

MEMORANDUM

TO THE BOARD:

SUBJECT: General Manager's Report

DATE: February 11, 2021

FROM: John Winkler, General Manager



A. INFORMATION/EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS:

Nebraska's Regional Envirothon competition was held virtually last week. In the Metro area, we had 21 teams competing, more than any other region in the state. The highest scoring teams qualify for state, giving them an opportunity to represent Nebraska in National Envirothon 2021, hosted in Nebraska this year.

B. PERSONNEL/MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:

1. Overtime paid by the District has significantly decreased over the last 20 years. Since directed by the Board upon my appointment in 2007 to implement steps to reduce overtime, the District has decreased from an average expense of \$88,144.69 (2000-2006) to 51,165 (2007-2014) to \$22,874 (2014 to 2020) per year in employee overtime. This is nearly a 75% average reduction in overtime usage from the 2000-2006 versus the 2014-2020 time periods. In 2020, the District experienced the lowest amount of overtime in over 20 years (80% reduction from the lowest yearly average). A breakdown of District overtime is attached.
2. Congratulations to Lori Laster who was selected to present at the Association of State Floodplain Managers Virtual Conference, the world's largest floodplain management conference. Lori will discuss how the District pivoted from in-person to online engagement to gather input for the Hazard Mitigation Plan using our successful "Would You Rather?" social media campaign as a case study.
3. The District received a thank you letter from the United Way of the Midlands for the Papio NRD's support of its 2020 campaign. Despite the many challenges 2020 presented, the United Way, and I, are grateful for the generosity of District employees. Our staff contributed a total of \$2,341 to the campaign. Thank you! The letter is attached.

C. REPORT ON PURCHASES – CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND PERSONAL PROPERTY: Pursuant to Board direction, the report indicating construction services, professional services and personal property purchases from the month of January 2020 is attached for your review.

D. CURRENT AND ON-GOING PROJECTS – P-MRNRD LEGAL COUNSEL: A copy of current and on-going projects for District Legal Counsel, Husch Blackwell as of January 19 is attached for your review.

E. PAPILLION CREEK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP REPORT: The Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership Subcommittee met on January 7 & 28. The minutes are attached. The next meeting is scheduled for February 25.

ENVIROTHON

I&E REPORT



FEBRUARY 2021



- Virtual testing last week
- 21 metro area teams competed
- National Envirothon to be held in Nebraska

District Overtime Comparison

2000-2020

2000	96,685.03
2001	101,814.83
2002	66,924.05
2003	79,601.92
2004	103,026.00
2005	82,342.43
2006	86,618.57
2007	69,792.55
2008	58,873.78
2009	54,021.57
2010	55,213.82
2011	63,015.26
2012	40,948.54
2013	16,288.66
2014	28,213.76
2015	25,617.46
2016	13,204.00
2017	20,248.39
2018	10,998.14
2019	57,412.41 (Historic Flood of 2019)
2020	4,432.75

This is a breakdown of the historical overtime paid by the District over the last 20 years. Since directed by the Board upon my appointment as G.M. in 2007 to implement steps to reduce overtime, the District has went from an average experience of \$88,144.69 (2000-2006) to 51,165 (2007-2014) to \$22,874 (2014 to 2020) per year in employee overtime. This is nearly a 75% average reduction in overtime usage from the 2000-2006 versus the 2014 to 2020 time periods. In 2020 the District experienced the lowest amount of overtime in over 20 years (80% reduction from the lowest yearly average).

Obviously, this is a team effort between Board members, management and employees to focus our efforts to become as operationally efficient and effective as we can without sacrificing service to our constituents. However, as you can see by the high cost of overtime in 2019 the District is only one major ice jam or other flooding event away from consuming a vast amount of staff and material resources.

From: ASFPM <sarah@floods.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 3:07 PM
To: Laster, Lori Ann <llaster@pacionrd.org>
Subject: ASFPM Conference Abstract Selection

Congratulations! This message is to inform you that your abstract has been selected for the concurrent sessions program of the 2021 ASFPM Virtual Conference! **Please read this email in full.**

Here is the information for your presentation slot.

Abstract Title: PIVOT! The One with the New Approach to Public Outreach

Track: Risk Communication

Theme: Mitigation Planning and Outreach

Session: J5

Session play/Live Q&A date: Thursday, May 13

Session play/Live Q&A time: 3:30 -5:00 PM Central

We are finalizing logistics for the virtual conference and will be sending more information soon, but as an overview: you will pre-record your presentation and submit this recording about two weeks before the conference (a final due date will be sent soon). You will then participate in a live Q&A session on the date/time your session is scheduled (see date/time above). The presentation/recording should be no longer than 25 minutes to allow for at least 5 minutes for live, moderated Q&A time after your presentation. For this reason, if your pre-recorded session goes over 25 minutes, we will ask you to edit it down. Please keep this in mind as you prepare for and record your session.

