

LEWIS & CLARK NRD MINUTES

February 21, 2019

Chairman Steffen called the February 21, 2019 meeting of the Lewis & Clark Natural Resources District Board of Directors to order at 1:30 pm at the Lewis & Clark NRD Office, Hartington NE. Chairman Steffen stated prior notice of the meeting had been publicized according to policy designated by the board and announced to the public present that a copy of the Open Meeting Act is located on the west wall of the meeting room.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda and financials were reviewed. It was moved by Kramer, seconded by Howey to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2019 board meeting and the February consent agenda which includes the financial reports and cost share approvals, claims, cancellations, corrections. (Copy attached to file copy of minutes). Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Hoelsing, Howey, Johnson, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried (11-0-0).

NRCS REPORT

Tyler Specht, NRCS District Conservationist, reported on recent work group meeting, small grains program and personnel changes.

NEBRASKA FOREST SERVICE

Jorden Smith reported on brush management projects he has signed up. Smith reported he is working with the Crofton Rural Fire Dept and will be providing a water tender to provide assistance in fighting fires in the Devils Nest and Lewis and Clark Lake area. The tender will be stored at the Cedar Knox Rural Water treatment plant per approval from the CKRWP Manager.

RURAL WATER REPORT

Matt Weinandt and Scott Fiedler reported on the Cedar Knox Rural Water Project meeting held on February 14. The following recommendations were made by the Committee.

1. Approve the minutes of the January 10th, 2019 rural water meeting.
2. Approve the expenses from January 11th 2019 - February 14th 2019 as presented.
3. Approve the quote from PowerManager to provide software for accounts payable, receivable, service order, utility billing and other items per quote for \$11,800 initial cost, plus additional user licenses, plus the cost to migrate existing data to the PowerManager Program (hourly cost) with a \$5015 annual support fee.

The Committee also discussed Clarifier 3 repairs, need to upgrade MIOX system (obsolete) and Tank 3 repairs. Cope Clark is now the designated operator for the Cedar Knox Rural Water Project as Gary Eckmann is planning to retire.

Jim Cannia, Katie Cameron and Sue Olafsen Lackey were in attendance to answer questions and Cannia reported on the AEM survey results. A draft timeline for potential source water change was distributed and discussed.

It was moved by Kramer, seconded by Armstrong to approve the rural water report and each of the recommendations stated above. Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Hoelsing, Howey, Johnson, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried (11-0-0). (Copy of report attached to file copy of minutes). Project Manager Scott Fiedler reported Nate Fischer has resigned and his last day will be March 8th.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Chairman Carolyn Heine reported on the planning committee meeting held prior to the board meeting.

Heine reviewed well permits, expanded acre requests, and flow meter cost share requests received. None of the requests were deviations from the rules. It was moved by Schmidt, seconded by Wienandt to approve:

- Well Permit LC-226 for Tony Arens located in NWSW Section 24-T30N-R3W, 130 new irrigated acres in SW1/4 Section 24, T30N, R3W on Expanded Acres Permit #X-19002 and Flow Meter Cost Share application FMLC-226;
- Well Permit LC-227 for Quest Inc. (Boyd Ebberson) located in Center SW ¼ Section 2-T30N-R3E,
- Ron Lauer Expanded Acres Permit X19003 for 43 new irrigated acres in SESE Section 27-T32N-R2E.
- Roger Sudbeck Expanded Acres Permit X-19004 for 51 new irrigated acres located in the N1/2 SE1/4 Section 27, T31N, R1E.

Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Hoelsing, Howey, Johnson, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried (11-0-0).

Director Heine reviewed proposed contracts with USGS and DNR for stream gage monitoring on Bow Creek. It was moved by Heine, seconded by Christensen to approve and authorize management to sign agreements with USGS and DNR for sponsoring the existing stream gage on Bow Creek. Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Hoelsing, Howey, Johnson, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried (11-0-0).

Director Heine reported on a small grains program proposed by Nebraska Game and Parks designed to complement existing habitat "complexes" that contain CRP fields in assigned areas (map attached to file copy of minutes) by providing an incentive payment. Game and Parks will provide a per acre incentive payment to the fields planted to small grains meeting these requirements. Lewis & Clark NRD will provide the incentive of \$8 per acre up to 160 acres for the year a field is planted by a first-time user of small grain, in areas of the district not identified by Game and Parks, where the planting will enhance soil health and water quality. The program will be combined with the existing cover crop program.

