



**PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2020**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District Board of Directors was held at the Natural Resources Center, 8901 S. 154th Street, Omaha, NE, on September 10, 2020. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jim Thompson at 4:00 p.m.

NOTIFICATION OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT POSTING AND MEETING PROCEDURE

QUORUM CALL: The following Directors were present for the Quorum Call:

Danny Begley	Tim McCormick
Larry Bradley	Kevyn Sopinski
Fred Conley	Rich Tesar
Tim Fowler	Jim Thompson
Mark Gruenewald	John Wiese
Ted Japp	

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

- **MOTION NO. 1:** It was moved by Director Tesar and seconded by Director Bradley that the meeting agenda be adopted.

Roll call vote was held on motion. The motion carried on a vote of 11-yea.

Voting Yea	-	Begley, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Gruenewald, Japp, McCormick, Sopinski, Tesar, Wiese, Thompson
Voting Nay	-	None
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	None
Absent	-	None

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- **MOTION NO. 2:** It was moved by Director Tesar and seconded by Director Conley that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the following resolutions on the consent agenda are hereby adopted.

Agenda Item 3.A.:

BE IT RESOLVED that the absences of the following Directors from the September 10, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting are excused: None to date.

Agenda Item 7.A., 7.B., 7.C., and 7.D.:

BE IT RESOLVED that the August 13, 2020 Pappio-Missouri River NRD Board meeting minutes, the August 12, 2020 Dakota County Rural Water Advisory Board meeting minutes, the September 8, 2020 Budget Hearing and Budget Summary meeting minutes, and the September 8, 2020 Special Hearing to Set Final Tax Request meeting minutes are approved as printed.

Roll call vote was held on motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-yea and 1-nay.

Voting Yea	-	Begley, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Japp, McCormick, Sopinski, Tesar, Wiese, Thompson
Voting Nay	-	Gruenewald
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	None
Absent	-	None

PROOFS OF PUBLICATION OF MEETING NOTICE: Notice of the meeting was published in the Omaha World Herald on September 3, 2020. The District's July 10, 2020 through August 13, 2020 expenditures were published in the Dakota County Star on August 20, 2020. The Chairperson ordered the Proofs of Publication recorded in the minutes of this meeting. They are contained as part of the file copy of these minutes.

AGENCY AND ASSOCIATION REPORTS:

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service Report: Andy Bohnenkamp, District Conservationist submitted a written report of NRCS activities for the month of September. His report is posted to the District's website.

B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts: Director Tesar noted that the NARD Annual Conference was cancelled due to the Corona Virus, but the Committee Meetings were still being held. The meetings will be held September 28-29, 2020 in Kearney, NE. Director Tesar will be the District's representative at those meetings.

C. Legislative Report: General Manager John Winkler stated that Catalyst Public Affairs didn't have any new updates from last month's presentation. Directors are receiving daily email updates from Catalyst Public Affairs.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Programs, Projects, and Operations Subcommittee: Director Conley reported that the PPO Subcommittee met on September 8, 2020 and gave a brief recap of the meeting.

- **MOTION NO. 3:** It was moved by Director Conley that the following recommendation be adopted:

PPO Recommendation #1: Amendment No. 6 to Professional Services Contract Amendment with HDR Engineering for Zorinsky Basin 2: Recommendation that the General Manager be authorized to execute Amendment No. 6 to the Professional Services Agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. for the Zorinsky Water Quality Basin Number 2 project in an amount not to exceed \$43,991 bringing the total contract not to exceed amount to \$1,973,882 subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approval as to form by District Legal Counsel.

Roll call vote was held on motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-yea and 1-nay.

Voting Yea	-	Begley, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Japp, McCormick, Sopinski, Tesar, Wiese, Thompson
Voting Nay	-	Gruenewald
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	None
Absent	-	None

- **MOTION NO. 4:** It was moved by Director Conley that the following recommendation be adopted:

PPO Recommendation #2: Amendment to Lower Platte River Consortium Interlocal Agreement: Recommendation that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement for the Platte River Consortium with the Lower Platte South NRD, Lower Platte North NRD, City of Lincoln, Metropolitan Utilities District, and Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approval as to form by District Legal Counsel.

Director Japp asked if the District was financially obligated by this Interlocal Agreement. General Manager Winkler stated that the amendment is a one-year extension to the original agreement and that there is no added financial obligation in the amended agreement. There was other discussion.

Roll call vote was held on motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-yea and 1-nay.

Voting Yea - Begley, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Japp, McCormick, Sopinski, Tesar, Wiese, Thompson
Voting Nay - Gruenewald
Abstaining - None
Excused Absence - None
Absent - None

B. Finance, Expenditures and Legal Subcommittee: Director Tesar reported that the FEL Subcommittee met on September 8, 2020 and gave a brief recap of the meeting.

•• **MOTION NO. 5:** It was moved by Director Tesar that the following recommendation be adopted:

FEL Recommendation #1: P-MRNRD FY 2021 Tax Levy and Adoption of Budget: Recommendation that the following resolutions be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District that the attached budget document incorporated herein by reference, showing Total Requirements of \$110,873,773.47 as follows,

Operating Budget	\$103,818,832.47
Project and Operations Cash Reserves	\$7,004,941.00
Uninsured Liability Sinking Fund	\$50,000.00

and Property Tax Requirement of \$27,566,059.75 (\$23,119,756.85 general and \$4,446,302.90 bond) be and is hereby adopted as the Fiscal Year 2021 budget of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District.

