

LEWIS & CLARK NRD MINUTES

July 18, 2024

Chair Weinandt called the July 18, 2024, meeting of the Lewis & Clark Natural Resources District (LCNRD) Board of Directors to order at 7:02 p.m. in the conference room at the LCNRD office. Chair Weinandt stated that prior notice of the meeting had been publicized according to policy designated by the board and that the Open Meetings Act is posted on the west wall of the meeting room. Roll call of members. Present: Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. Absent: Armstrong, Christensen, Kollars, and Lamb.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda reviewed. *It was moved by Kramer, seconded by Heine to approve minutes of the June 20, 2024, board meeting and the June 21 to July 18, 2024, 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: Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Armstrong, Christensen, Kollars, and Lamb. Motion carried (7-0-4).*

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

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

Certification of District Irrigated Acres: Trenhaile presented the irrigated acres report for certification. *It was moved by Steffen, seconded by Kramer to approve certification of 3075 groundwater irrigated acres on 26 parcels as presented and included in the file copy of the minutes. Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Armstrong, Christensen, Kollars and Lamb. Motion carried (7-0-4).*

Well Permits, Expanded Acres, Flow Meter Requests: Lammers reviewed permits and discussion followed. *It was moved by Steffen, seconded by Schmidt to approve the permit applications as stated below:*

- 1. Britt Becker Variance V-24001 to irrigate immediately using wells G-151488, G-161336, G-165654 and replacement well for G-197884 (LC-496R) which maintains use of four wells as originally designed prior to rules and regulations becoming effective but changes the four wells in use from those originally utilized (G-151488, G-155716, G-161336, and G-197884) to irrigate the original 365 acres in the W1/2NW & SW section 27 and SENE & SE section 21, T31N, R1E.*

Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Armstrong, Christensen, Kollars, and Lamb. Motion carried (7-0-4).

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

DIRECTOR & AGENCY ACTIVITIES & REPORTS

Wau-Col Rural Water Activity: Heine stated there was no activity to report and the next meeting would be August 1st in Belden.

Northeast Nebraska RC&D activity: Open

Natural Resources Commission Activity (NRC): Steffen reported on NRC activities and the next meeting would be August 14th.

NARD Activity: Kramer reported on the NARD activities and proposed legislative resolutions of which there are none at this time. The NARD 414(h) contribution resolution was presented. *It was moved by Kramer, seconded by Johnson to approve the NARD 414(h) resolution as stated below.*

WHEREAS, the contribution levels for the NARD 414 (h) have not been changed since July 1, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the NRD managers and Nebraska Association of Resources District (NARD) Board have been talking to local boards and local employees since August of 2023 about a possible change in contribution levels to assist with recruitment and retention of employees; and

WHEREAS, based on feedback from those conversations, on May 20, 2024, the NRD Employee Benefits Committee voted unanimously to recommend the NRD Managers and NARD Board approve an increase on employee contribution from 5.5% to 6.5% and employer contributions from 6.0 % to 7.0% effective January 1, 2025; and

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the following Mandatory Employee Contributions Section 30.c. of the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts 414 (h) Plan is to be amended as follows:

30.c. [X] An Eligible Employee must contribute to the Plan 6.5% (not to exceed 25% of Compensation. Effective January 1, 2025.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the following Employer Matching Condition Section 26.B.e.1 and 27.A.c of the Nebraska Association of Resources District 414(h) Plan is to be amended as follows:

26.B.e.1 [X] Fixed – uniform rate/amount. The Employer will make matching contributions Equal to 100% of the Participant’s “matched Employee contributions” that do not exceed 7.0% of a Participant’s Compensation. Effective January 1, 2025.

27.A.c [X] 7% of Compensation.

RESOLVED, that the undersigned is hereby authorized to execute, on behalf of the Employer, all documents necessary to effect the changes authorized herein.

Such resolution was approved by the NARD Board of Directors on June 10, 2024.

Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. ABSENT: Armstrong, Christensen, Kollars, Lamb. Motion carried (7-0-4).

Rural Water Advisory Committee: Weinandt and Fiedler reported on CKRWP activities and presented recommendations from the July 11, 2024; meeting of the Cedar Knox Rural Water Project Advisory Committee as follows:

- To approve the minutes of the June 13, 2024, Cedar Knox Rural Water Project Meeting.
- To approve the expenses from June 14, 2024 – July 11, 2024, as presented.
- To approve increasing rates by 3.5% with resulting income going to the Source Solutions and Systems Upgrades fund account. Monthly Minimums will be \$46.08, an increase of \$1.56. The Monthly Maintenance Fee will be \$11.52, an increase of \$0.39. The per 1,000-gallons water rate will be \$6.29, an increase pf \$.22/1000 gallons. New rates will go into effect October 1, 2024.
- To approve the rural water application for Daryl & Amy Mundil in Sec 31 T33N R3W Blk 22 Lots 2073-2081 Devils Nest, Knox County for 1 Benefit Unit.

It was moved by Schmidt, seconded by Johnson to approve the Cedar Knox Rural Water Project report and each recommendation stated above. Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Armstrong, Christensen, Kollars and Lamb. Motion carried (7-0-4).

NRCS Reports: Rebekah Poppe, District Conservationist, reported on NRCS activities and reviewed ESCA-1 and ESCA-3.

Bazile GMA Updates: Report from Lisa Lauver, Bazile Groundwater Management Area Coordinator, was

provided in the director packet.

Public Comment: No Public Comment

Planning Committee: Planning committee secretary Schmidt reported on recommendations for board consideration. It was moved by Condon, seconded by Heine to approve the planning committee report and the recommendations stated below:

1. To approve the Bow Creek contract potential with JEO or Houston Engineering.
2. To approve the roof replacement bid of H & H Roofing.
3. To approve changing insurance policy from EMC to Glatfelter.
4. To approve loaning CKRWP funds from LCNRD for the System Upgrade Project.
5. To approve applying for grants to develop an education site with storage for CKRWP on the property located west of Crofton.
6. To approve pursuing the NACD Technician Grant when the application period opens for continued funding of the NACD Technical Assistance position.

EXCUSED ABSENCES - CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

Excused absences – Armstrong, Kollars, and Lamb.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Kollars, seconded by Steffen to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm. Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Armstrong, Christensen, Kollars, and Lamb. Motion carried (7-0-4).

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dave Condon
Carolyn Heine
Chris Johnson
Marcel Kramer
Russ Schmidt
Jeff Steffen
Matt Weinandt

GUESTS PRESENT

Annette Sudbeck, Manager
Scott Fiedler, Project Manager CKRWP
Kristi Hochstein, Office Coordinator
Rebekah Poppe, District Conservationist
Myles Lammers, Asst. Manager
Reed Trenhaile, I&E Coordinator
Austin Baldwin, NRCS Resource Conservationist
Taylor LeTexier, NRCS Soil 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 July 18, 2024 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