

Memo to: Personnel, Legislative and Public Affairs Subcommittee
Subject: Nebraska Association of Resources Districts 2020 Resolutions
Date: August 28, 2020
From: John Winkler



The following resolution is to be voted on at the 2020 Nebraska Association of Resources District's Annual Meetings:

NARD Resolution 2020-1: Extreme Weather Event or Climate Change Action Plan. Submitted by Lower Platte South NRD. Recommendation that the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts support legislation for the development of an evidence-based, data-driven, strategic action plan to provide methods for adapting to and mitigating the impacts of extreme weather events or climate change and that the NARD will work with the Unicameral and other interested parties in developing the amount of funding required, the source of funding, and the entity that would develop the action plan.

Recommendation that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the NARD Voting Delegate and/or Alternate be authorized to vote to Support Resolution 2020-1 Extreme Weather Event or Climate Change Action Plan at the 2020 NARD Annual Conference.



Nebraska's
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August 21, 2020

TO: NARD Board and NRD Managers

FROM: Dean E. Edson, Executive Director

RE: 2020 ANNUAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

Due to ongoing safety challenges with the pandemic, the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) has cancelled their annual conference scheduled for Sept. 28-29, in Kearney. This includes the trade shows, breakout sessions. The health and safety of our staff, board members, vendors and partners are our primary concern, and the Executive Committee has concluded that it is neither safe nor practical to move forward with the conference.

However, the business session as well as the NARD committee meetings and board meeting will go forward in-person. Social-distancing and direct health measures will be followed to ensure board of directors' safety. There will be no Zoom or other broadcast of these events.

Holiday Inn & Conference Center, Kearney Monday, January 28th

- An in-person business session at 3 pm with no second business session necessary.
- The meeting room will be posted at the hotel.

Attached is one resolution that has been submitted to NARD for consideration at the 2020 Annual Conference as of end of business on August 14, 2020, which was the deadline for resolutions. Additional resolutions submitted, if any, will require 2/3rds vote of the delegates to be considered at the annual meeting.

The 2019 voting delegate list is on page 2. Please review this from last year and confirm your voting delegate to Jeanne Dryburgh at jdryburgh@nrdnet.org. The voting procedures modified by the Executive Committee on August 21st are on page 3.

Resolutions submitted by the August 14, 2020 deadline

1. *NARD Resolution 2020-1 – Extreme Weather Event or Climate Change Action Plan.
Submitted by the Lower Platte South NRD*

**Voting Delegate and Alternate
For
2020 Annual Conference**

	DELEGATE	ALTERNATE
Central Platte NRD	Deb VanMatre	Jay Richeson
Lewis & Clark NRD	Marcel Kramer	Gary Howey
Little Blue NRD	Lyle Heinrichs	Chuck Rainforth
Lower Big Blue NRD	Larry Barta	Steve Kelley
Lower Elkhorn NRD	Joel Hansen	Dave Kathol
<i>Lower Loup NRD</i>	<u><i>Rollie Amsberry</i></u>	<u><i>James Eschliman</i></u>
Lower Niobrara NRD	Diana Wendt	Jack Engelhaupt
Lower Platte North NRD	Bob Hilger	John Hannah
<i>Lower Platte South NRD</i>	<i>Milt Schmidt</i>	<i>Luke Peterson</i>
Lower Republican NRD	Roger Nelson	Nelson Trambly
Middle Niobrara NRD	Martin Graff	Mark Johnson
Middle Republican NRD	Shane Rippen	Tracy Zink
Nemaha NRD	Dan Hodges	Duane Sugden
<i>North Platte NRD</i>	<i>Ryan Reuter</i>	<i>Kent Andreas</i>
Papio-Missouri River NRD	Rich Tesar	Jim Thompson
<i>South Platte NRD</i>	<i>James Johnson</i>	<i>Larry Rutt</i>
Tri-Basin NRD	Dave Raffety	Larry Reynolds
Twin Platte NRD	Dennis Schilz	Robert Petersen
<i>Upper Big Blue NRD</i>	<i>Paul Bethune</i>	<i>Larry Moore</i>
Upper Elkhorn NRD	Ted Hughes	Chris Dierks
Upper Loup NRD	Judy Ridenour	Chris Higgins
Upper Niobrara White NRD	Scott Berndt	Tod Dorshorst
Upper Republican NRD	Terry Martin	none

