

## **LEWIS & CLARK NRD MINUTES**

**September 23, 2025**

Chair Schmidt called September 23, 2025, meeting of the Lewis & Clark Natural Resources District (LCNRD) Board of Directors to order at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room at the LCNRD office. Chair Schmidt 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, Johnson, Kinkaid, Kollars, Loecker, Schmidt, Steffen, and Weinandt.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Consent agenda reviewed. It was moved by Loecker, seconded by Steffen to approve minutes of the August 21, 2025, board meeting and the August 22 to September 23, 2025, consent agenda and CKRWP check #18940 to Ditch Witch in the amount of \$87,850 for a HX30 Vac and associated equipment. The consent agenda includes financial reports, cost share approvals, claims, corrections, and additions (attached to file copy of minutes). Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Johnson, Kinkaid, Kollars, Loecker, Steffen, Weinandt, and Schmidt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Christensen, Lamb, and Schweers. Motion carried (8-0-3).

### **HEARING – POTENTIAL VIOLATION OF EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL ACT – ESCA**

**#2024-2.** The board reviewed information related to the potential violation including the field report. The landowner was informed of the meeting and has signed a conservation plan. It was moved by Kollars, seconded by Weinandt that a violation of the Erosion & Sediment Control Act (ESCA) occurred and therefore issues an order including the prepared and signed conservation plan for ESCA complaint #2024-2. Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Johnson, Kinkaid, Kollars, Loecker, Steffen, Weinandt, and Schmidt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Christensen, Lamb, and Schweers. Motion carried (8-0-3).

Lamb entered the meeting at 6:14 pm.

### **HEARING – POTENTIAL VIOLATION OF EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTRL ACT – ESCA**

**#2025-1** The board reviewed information related to the potential violation including the field report. The landowner was informed of the meeting and has signed a conservation plan. The landowner provided a Power Point presentation with review of the property resulting in the complaint. It was moved by Condon, seconded by Johnson that a violation of the Erosion & Sediment Control Act (ESCA) occurred and therefore issues an order including listed requirements and prepared and incorporated conservation plan for ESCA complaint #2025-1. Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Johnson, Kinkaid, Lamb, Loecker, Steffen, Weinandt, and Schmidt. NAY: Kollars. ABSENT: Christensen and Schweers. Motion carried (8-1-2).

### **FINAL ACTION ON FY2026 BUDGET AND LEVY RESOLUTIONS 2025-5**

Schmidt stated the budget hearing was held on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 pm with the tax levy hearing following the budget hearing. No public was in attendance. It was moved by Lamb, seconded by Kinkaid to approve the FY2026 budget as presented. Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Johnson, Kinkaid, Lamb, Loecker, Steffen, Weinandt, and Schmidt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Christensen and Schweers. Motion carried (9-0-2).

It was moved by Steffen, seconded by Weinandt to approve tax levy resolution 2025-5 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 2025-2026 property tax request be set at:

General Fund: \$ 1,867,204.17

2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 15.58 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 0.028747 per \$100 of assessed value.
4. Lewis & Clark NRD proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.030825 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 last year's budget by 30.14 percent.
6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2025.

Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Johnson, Kinkaid, Kollars, Lamb, Loecker, Steffen, Weinandt, and Schmidt.  
NAY: None. ABSENT: Christensen and Schweers. Motion carried (9-0-2).

### **ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES**

Long Range Implementation Plan: No Action Needed

NSWCP/NRD – Tree Program Rates & Minimum Acres for Planned Grazing Systems: It was moved by Johnson seconded by Condon to approve the following tree rates for the 2025 tree season: \$1.40 per seedling tree, \$35.00 per 25 bundle of seedlings, price to be determined by management per native plant plugs, \$1.40 per seedling tree for planting with a minimum stop charge of \$325.00, tillage charges based on current NSWCP figures; 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, 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. Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Johnson, Kinkaid, Kollars, Lamb, Loecker, Steffen, Weinandt, and Schmidt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Christensen and Schweers. Motion carried (9-0-2).

Manager's Report: Sudbeck provided an update and reviewed projects.

