

**Programs, Projects, and Operations
Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
August 8, 2017**

A meeting of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District’s Programs, Projects, and Operations Subcommittee was held at the Natural Resources Center, 8901 South 154th Street, Omaha, NE, on August 8, 2017. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson John Conley at 6:30 p.m.

QUORUM CALL: Quorum call was taken. The following subcommittee members were in attendance.

Subcommittee Members Present	Subcommittee Members Absent	Other Directors Present	Others in Attendance
John Conley, Chairman	Tim Fowler *	Larry Bradley	John Winkler
Jim Thompson, Vice-Chairman	Patrick Leahy *	Mark Gruenewald	Marlin Petermann
Fred Conley		Ted Japp	Brent Meyer, Legal Counsel
Rich Tesar		Dave Klug	Lori Laster
			Paul Woodward
			Other Staff Members

- * Absence
- ** Alternate Voting Member

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

- **It was moved by Director Thompson and seconded by Director F. Conley that the agenda be adopted.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 4-yea and 0-nay.

Voting Yea: F. Conley, Tesar, Thompson, J. Conley
 Voting Nay: None
 Abstaining: None
 Absent: Fowler, Leahy

PROOF OF PUBLICATION: Public notice of the meeting was posted at all District offices and published in the Omaha World-Herald on August 3, 2017. The proof of publication affidavit is included with the file copy of these minutes.

1. Review and Recommendation of the Geographic Information Services to Certify Irrigated Acres and Issue Well Permits – Paul Woodward:

Paul Woodward stated that a Request for Proposals had been issued to provide geographic information services (GIS) to aid the District in certifying irrigated acres and issuing well permits. Using GIS will allow the District to create a database to help comply with the District’s Integrated Management Plan. Five bids were received ranging from \$33,500 to \$94,800 for the base price. Langan and Burns & McDonnell both proposed to use ESRI software, while the other three firms proposed to build a custom database. The ESRI software is currently used by the District free of charge through an agreement with the NRCS. While Langan did provide the lowest base bid, they did not include annual maintenance

support as requested in the RFP. Staff recommends that the bid of \$46,361 from Burns & McDonnell be accepted.

- **It was moved by Director F. Conley and seconded by Director Thompson that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute a contract with Burns & McDonnell for Geographic Information Services to certify irrigated acres and issue well permits for a maximum not-to-exceed cost of \$46,361, subject to provisions deemed necessary by the General Manager and approval as to form by District legal counsel.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 4-yea and 0-nay.

Voting Yea: F. Conley, Tesar, Thompson, J. Conley
Voting Nay: None
Abstaining: None
Absent: Fowler, Leahy

2. Review and Recommendation of the Lower Platte Watershed Restoration, Nebraska – Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Comprehensive Study – Marlin Petermann:

Marlin Petermann explained that Congress had approved a Lower Platte River Watershed Restoration project through the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) in 2007. The authorization allowed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to work with the three Lower Platte NRDs to conduct a comprehensive watershed study for environmental restoration and flood risk reduction. However, no funds have been appropriated for that study.

In order to obtain the Congressional appropriation, the three Lower Platte NRDs must submit a letter of intent to start a watershed study. This initial study would be no more than \$3 million total, with the USACE providing 75% of the funding with the remaining 25% of the funding split between the NRDs. After the study is completed, funding for projects would be available through USACE. With the District participating in the Southern Sarpy Watershed Partnership, this may be an opportunity to fund projects identified in that area to help with ecosystem restoration and flood risk reduction.

- **It was moved by Director F. Conley and seconded by Director Thompson that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed Letter of Intent for the Lower Platte River Watershed, Nebraska-Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Comprehensive Study, contingent upon approval by the Lower Platte North NRD and the Lower Platte South NRD and subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approval as to form by District Legal Counsel.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 3-yea and 1-nay.

Voting Yea: F. Conley, Thompson, J. Conley
Voting Nay: Tesar
Abstaining: None
Absent: Fowler, Leahy

ADJOURNMENT: Being no further business, the meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:06 p.m.

Minutes were prepared by Lori Laster.