RESOLUTION & VOTING PROCEDURES

- 1. Each NARD member district that is in good standing shall be able to submit resolutions for consideration by the Association membership on policy issues pertinent to the mission and goals of the Association. A majority of the 23 districts shall constitute a quorum.**
- 2. Each NARD member district that is in good standing shall have five votes providing a total of 115 votes for all 23 members.**
- 3. The voting delegate for the member district, or the alternate in the case of the delegate's absence, shall be the only individual to make the motion on behalf of their respective district. Any district representative may speak on the merits of a motion or issue during the discussion period once recognized by the chair.**
- 4. We encourage more information on the issues. However, a non-voting participant may only speak on an issue and/or provide additional information at the request of a voting delegate of a district in good standing or at the request of the chair.**
- 5. A copy of all resolutions submitted to the NARD Office prior to the Annual Meeting is included in the Resolutions Packet. Resolutions received by the deadline require a majority of all the membership votes, not the quorum, (58 or great of 115 votes) to be approved.**
- 6. After resolutions submitted by the deadline have been voted on, additional resolutions may be submitted for consideration at the Annual Conference for discussion provided that:**
 - a) The member district is responsible for providing enough copies so members may read the resolution before discussion begins.**
 - b) If 2/3 of all the membership votes, not the quorum, approve the Motion to place the resolution before the body, the resolution shall be added to the agenda for consideration (example: 2/3rds of 115 = 77). If 2/3 vote is secured, a second vote is required and must follow the majority provisions in #5 to be approved**
- 7. To help avoid any distractions during the Business Session, all cell phones must be silenced during the session. Anyone whose cell phone rings during the Business Session will be fined \$5 for each occurrence and proceeds will be contributed to the NARD Foundation Account. Contributions to the NARD Foundation are tax deductible.**

NARD Resolution 2020-1

Extreme Weather Event or Climate Change Action Plan Submitted by the Lower Platte South NRD

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Legislature considered LB283 in the One Hundred Sixth Legislature which provided for a state action plan to address changes in climate, and the bill ran out of the allotted time for consideration; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Board of the Nebraska Legislature advanced LB283 from the committee on a 6-2-1 vote and proposed a committee amendment (AM2481) setting forth Legislative Findings as follows:

- (1) Pests, drought, floods, high winds, and other extreme weather events present serious, diverse, and ongoing issues for Nebraska. Many sectors and resources are impacted by such extreme weather, including agriculture, water, health care, energy generation and usage, ecosystems, forestry, rural and urban communities, transportation, and commerce and industry. Nebraska's life-giving water and soil resources continue to be subject to new stressors and risks;
- (2) Opportunities exist for the people of Nebraska to respond appropriately to these risks, including economic opportunities through development of renewable energy from our abundant wind and solar resources, biofuels, and nuclear power, through reduction of pollutants, through efforts to reduce the use of fossil fuels, through strengthened private property rights by having public input on infrastructure and reduced eminent domain use, and through development of new technologies, new agricultural crops and harvesting methods, and new products that match Nebraska's vibrant and changing needs and resources;
- (3) The report Understanding and Assessing Climate Change: Implications for Nebraska, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2014, provides a fundamental basis for understanding the impacts of extreme weather events or climate change for our state;
- (4) The 2015 Nebraska Rural Poll found that sixty-one percent of rural Nebraskans agree or strongly agree that the state should develop a plan to address the impacts of extreme weather events or climate change;
- (5) Appropriate planning is needed to develop strategies to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of extreme weather events or climate change on the health and well-being of Nebraskans;
- (6) The state must invest in research and data gathering, planning, education, and coordination of efforts related to mitigation of and adaptation to the impacts of extreme weather events or climate change; and

Revised Resolution Deadline Version – August 21, 2020 Memo

(7) An effective plan to meet the challenges of extreme weather events or climate change will enable the state and its communities to take advantage of opportunities resulting from adaptation and mitigation strategies, including attracting new businesses and investment to Nebraska, as well as reducing the potential negative impacts of extreme weather events or climate change; and

WHEREAS, these findings reference a report Understanding and Assessing Climate Change: Implications for Nebraska, which further details very significant implications for Nebraska’s (1) water resources, (2) energy supply and use, (3) agriculture, (4) forestry, (5) human health, (6) ecosystems, (7) urban systems, infrastructure, and vulnerability, (8) rural communities, and (9) insurance industry;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts supports legislation for the development of an evidence-based, data-driven, strategic action plan to provide methods for adapting to and mitigating the impacts of extreme weather events or climate change.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NARD will work with the Unicameral and other interested parties in developing the amount of funding required, the source of funding, and the entity that would develop the action plan.

Monday Business Session: Motion _____ *Second:* _____
Other: _____

Amendment No. 1: _____
Amendment No. 2: _____