

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**MIDDLE NIOBRARA NRD BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**February 10th, 2025**

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

The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman Ladely at 3:04 pm. Ladely noted that the Open Meetings Act Laws were posted. The following persons were present:

Directors: Present: Justin Hammond, Greg Wilke, Tim Nollette, Marty Graff, Mark Monroe, Stephanie Ladely.  
Staff: Mike Murphy, Kyle Temple, Chandler Schmidt, Rick Joseph, James Battershaw.  
NRCS: Julianna Hinton  
UNL Ext:  
Guests: Marla Shelbourn, Casey Wonnenberg-King  
Absent: Leonard Danielski

**Public Comment**

Shelbourn inquired about public comment on building plans.

**Approve last Month's Minutes**

*Motion by Graff second by Monroe to Approve the January 13<sup>th</sup> 2025, Board of Director's Meeting Minutes. Roll Call: Aye — Hammond, Wilke, Monroe, Graff, Ladely & Nollette Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Danielski. Motion carried.*

**Treasurer's Report**

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

Murphy went over checks to be approved.

*Motion by Hammond second by Monroe to Approve the February 10<sup>th</sup> 2025, Treasurer's Report. Roll Call: Aye — Hammond, Wilke, Graff, Monroe, Ladely & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Danielski. Motion carried.*

## **Director's Forum**

Graff mentioned the updated NARD personnel policies. Graff had some conversations with producers on cover crops and NRCS policies.

## **Agency Reports:**

### ***Extension Office***

No report given.

### ***Niobrara Council***

Murphy gave an update. The next scheduled meeting is February 20th, 2025 in Valentine.

### ***NRCS***

Julianna Hinton gave an update, along with her handout. Local work group meeting will be held in Valentine at the Middle Niobrara NRD Office on February 26<sup>th</sup>.

### ***NARD***

Graff gave an update. NARD legislative reports are compiled weekly.

### ***NRC***

Wilke gave an update and stated the WSF was available and encouraged more applications.

## **Water Committee Meeting**

Discussion held on Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act (NiRIA) applications. The NRD's were informed that NDNR would provide funding for all applications through amended contracts.

***Motion by Graff second by Wilke to Approve all NiRIA applications reviewed by the committee pending revised contract by NDNR. Roll Call: Aye —Hammond, Wilke & Nollette. Nay - Ladely. Abstain — Graff & Monroe. Absent — Danielski. Motion carried.***

### Building Committee Meeting

Discussion held on Conoco/Car Wash Property Sale.

*Motion by Monroe second by Hammond to Approve the Conoco/Car Wash Property Sale. Roll Call: Aye — Hammond, Graff, & Wilke. Nay — Ladely, Nollette & Monroe. Abstain — None. Absent — Danielski. Motion Failed.*

Murphy gave a building progress timeline update

*Motion by Wilke second by Monroe to hold a Public Meeting in Ainsworth & Valentine on Building Project before we move forward as Ammended. Roll Call: Aye —Hammond, Wilke, Graff, Monroe, Ladely & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Danielski. Motion carried.*

*Motion by Wilke second by Graff to Ammend Public Meeting Motion to add Advertise for 2 weeks in newspapers and radio with Building Cost Estimate. Roll Call: Aye —Hammond, Wilke, Graff, Monroe, Ladely & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Danielski. Motion carried.*

### Administrative Assistant Report

Joseph's report was included in the director's packet.

### Coordinator's Report(s)

Coordinator's reports from Battershaw, Purdy, Reagle, Temple & Schmidt were included in the director's packet.

### Manager's Report

Murphy's report was included in the director's packet.

### Excused Absence

*Motion by Hammond second by Ladely to Approve the Excused Absence for Danielski. Roll Call: Aye —Hammond, Wilke, Graff, Monroe, Ladely & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Danielski. Motion carried.*

### Announcements

No announcements.

**Adjourn**

*Motion by Monroe second by Hammond to Adjourn at 4:40. Roll Call: Aye —Hammond, Wilke, Ladely, Graff, Monroe & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Danielski. Motion carried.*

*Hammond*  
Justin Hammond

Secretary/Treasurer

*3/10/25*  
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
HMP	Hazard Mitigation Plan
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
NIRIA	Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act
NRBA	Niobrara River Basin Alliance
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
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