

MEETING MINUTES
MIDDLE NIOBRARA NRD BOARD OF DIRECTORS
August 8th, 2022

The Middle Niobrara NRD Board of Directors meeting was advertised in the Valentine Midland News, Ainsworth Star Journal, Rock County Ledger, Springview Herald, & Sheridan County Journal Star.

The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman Nollette at 3:06 pm. Nollette noted that the Open Meetings Act Laws were posted. The following persons were present:

Directors: Present: Justin Hammond, Leonard Danielski, Marty Graff,
Tim Nollette, Dean Jochem, Greg Wilke
Staff: Mike Murphy, Kyle Temple, Chandler Schmidt, Kaleb Puncocar, James Battershaw, Rick Joseph
NRCS: Christine Lousias
UNL Ext: No Representative
Guests: Stephanie Denaeyer & Jessica Knox
Absent: Cherryl Lovejoy

Approve last Month's Minutes

Motion by Hammond second by Danielski to approve the July 12th, 2022 Board of Director's meeting minutes. Roll Call: Aye — Danielski, Graff, Hammond, Wilke, Jochem & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Lovejoy. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

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

Murphy asked Joseph to give an update on STFIT and Sinking account switch to NPAIT.

Murphy went over checks to be approved.

Motion by Graff second by Hammond to approve the August 8th, 2022, Treasurer's Report. Roll Call: Aye — Danielski, Graff, Hammond, Wilke, Jochem & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Lovejoy. Motion carried.

Directors' Forum

Nothing new to report.

Agency Reports:

Extension Office

No report given.

Nebraska Council

Murphy gave an update on the July 28th meeting.

NRCS

Lousias reviewed her report included in the director's packet and introduced Jessica Knox, Soil Conservationist.

NARD

Graff gave an update on the Fall Conference in Kearney, NE on September 25th — 27th.

Motion by Hammond second by Graff to nominate Marty Graff Voting Delegate with Tim Nollette as the Alternate Voting Delegate for the NRD Fall Conference in Kearney, Nebraska. Roll Call: Aye — Danielski, Graff, Hammond, Wilke, Jochem & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Lovejoy. Motion carried.

Murphy gave an update on the Benefits Meeting.

NRC

Nothing new to report. Next meeting August 11th.

Executive Committee Meeting

Murphy gave an update on finalizing last fiscal years budget and planning for new fiscal year budget. Murphy gave an overview of the proposed budget.

Water Committee Meeting

Murphy gave up an update on the new irrigated acre applications. Murphy gave an update on the Water Smart Grant and the need for a letter of support. Temple reviewed the support letter.

Motion by Graff second by Hammond to sign the letter of support for the Water Smart Grant Roll Call: Aye – Nollette, Graff, Hammond, Wilke, Jochem & Danielski. Nay - None. Abstain – None. Absent – Lovejoy. Motion carried.

Murphy gave an update on the Know Your Well programs. Murphy and Temple attended a Know Your Well training meeting in Alliance, Nebraska.

Temple presented a request for an irrigated acre transfer for Merriman LLC to Merriman LLC.

Motion by Graff second by Wilke to Deny Irrigated Acre Transfer from Merriman LLC to Merriman LLC. Roll Call: Aye – Nollette, Graff, Hammond, Wilke, Jochem & Danielski. Nay - None. Abstain – None. Absent – Lovejoy. Motion carried.

Natural Resources Committee

Murphy and Puncochar gave an update on current pricing.

Motion by Hammond second by Danielski to raise Current Labor Rates to \$70.00 per hour. Roll Call: Aye – Nollette, Graff, Hammond, Wilke, Jochem & Danielski. Nay - None. Abstain – None. Absent – Lovejoy. Motion carried.

Murphy and Puncochar gave an update on NWSCP Applications received.

Motion by Hammond second by Graff to approve First Round NSWCP Applications. Roll Call: Aye – Nollette, Graff, Hammond, Wilke, Jochem & Danielski. Nay - None. Abstain – None. Absent – Lovejoy. Motion carried.

Schmidt gave a quick update on the 2022 MNNRD Master Plan.

Administrative Assistant Report

Joseph reviewed his report included in the director's packet.

Technician Reports

Temple, Puncocar and Battershaw’s reports were reviewed that were included in the director’s packet.

Watershed Coordinator Report

Schmidt reviewed his report included in the director’s packet.

Manager’s Report

Murphy provided an overview of his report that was included in the director’s packet.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Announcements

Nothing new to report.

Excused Absence

Motion by Graff second by Danielski to approve Lovejoy’s excused absence from the August 8th, 2022 Board Meeting. Roll Call: Aye — Nollette, Graff, Hammond, Danielski, Wilke & Jochem. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Lovejoy. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 4:18 Approved by roll call vote.


Cheryl Lovejoy Secretary/Treasurer


Date

ACRONYM KEY

ACEP	Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
CC	Cherry County
CSP	Conservation Stewardship Program
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program
EWP	Emergency Watershed Protection Program
LPCW	Long Pine Creek Watershed
LWG	Local Work Group
MNNRD	Middle Niobrara Natural Resources District
NACD	National Association of Conservation Districts
NARD	Nebraska Association of Resources Districts
NDEE	Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy
NDNR	Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
NET	Nebraska Environmental Trust
NFS	Nebraska Forest Service
NGPC	Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
NRC	Natural Resource Commission
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NSWCP	Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Program
NWRA	National Water Resources Association
NSIA	Nebraska State Irrigation Association
PF	Pheasants Forever
PIFR	Preliminary Investigation Feasibility Report
PIP	Project Implementation Plan
Plan-EA	Plan – Environmental Assessment
SINREC	Sandhills Interactive Natural Resource Educational Complex
STF	Sandhills Task Force
UNL Ext	University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
WFPO	Watershed & Flood Preventions Operations Program
WQMP	Water Quality Management Plan
WRP	Wetlands Reserve Program
WSF	Water Sustainability Fund

