

LEWIS & CLARK NRD MINUTES

September 19, 2024

Chair Weinandt called the September 19, 2024, 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 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: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Lamb, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. Absent: Kollars.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda reviewed. It was moved by Kramer, seconded by Heine to approve minutes of the August 15, 2024, board meeting and the August 16 to September 19, 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: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Lamb, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Kollars. Motion carried (10-0-1).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Weinandt welcomed the public in attendance and opened the floor to public comment. No comments were made.

PLANNING/BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS

Weinandt reported on and presented recommendations from the planning/budget committee. Matt Lawyer and Nick Lawyer were present at the board meeting to review and answer questions pertaining to ESCA 2024-2. Consensus of the board was to have Lawyer's continue working with NRCS to develop a plan that meet tolerable soil loss requirements. It was moved by Lamb, seconded by Schmidt to approve the Budget Committee report and recommendations stated below:

1. Approve agreement with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources to utilize ARPA grant funds in the amount of \$46,812.83 to deploy telemetry and data loggers for LCNRD monitoring wells.
2. Approve the FY 2024 Long-Range Implementation Plan.
3. Approve the purchase of a tractor & tiller from Kayton International for \$38,250, a tree planter that meets the need of the district, and a 24-foot trailer from D&K Trailers for \$12,300 to be used for the tree program and other district needs.
4. Approve the following tree rates for the 2025 tree season: \$1.30 per seedling tree, \$32.50 per 25 bundle of seedlings, price to be determined by management per native plant plugs, \$1.30 per seedling tree for planting with a minimum stop charge of \$325, tillage charges of \$0.20 per linear foot 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 \$0.20 each, coconut mulch mats are available with the price to be set at no more than \$75.00 per bundle of 25 with 4 staples unless shipping and availability necessitates a rate increase to be adjusted by management.
5. Approve the signing of conservation plans for ESCA complaint number 2024-3.

Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Lamb, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Kollars. Motion carried (10-0-1).

FINAL ACTION ON FY2025 BUDGET & LEVY RESOLUTIONS

Weinandt stated the budget hearing was held on September 19th at 6:05 pm with the tax levy hearing following the budget hearing. No public was in attendance. It was moved by Condon, seconded by Steffen to approve the FY2025 budget and levy resolution 2024-2 as stated:

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 provides that the Governing Body of Lewis & Clark NRD passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of Lewis & Clark NRD resolves that:

1. *The 2024-2025 property tax request be set at:*

General Fund: \$ 1,741,345.04

2. *The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 16.01 percent.*
3. *The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be 0.02389 per \$100 of assessed value.*
4. *Lewis & Clark NRD proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.033227 per \$100 of assessed value.*
5. *Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of Lewis & Clark NRD will increase (or decrease) last year's budget by 70.24 percent.*
6. *A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2024.*

Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Lamb, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Kollars. Motion carried (10-0-1).

DIRECTOR & AGENCY ACTIVITIES & REPORTS

NARD Activity: Kramer reported on NARD conference coming up September 23 and reviewed proposed two resolutions 2024-1 and 2024-2.

Natural Resources Commission Activity (NRC): Steffen reported on NRC activities with the next meeting on October 2, 2024.

Wau-Col Rural Water Activity: Heine had no report, and the next meeting will be at 7:00pm on November 7th at the Belden Library.

Northeast Nebraska RC&D activity: Open

NRCS activity: Taylor LeTexier, NRCS Soil Conservationist, reported on NRCS activities. Program assistant Holly Gregg, Ponca NRCS office, reported on activities for the third quarter. Gregg's report was included in the director packet

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

CKRWP Advisory Committee Recommendations: Weinandt and Fiedler reported on CKRWP activities and presented recommendations from the September 12, 2024; meeting of the Cedar Knox Rural Water Project Advisory Committee as follows:

1. *To approve the minutes of the August 8, 2024, Cedar Knox Rural Water Project Meeting.*
2. *To approve the expenses from August 9, 2024 – September 12, 2024, as presented.*
3. *To approve the 2 Year contract with Aqua Pure.*
4. *To approve applying for a \$10,000 Security Grant for a permanent structure for the chlorine injection pump at booster 1.*
5. *To approve the rural water application for a half price easement connection for Arthur O'Connor in Sec 21 T33N R2W, Knox County for 1 Benefit Unit, approve the rural water applications for Arthur O'Connor in Sec 21 T33N R2W, Knox County for 1 Benefit Unit, and Mariah Nelson in Sec 14 T33N R2W Lot 625, HideAway Acres 6th Addition for 1 Benefit Unit, to approve the Forfeiture of Water Service for Margaret Blomberg for water service connection D004, and to approve the request for an additional Benefit Unit for John and Jode Aschoff for water service connection A757 located on Lot 7 in Cedar Ridge Estates.*

It was moved by Kramer, seconded by Schmidt to approve the Cedar Knox Rural Water Project report, each recommendation stated above and CKRWP check #18636 to Peitz Service Inc. in the amount of \$46,900.00 for the purchase of a 2024 pickup. Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Lamb, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Kollars. Motion carried (10-0-1).

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

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

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

1. Daniel Kienow Trustee well permit LC-500NF for a well in the SENE Section 16 T29N R5W.
2. Farmers Farm LLC well permit LC-501 for a well in the SENW Section 10 T30N R2E.
3. Farmers Farm LLC well permit LC-502 for a well in the NWSW Section 10 T30N R2E, expanded acres permit X-24031 for 79 irrigated acres in the N1/2SW Section 10 T30N R2E, and flow meter cost share FMLC-502.

Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Lamb, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Kollars. Motion carried (10-0-1).

Certification of District Irrigated Acres: Sudbeck presented the irrigated acres report for certification. It was moved by Lamb, seconded by Johnson to approve certification of 4,269 groundwater irrigated acres on 36 parcels as presented and included in the file copy of the minutes. Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Lamb, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Kollars. Motion carried (10-0-1).

Bow Creek Project Update: Ravenkamp reported on and presented a power point on activities of the Bow Creek Water Project.

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

EXCUSED ABSENCES - CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

Excused absences – Kollars

ADJOURN

It was moved by Armstrong, seconded by Lamb to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 pm. Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Johnson, Kramer, Lamb, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Kollars. Motion carried (10-0-1).

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

GUESTS PRESENT

Annette Sudbeck, Manager
Scott Fiedler, Project Manager CKRWP
Kristi Hochstein, Office Coordinator
Taylor LeTexier, NRCS Soil Conservationist
Myles Lammers, Asst. Manager
Holly Gregg, Program Assistant Ponca Office
Becky Ravenkamp, Bow Watershed Coordinator
Dustin Weinandt, Water Resources Technician

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 September 19, 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