The committee discussed proposed signage for the meeting room. After reviewing estimated cost the committee recommended splitting the project over two years.

The committee reviewed progress on the Water Quality Management Plan to address surface water quality and to maintain eligibility for NDEQ 319 funding. The committee discussed applying for grants to implement the plan including hiring an employee to focus on priority areas.

The Committee reviewed the results of the AEM survey as presented at the Cedar Knox Rural Water Committee meeting.

It was moved by Armstrong, seconded by Hoelsing to authorize

- Development of the Small Grains Program as described above,
- Purchase a white board and LCNRD sign this fiscal year and the Lewis & Clark NRD map signage and Cedar Knox Rural Water Project signage next fiscal year
- Proceed with grant application through Nebraska Dept of Environmental Quality 319 program and Nebraska Environmental Trust and other programs for Water Quality Management Plan priority areas including hiring a coordinator. Roll call vote: AYE: Armstrong, Christensen, Condon, Heine, Hoelsing, Howey, Johnson, Kramer, Schmidt, Steffen, Weinandt. NAY: None. ABSENT: None. Motion carried (11-0-0).

Committee Assignments for the next two year are:

Budget and Financial – Steffen, Armstrong, Heine, Weinandt, Johnson

Planning and Personnel – Steffen, Heine, Howey, Schmidt, Kramer

Operation and Maintenance – Steffen, Hoelsing, Christensen, Condon

DIRECTORS ACTIVITY

RC&D & Wau Col: Gary Howey reported no Wau Col meeting was held and he was unable to attend the Northeast Nebraska Resources Conservation & District meeting.

NARD Update: Marcel Kramer reported on the National Envirothon and that Craig Dericksen NRCS has offered assistance for the event and has reached out to adjoining state offices. Recommend the NRD nominate Tom Moser for the NARD Hall of Fame award, NACD grant funds available, National Association of Conservation Districts Northern Plains Regional Meeting will be held in Gothenburg Nebraska this June.

Kramer reported on the Legislative Conference and testifying in support of LB 243 Soil Health Bill. Gary Howey, Carolyn Heine, Bill Christensen, Jeff Steffen, Dave Condon and Russ Schmidt reported on sessions they attended while at the Legislative Conference.

NRC: Jeff Steffen reported NRC will be meeting in March and voting on officers at that meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITY

Manager Sudbeck reported on the Bazile Groundwater Management Area, the decommissioning well effort in that area and interviewing a candidate for an UNL educator to work in the Bazile Groundwater Management area.

NRD Staff did a walk through of the Corps of Discovery Welcome Center and there were no concerns or deficiencies identified by Dept of Transportation. The building was turned over on January 31st. The CDWC Council Vice Chair advised they would not be pursuing operation of the CDWC. Meetings have been held with other agencies to see if there was a way to keep the center open.

Tree sales are down significantly for 2019. IT switch from previous service was started February 9. Office 365 has been installed on all computers which is just the start of the process. Things are going smoothly at this time.

Jeff Schuckman, Nebraska Game and Parks has advised that Game and Parks plans to draw down the lake at Powder Creek potentially this summer as fish populations are not what Game and Parks would like to see. (Copy of Manager report attached to file copy of minutes.)

Connor Baldwin and Myles Lammers gave reports on their activities. Elle Bermel, Office Program Technician, was introduced to the board.

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

Meeting adjourned at 3:26 pm. The next meeting will be March 21 at 1:30 pm with a planning committee meeting at 10:00 am.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Armstrong, Curtis

Christensen, Bill

Condon, Dave

GUESTS PRESENT

Tyler Specht, NRCS

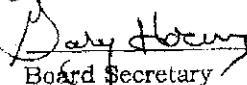
Jorden Smith, Nebr Forest Service

Scott Fiedler, CKRWP

Heine, Carolyn
Hoelsing, Leroy
Howey, Gary
Johnson, Chris
Kramer, Marcel
Schmidt, Russ
Steffen, Jeff
Weinandt, Matt

Annette Sudbeck, Manager
Connor Baldwin, Res Tech
Myles Lammers, Water Res Tech
Elle Bermel, Office Program Tech
Marilyn Schumacher, Office Mgr

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 February 21, 2019 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 Chairman 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