2023.*
- *To recommend approval of the draft budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.*
- *To approve contribution of \$2,000.00 in 2023 to Knox County SID #2 for the maintenance of roads in Devils Nest that facilitates access to the water treatment plant.*

It was moved by Armstrong, seconded by Steffen to approve the Cedar Knox Rural Water Project report and each recommendation as stated above. Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kollars, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried (10-0-0).

Bazile GMA Reports: Report from Lisa Lauver, Bazile Groundwater Management Area Coordinator, was provided in director packet.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

Water Sustainability Fund Contract Bow Creek Watershed: Following discussion, It was moved by Kramer, seconded by Johnson to approve the Water Sustainability Fund contract for activities in the Bow Creek Watershed in the amount of \$152,970, LCNRD match funds of \$153,980 and allow management to enter into stated contract. Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kollars, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried (10-0-0).

Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) – Preliminary Investigation Feasibility Report (PIFR): Sudbeck reported meeting with NRCS staff on the PIFR and WFPO for South Creek near Ponca. NRCS asked if the board was interested in considering completing a PIFR for Little Bazile Creek. The flooding of Little Bazile results in Bloomfield facing many of the same issues as Ponca. It was moved by Kollars, seconded by Armstrong to submit a PIFR request for the Little Bazile Creek Watershed in Knox County. Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kollars, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried (10-0-0).

FY2024 Budget: Sudbeck reported Dana F Cole had sent over the proposed 2024 budget numbers from the audit that was conducted on July 18th and reviewed proposed budget with the board. It was moved by Kramer and seconded by Kollars to approve the proposed FY2024 budget and include \$225,000 to the Sinking Fund for water resources and watershed management activities. Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kollars, Kramer, Schmit, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried (10-0-0).

2024 Tree Rates: It was moved by Condon seconded by Heine to approve the following tree rates for the 2024 tree season: \$1.30 per seedling tree, \$32.50 per 25 bundle of seedlings, price to be determined by management per native plant plugs based on similar pricing as seedlings, \$1.30 per seedling tree for planting with a minimum stop charge of \$325.00, and a go back charge of \$4.00 per mile. Weed barrier 500-foot roll \$225, weed mats with 5 staples \$3.50 each and staples \$.20 each unless shipping and availability necessitates a rate increase to be adjusted by management. Coconut mulch mats may be available with the price to be set at no more than \$52.50 per bundle of 25. Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kollars, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried (10-0-0).

Manager's Report: Sudbeck reported on recent NRD and CKRWP activities and the report is included in the file copy of minutes.

Well Permits, Expanded Irrigated Acres, and Flow Meters: Lammers reviewed permits and it was moved by Schmidt, seconded by Johnson to approve the permits as stated below:

1. Mona Buschelman well permit LC-436 for a well in the NWSW Section 16, T32N, R1E.

Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kollars, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried (10-0-0).

Certification of District Irrigated Acres: Lammers reported the Longitude 103 program is working well and hoping to have some irrigated acres for certification at the next meeting.

Staff Reports: Reports for Hochstein, Lammers, Krusemark, Trenhaile, Ravenkamp and A. Fiedler were provided in the director's packet.

EXCUSED ABSENCES - CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

Excused absences – None

ADJOURN

It was moved by Kramer, seconded by Kollars to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 pm. Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kollars, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried (10-0-0).

MEMBERS PRESENT

Curtis Armstrong
Carly Christensen
Dave Condon
Carolyn Heine
Chris Johnson
Dan Kollars
Marcel Kramer
Russ Schmidt
Jeff Steffen
Matt Weinandt

GUESTS PRESENT

Annette Sudbeck, Manager
Scott Fiedler, Project Manager CKRWP
Myles Lammers, Assistant Manager
Kristi Hochstein, Office Coordinator
Rebekah Poppe, District Conservationist

I, the undersigned Secretary for the Lewis & Clark Natural Resources District, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of proceedings had and done by the Board of Directors on August 17, 2023 and that all of the subject included in the foregoing proceeding were contained in the agenda for at least twenty four hours prior to said meeting; the minutes of the Chair and Board of Directors of said district were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of the said body, that all news media requesting notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subject to be discussed at said meeting.

Board Secretary