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1601.02 provides that the property tax request for the prior year shall be the property tax request for the current year for purposes of the levy set by the County Board of Equalization unless the Governing Body of the Papio-Missouri River NRD passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request at a different amount; and,

WHEREAS, a special public hearing held on September 8, 2020, as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Papio-Missouri River NRD that the property tax request for the current year be a different amount than the property tax request for the prior year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District by a majority vote, resolved that:

1. The FY 2021 property tax request be set at \$27,566,059.75 (\$23,119,756.85 general and \$4,446,302.90 bond).

2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 7.06%.
3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property, would be \$0.034918 per \$100 of assessed value.
4. The Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be \$0.036490 per \$100 of assessed value.
5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District will decrease from last year by 3.93%.
6. And that a copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerks within the District prior to September 20, 2020.

There was discussion about reducing the budget for Professional Services by 10%. There was also discussion on reducing the District's Cash Reserve Account. General Manager Winkler addressed all questions and concerns.

Call the Question It was moved by Director Tesar and seconded by Director Fowler to call the question and cease debate.

Roll call vote was held on motion to call the question. The motion carried on a vote of 7-yea and 4-nay.

Voting Yea	-	Bradley, Conley, Fowler, McCormick, Sopinski, Tesar, Thompson
Voting Nay	-	Begley, Gruenewald, Japp, Wiese
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	None
Absent	-	None

Roll call was held on the original motion to approve the District's FY 2021 Tax Levy and Adoption of the Budget. The motion carried on a vote of 8-yea and 3-nay.

Voting Yea	-	Begley, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, McCormick, Sopinski, Tesar, Thompson
Voting Nay	-	Gruenewald, Japp, Wiese
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	None
Absent	-	None

C. Personnel, Legislative and Public Affairs Subcommittee: Director Conley reported that the PLPA Subcommittee met on September 8, 2020 and gave a brief recap of the meeting.

•• **MOTION NO. 6:** It was moved by Director Conley that the following recommendation be adopted:

PLPA Recommendation #1: Resolution to be Considered at the 2020 NARD Annual Meeting: Be it resolved that the P-MRNRD Voting Delegate and/or Alternate should be and is hereby authorized to vote on the 2020 resolutions being considered at the NARD Annual Meeting in the manner as recommended in the table below:

Resolution	Description	Action
2020-1	Extreme Weather Event or Climate Change Action Plan. Submitted by Lower Platte South NRD.	Oppose

Director Bradley inquired as to why so many of the NRD’s were not supporting this plan. Director Tesar stated that many of the LPSNRD Board members were comprised of UNL personnel and that those Directors wanted UNL to be the ones to conduct the Extreme Weather/Climate Change research, and the funds that would go with it. This could potentially present a conflict of interest. There was further discussion.

Roll call vote was held on motion. The motion carried on a vote of 7-yea and 4-nay.

Voting Yea - Conley, Fowler, Gruenewald, Japp, McCormick, Sopinski, Tesar
 Voting Nay - Begley, Bradley, Wiese, Thompson
 Abstaining - None
 Excused Absence - None
 Absent - None

TREASURER'S REPORT:

•• **MOTION NO. 7:** It was moved by Director Fowler and seconded by Director Tesar that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to expend general funds to pay: (1) claims listed in the August, 2020 financial report; and, (2) any claims made prior to the next Board meeting for (a) earned salaries of District employees, (b) withholding taxes, (c) social security payments, (d) retirement program contributions, (e) utilities, (f) registration fees and expenses for upcoming meetings and conferences, (g) certified completed CAP and Special Project Area applications, (h) invoices which offer a credit or discount for payment made prior to the next Board meeting, (i) postage, and, (j) building and grounds contract expenses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to pay, from the respective operating accounts of the Washington County, Dakota County, and Thurston County Water Supply System, the Elkhorn Breakout Project, the Elkhorn River Stabilization Project, the Elk/Pigeon Creek Drainage Project, the Western Sarpy Drainage Project, the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership, and the Southern

Sarpy Watershed Partnership project bills listed on the August, 2020 financial report, and future claims for project utilities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the financial reports be affixed to and made a part of the minutes.

Roll call vote was held on motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-yea and 1-nay.

Voting Yea - Begley, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Japp, McCormick, Sopinski, Tesar, Wiese, Thompson
Voting Nay - Gruenewald
Abstaining - None
Excused Absence - None
Absent - None

LEGAL UPDATE: Brent Meyer, District Legal Counsel, stated he had nothing to report.

CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT: Chairperson Thompson stated he had nothing to report.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT: The General Manager reviewed his written report with the Board and noted that the report had been posted to the website.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

A. Future Meetings:

September 24, 2020	Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership Meeting, 10:00 a.m. at NRC
September 28-29, 2020	NARD Annual Meeting, Kearney, NE
October 6, 2020	P-MRNRD Subcommittee Meetings, at 4:00 p.m. at NRC
October 8, 2020	P-MRNRD Board Meeting, at 4:00 p.m. at NRC
October 22, 2020	Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership Meeting, 10:00 a.m., at NRC

B. Next Meeting – The next scheduled meeting of the P-MRNRD Board of Directors will be held on October 8, 2020 at the NRC

ADJOURNMENT: Being no further business, the Chairperson declared that the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

NOTE: These minutes reflect the actions and votes taken at the September 10, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District and are not an official transcript of the meeting. The audio cast of this meeting can be found on our website at www.papionrd.org.

I, the undersigned, Secretary of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District, hereby certify that the foregoing are true and correct minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the District held on September 10, 2020 that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the office of the District; that such subjects were contained in said agenda at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; and, that all news media requesting notification of the meeting of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting.

Richard Tesar
District Secretary