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

1. Allen & Marilyn Heine replacement well permit LC-552R in the SWSW Section 18 T33N R2 and flow meter cost share FMLC-552R.
2. Allen & Marilyn Heine expanded acres permit X-25036 modification. When the permit was approved, the piping was plumbed to the well that was not stated on the permit. This modification will correct that error by changing the well to the new replacement well LC-552R.
3. Iver Bruegman expanded acres permit X-25023 for 32 irrigated acres in the NENW Section 33 T30N R3W.
4. Richard & Geralda Heikes expanded acres permit X-25024 for 66 irrigated acres in the N1/2SW Section 26 T31N R3E and Variance V-25001 since the well will be located about 5,475 feet from the nearest irrigation location.

Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Johnson, Kinkaid, Kollars, Lamb, Loecker, Steffen, Weinandt, and Schmidt.  
NAY: None. ABSENT: Christensen & Schweers. Motion carried (9-0-2).

Certification of District Irrigated Acres: Trenhaile presented the certified irrigated acres report. It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Steffen to approve certification of 5,263 acres on 51 parcels as presented and included in the file copy of the minutes. Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Johnson, Kinkaid, Kollars, Lamb, Loecker, Steffen, Weinandt, and Schmidt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Christensen and Schweers. Motion carried (9-0-2).

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

## **DIRECTOR & AGENCY ACTIVITIES AND REPORTS**

NARD Activity: Schmidt reported the NARD Annual Conference is September 29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> and the NARD meeting is scheduled after the conference. Sudbeck stated no resolutions have been brought forward to date.

Natural Resources Commission (NRC): Steffen reported the next meeting is September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Wau-Col Rural Water Project: Kollars reported on the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

NRCS Report: Rebekah Poppe, District Conservationist, reported on NRCS activities. Program assistant Holly Stark, Ponca NRCS office, reported on activities for the third quarter.

Bazile GMA Updates: Sudbeck reported Pablo Duarte Hernandez accepted the Bazile Extension Educator position and his start date was to be in September but has been pushed back to October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Rural Water Advisory Committee Activities: Weinandt and S. Fiedler reported on CKRWP activities and presented recommendations from the August 14, 2025; meeting of the Cedar Knox Rural Water Project Advisory Committee as follows:

- To approve the minutes of the August 14, 2025, Cedar Knox Rural Water Project Meeting.
- To approve the expenses from August 15, 2025, to September 11, 2025, as presented.
- To approve the recommendation for approval of the final FY2026 CKRWP budget and the Source Solution and System Upgrades project budget to the LCNRD Board of Directors.
- To approve the waiver of the current connection fee of \$9,000.00 for the Crofton Community Fire Prevention District #5.
- To approve Pay request #8 from Caldwell Tanks Inc in the amount of \$64,260.00.
- To approve crop damage payments resulting from the distribution line upgrades, to be based on the county average yield of dryland and irrigated grains and the FCIC spring cash price and using the dry or irrigated corn yield for damages to pasture and alfalfa.
- To approve the Request for a Reduction of nine (9) Benefit Units each for HideAway Acres on water service connection A101 and A408, decreasing both service connections to 36 Benefit Units.
- To approve adjournment of the meeting.

It was moved by Kinkaid, seconded by Steffen to approve the Cedar Knox Rural Water Project report and each recommendation as stated above. Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Johnson, Kinkaid, Kollars, Lamb, Loecker, Steffen, Weinandt, and Schmidt. NAY: None. ABSENT: Christensen and Schweers. Motion carried (9-0-2).

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Schmidt opened the floor to public comment. There were no comments.

## **EXCUSED ABSENCES - CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW**

Excused absences: Christensen and Schweers.

## **ADJOURN**

It was moved by Weinandt, seconded by Lamb to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 pm. Roll call vote: AYE: Condon, Johnson, Kinkaid, Kollars, Lamb, Loecker, Steffen, Weinandt, and Schmidt. NAY: None, ABSENT: Christensen and Schweers. Motion carried (9-0-2).

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dave Condon  
Chris Johnson  
Scott Kinkaid  
Dan Kollars  
Carl Lamb  
Ryan Loecker  
Russ Schmidt  
Jeff Steffen  
Matt Weinandt

### **GUESTS PRESENT**

Annette Sudbeck, Manager  
Scott Fiedler, CKRWP Program Manager  
Don Blankenau, LCNRD Legal Counsel  
Kristi Hochstein, Office Coordinator  
Reed Trenhaile, I&E & Water Resources Coordinator  
Cole Fiedler, Resources Technician  
Holly Stark, Program Assistant NRCS Ponca  
Rebekah Poppe, NRCS District 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 September 23, 2025 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.

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Board Secretary