Agenda Item: 10.C

Memorandum

To: Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District Programs Projects and Operations Subcommittee

From: Paul W. Woodward, PE, Groundwater Management Engineer

Date: February 1, 2018

Re: Review and Recommendation for Adoption of Proposed Groundwater Management Areas

Implementation of the new Groundwater Management Plan (GMP) and new Groundwater Management Rules and Regulations (Appendix N of the Policy Manual) necessitates the adoption of Groundwater Management Areas (GMAs) in accordance with state statutes under the Groundwater Management and Protection Act.

Proposed Groundwater Management Areas were presented at a series of public hearings held at three separate locations: Nov. 30, 2017 in Dakota City; Dec. 7, 2017 in Tekamah; and Dec. 14, 2017 in Omaha.

No testimony was provided at any of the public hearings to suggest changes to the proposed GMAs. Therefore, it is recommended that the entire District be designated as a Phase I Groundwater Quality Management Area and a Level I Groundwater Quantity Management Area. Specific areas recommended as Phase II Groundwater Quality Management areas near Tekamah and Springfield are shown in attached Figure 1 and described by Section, Township, and Range in Exhibit C of the proposed Groundwater Management Rules and Regulations.

Management recommends that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS Natural Resources Districts have the legal authority to regulate groundwater in the State of Nebraska pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 46-702; and

WHEREAS Natural Resources Districts have the authority to establish groundwater management areas to accomplish the objectives of protection of groundwater quality and/ or groundwater quantity; and

WHEREAS the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District has identified the proposed Groundwater Management Areas in the proposed Groundwater Management Plan; and

WHEREAS the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District has submitted to and received approval from the Director of Natural Resources of the proposed Groundwater Management Plan which includes the proposed designation of Groundwater Management Areas; and

WHEREAS the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District actively solicited public comment and input on the proposed Groundwater Management Areas and has noticed and conducted multiple public hearings in compliance with Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 46-708 and 46-743.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the area of the entire District, and all underlying groundwater, are designated as Groundwater Management Areas, as further described in the District's Groundwater Rules and Regulations, and shall be subject to the controls authorized by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 46-739.

