

**MEETING MINUTES
MIDDLE NIOBRARA NRD BOARD OF DIRECTORS
December 14, 2020**

The Middle Niobrara NRD Board of Directors meeting was advertised in the Ainsworth Star Journal and Valentine Midland News newspapers, MNNRD website, and KBRB, KVSH, & Twister radio stations.

The meeting was held via conference call and called to order by Chairman Danielski at 3:05 pm. Danielski noted that the Open Meetings Act Laws were posted as well as the Governors new executive order for virtual board meeting participation. The following persons were present:

Directors: Present: Leonard Danielski, Justin Hammond, Marty Graff and Cherryl Lovejoy
Via Phone: Dean Jochem, Greg Wilke
Staff: Mike Murphy, Zachery Peterson, Tim Storm, Leslie Harvey, Chandler Schmidt, Tim Storm, Kyle Temple
NRCS: Via Phone: Christine Lousias
Guests: None
Absent: Mark Johnson

Approve November Minutes

Motion by Graff, second by Lovejoy to approve the November 9, 2020 Board of Director's meeting minutes as presented. Roll Call: Aye - Danielski, Graff, Lovejoy, Wilke. Nay - None. Abstain — Hammond. Absent — Jochem and Johnson. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Lovejoy reported the balances for general ledger, STFIT general and sinking funds, CD's, manager's account, and checks to be approved.

Murphy went over checks to be approved.

Motion by Lovejoy, second by Danielski to approve the December 14, 2020 Treasurer's Report. Roll Call: Aye - Graff, Hammond, Lovejoy, Wilke, Danielski. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent - Jochem and Johnson. Motion carried.

Lovejoy reported on a CD at Pinnacle Bank that is mature.

Motion by Danielski, second by Graff to renew the CD at Pinnacle Bank. Roll Call: Aye — Lovejoy, Wilke, Danileski, Graff. Nay — None. Abstain — Hammond. Absent — Jochem and Johnson. Motion carried

Directors' Forum

No report

Dr. Wortman - 4:00 PM

A virtual presentation was given to Directors.

Agency Reports:

Extension Office

No report

Niobrara Council

Minutes from the previous meetings were included in the director's packet.

NRCS

1. Field Office Report
Lousias reviewed her report.
2. USDA Service Center Boundary Request

Motion by Graff, Second by Danielski to request and recommend to Craig Derickson to approve the redrawing of the NRCS boundary lines for the USDA Keya Paha, Brown, and Rock County service area. Roll Call: Aye — Wilke, Danielski, Graff, Hammond, Jochem, Lovejoy. Nay — None. Abstain — None. Absent — Johnson. Motion carried.

NARD

1. Building Dividend Resolution

Motion by Graff, Second by Danielski to ratify the Resolution from the Nebraska Association of Resources District. Roll Call: Aye — Lovejoy, Wilke, Danielski, Graff, Hammond, Jochem. Nay — None. Abstain — None. Absent — Johnson. Motion carried.

2. Acknowledgement and Attestation Form

Motion by Graff, Second by Danielski to ratify the Acknowledgment and Attestation Form. Roll Call: Aye — Jochem, Lovejoy, Wilke, Danielski, Graff, Hammond. Nay — None. Abstain — None. Absent — Johnson. Motion carried.

NRC

Greg reported that there was not a meeting held. He did participate in the Upper Niobrara White and Lower Niobrara NRD's meetings as the Niobrara Basin representative. He will also accept being nominated as the Niobrara Basin representative for the hearing that will be held Friday January 15th at the MNNRD.

Executive Committee Meeting

Building

Reviewed the updated design plans from Granger.

SINREC

Temple stated that Heartland Scenic Studios Inc. was selected for the initial SINREC design.

Water Program's Committee Meeting

Monitoring Well Bids

Storm reported that he has received two bids for the drilling of the monitor wells.

Motion by Graff, Second by Danielski to accept the bid from Premier Well Drilling to have at least one well drilled per site. Roll Call: Aye — Danielski, Graff, Hammond, Jochem, Lovejoy, Wilke. Nay — None. Abstain — None. Absent — Johnson. Motion carried.

Fertilizer Reports

Storm reported that he has received some reports since the last meeting. Discussion was held on how to handle the process in the future.

Natural Resources Committee Meeting

EWP Appleman's Dam

Schmidt reported on the NRCS update on EWP qualification to the Directors.

Motion by Danielski, second by Lovejoy to move forward and receive bids on the EWP Appleman's Dam project. Roll Call: Aye — Danielski, Graff, Hammond, Jochem, Lovejoy, Wilke. Nay — None. Abstain — None. Absent — Johnson. Motion carried

Cherry County WFPO's

January 19th MNNRD will host be the agency meeting and public meeting.

NSWCP Cost-Share Rate

Temple reported that he is looking for opportunities for the cost-share dollars to help more producers.

Christmas Party — January 17th 2021

Date is set for 5:00 pm January 17th at the MNNRD office.

Holiday Vacation

Motion by Graff, second by Danielski to allow district employees one extra day off with pay during the holidays. This day may be donated to Dana Krueger at their discretion. Roll Call: Aye — Graff, Hammond, Jochem, Lovejoy, Wilke, Danielski. Nay — None. Abstain — None. Absent — Johnson. Motion carried.

Administrative Assistant Report

Nothing besides what was on her report.

Technician Reports

Temple gave a presentation on 2020 fall static water levels.

Watershed Coordinator Report

Schmidt reviewed his report.

Natural Resources Supervisor's Report

Temple reported on the tree program, Cub Creek, nominations for the Johnny Appleseed Award, and site preps.

Water Supervisor's Report

Storm reviewed his report.

Assistant/Office Manager Report

Peterson gave an update on the boiler unit. New internet and phone provider. Peterson has been appointed to the Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force. He reported on the new tablets.

Manager's Report

Murphy passed out his notes on the zoning meeting and gave an oral report to directors. He also provided an update on the Spencer Dam water rights application, and on Dana Krueger.

Excused Absence

Motion by Danielski, second by Graff to approve absence of Johnson. Roll Call: Aye — Hammond, Lovejoy, Wilke, Danielski, Graff. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Jochem and Johnson. Motion Carried.

Public Comment

No Comment

Announcements

None

Adjourn

Motion by Graff, second by Danielski to adjourn. Roll Call: Aye - Danielski, Graff, Lovejoy, Wilke. Nay - None. Abstain – None. Absent - Jochem and Johnson. Motion Carried.

Cherryl Lovejoy Secretary/Treasurer

Date