If you have questions about your abstract placement in the session, session theme, or about the program in general, please contact me via the email address below. When you develop your presentation for the conference, please tailor your presentation to fit the session theme to the maximum extent possible.

|
Sincerely,
Steve McMaster, CFM
ASFPM Conference Program Chair
steve.mcmaster@ideationinc.com



**United Way
of the Midlands**

2201 Farnam Street, Suite 200
Omaha, NE 68102-1251
p: 402.342.8232 | f: 402.342.7402
unitedwaymidlands.org

UNITED STARTS WITH YOU



January 15, 2021

Mr. John G. Winkler
Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District
8901 S 154th St
Omaha, NE 68138-3621

Dear John,

We are so thankful for Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District's generous support of United Way of the Midlands' 2020 campaign.

In the wake of COVID-19, thousands more individuals are in need due to layoffs, pay cuts and lost time in school. As a community, we've been forced to ask difficult questions, make impossible decisions and re-evaluate our way of life.

Though these times are challenging, one thing hasn't changed, and that's the consideration and care for our community displayed by companies like yours. Our community's greatest strength is its giving spirit, and by supporting United Way of the Midlands, your company has embodied that spirit.

Because of you, people like Manuel are finding the support they need to navigate this challenging time. Like so many of our fellow community members, Manuel and his family were struggling to make ends meet due to the COVID-19 pandemic. They didn't qualify for assistance at a few other agencies, so they turned to United Way's 211 Helpline. Thanks to your support, Manuel was able to visit with a Spanish-speaking Helpline specialist who secured him rent and utility assistance so that he and his family could stay safely in their home.

Despite the uncertainty we are all facing right now, your company has continued to demonstrate its generosity and commitment to our community. Thank you for joining together with other United Way-supporters to make a difference in Manuel's life and the lives of many others. Together, you have ensured we can continue to provide for those who need it most.

With gratitude,

Clark Lauritzen
Chairman & President,
First National Bank
2020 UWM Campaign Chair

Thank you!

Emily Lauritzen
2020 UWM Campaign Chair

Many thanks!

Shawna Forsberg
President & CEO,
UWM

Thank you for your partnership!



COMMUNITY



Updated: January 19, 2021

Current and On-Going Projects P-MRNRD Legal Counsel

☼ = Top Priority

F = Future Work – No Assignment

N = New Assignment

O = Others Handling

W = Work in Progress

P = Counsel Portion Completed

B = Next Board Meeting

- **Little Papio:** (Cleveland)
 - ☼ Culverts Rehab Design Interlocal Agreement with Omaha (W)
 - License for Blondo Street Drainage Repair (P)
 - ☼ 64th Street Easement from MUD, City of Omaha (P)
- **Big Papio:** (Cleveland)
 - ☼ Culverts Rehab Phase II Interlocal Amendment with Omaha (N)
- **West Branch:** (Cleveland/Grint)
 - Land Exchange with Sarpy Co. and City of Papillion (96th St.) (F)
- **Western Sarpy Dike:** (Cleveland/Petermann)
 - ☼ NRDs/NE-ARNG Interlocal Addendum for Camp Ashland Property (P)
 - ☼ National Guard Easement for WS Levee (F)
- **Floodway Purchase Program:** (Laster/Grint)
 - ☼ Purchase Agreements for Washington/Douglas/Sarpy Acquisition Projects (W)
 - ☼ Arlington Buyouts – FEMA FMA Grant Closeout (W)
- **Trail Projects:** (Williams)
 - ☼ LIED Bridge HWY 31 Connecting Link Repair Construction Contract (W)
 - ☼ Platte River Bridge Trail – Amendment to Schemmer Contract (B)

- **Missouri River Corridor Project:** (Becic)

- **USDA PL 566 Projects, Silver Creek and Pigeon/Jones Watershed:** (Schumacher/Cleveland/Grint)
 - ✦ Papio PL566 Site D-15B Sponsorship Change by NRCS (W)

- **Papio Watershed Dam Sites:** (Grint/Laster/Williams)
 - ✦ City of Omaha Interlocal Agreement for ZB-2 (P)
 - ✦ Purchase Agreement w/Armbrust for land acquisition @ WP2 (B)

- **Papio Creek Watershed Partnership (Stormwater):** (Grint/Laster)

- **Southern Sarpy Watershed Partnership (Stormwater):** (Laster)
 - ✦ Amendment to FYRA Professional Services Contract (W)

- **Missouri River R-613 and R-616 Levees:** (Cleveland/Woodward)
 - ✦ Offutt Ditch O&M Agreement (N)
 - ✦ Offutt AFB Storm Sewer Outlets O&M Agreement (W)
 - ✦ BNSF and UP Agreements and Easements (W)
 - ✦ FYRA Professional Services Contract amendment (W)

- **Rural Water Projects:** (Nelson)
 - ✦ DCRW – Easements and Land Purchase Documents for Kramper Lake Extension (W)

- **Other:**
 - Cole Creek Interlocal Agreement (Grint) (F)
 - ✦ EJCDC Professional Services Contract Documents Update (Petermann) (W)
 - ✦ Purchase Agreement with City of Blair for 1.8-acre lot (Novak) (P)



**Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2021 – 10:00 AM
Via Zoom Meeting**

Attendants:

Jim Kee (Omaha), Andy Szatko (Omaha), Selma Kessler (Omaha), Pat Dowse (La Vista), Chris Solberg (La Vista), Marlin Petermann (P-MRNRD), Amanda Grint (P-MRNRD), Eric Williams (P-MRNRD), Lori Laster (P-MRNRD), Matt Knight (Bellevue), Mark Stursma (Papillion), Alex Evans (Papillion), Marisa Gibb (Offutt AFB), Stacy Gilman (Douglas County), Aaron Hirsh (FHU), Dave Lampe (FHU), Sara Mechtenberg (FYRA), Rynn Kerkhove (Omaha), Dan Giittinger (Gretna), Robert Laroco (Omaha), Bruce Fountain (La Vista), Derek Miller (Omaha), Dan Freshman (Ralston), Brian Lodes (Omaha), Jerry Chancellor (Ralston), Mike McIntosh (Lamp Rynearson), Kathleen Gottsch (Springfield), Emily Holtzclaw (Jacobs), Scott Oswald (Lamp Rynearson)

The meeting began at 10:03 am.

1. Introductions

- An agenda and handouts were distributed via email. Marlin Petermann (P-MRNRD) facilitated introductions.

2. Proposed Stream Setback Policy Discussion - FHU

- Lori Laster (P-MRNRD) introduced Aaron Hirsh of FHU, who had been contracted by the Partnership to perform some stream degradation analysis within the Papio watershed in order to help develop modifications to the existing stream setback policy.
- At the December Partnership meeting, feedback was given on the proposed stream setback policy prepared by FHU. That feedback was incorporated and the policy was revised. Lori also stated that FHU and the NRD had met with FYRA Engineering to discuss the setback policy. FYRA is working to develop a watershed management plan for the Southern Sarpy Watershed Partnership. The communities who are members of both partnerships would like to see a stream setback policy that is the same for both watersheds. Based on that meeting, a few other minor adjustments were made to the policy.
- Aaron Hirsh (FHU) presented the updated policy. The recommended policy is to incorporate a future degradation depth into the existing 3:1+50 ft policy. This depth is calculated as the difference between the existing stream slope and the assumed future stable slope of 0.15%. The future stable slope of 0.15% is different than the previously discussed 0.2% slope. The SSWP study had used a stable slope of 0.08%. Based on the soil types for this area, all of these numbers are within the range of stable slopes that could be expected. This will still allow for the installation of grade control structures to lessen the setback width if feasible



and/or desired. The policy also calls for grade control to be installed with arterial road crossings and utility crossings.

- Emily Holtzclaw (Jacobs) asked if a map would be developed to show where the stream setback would be. Lori stated that the time and expense of keeping such a map up-to-date is not feasible at this time.
 - Mike McIntosh (Lamp Rynearson) asked if this was applicable to all streams or just the major branches. This would be applicable to all streams with a drainage area greater than 40 acres.
 - Alex Evans asked about the exemption listed in the policy. This exemption is in the current setback policy and allows for the policy to be waived in the event a channel stabilization project is constructed. This would not change. Currently the only exemptions have been along the Little Papio Creek where the USACE constructed a flood risk reduction project designed to have a stable bank slope.
 - Dan Freshman mentioned that increasing the setback on smaller streams from 20 feet to 50 feet may be difficult for some planned developments in Ralston.
 - Robert Laroco asked how landowners and/or developers would be notified of the new policy. Lori stated that the proposed policy would be presented at the annual Sediment and Erosion Control Seminar on February 4 and an additional developer/designer stakeholder meeting will be scheduled for late February/early March. Once the policy is finalized and adopted by the Partnership, each community would then need to codify the new policy.
 - Any comments on the proposed policy should be sent to Lori by January 15.
3. Other Items of Interest
- The Sediment and Erosion Control Seminar will be held virtually on February 4, 2021.
4. Next Meeting Date
- The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2021.
5. Adjourn
- The meeting adjourned at 11:16 am. An agenda and the emailed handouts are available upon request.

Please contact Lori Laster at 444-6222 regarding any questions or comments concerning these meeting minutes.



**Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2021 – 10:00 AM
Via Zoom Meeting**

Attendants:

Jim Kee (Omaha), Andy Szatko (Omaha), Selma Kessler (Omaha), Marlin Petermann (P-MRNRD), Amanda Grint (P-MRNRD), Eric Williams (P-MRNRD), Lori Laster (P-MRNRD), Mark Stursma (Papillion), Alex Evans (Papillion), Marisa Gibb (Offutt AFB), Stacy Gilman (Douglas County), Aaron Hirsh (FHU), Sara Mechtenberg (FYRA), Rynn Kerkhove (Omaha), Dan Giittinger (Gretna), Derek Miller (Omaha), Emily Holtzclaw (Jacobs), Scott Oswald (Lamp Rynearson), Adam Wilmes (Omaha), Zach Hergenrader (Sarpy County), Kevin Fandry (Omaha), Cody Buckland (Lamp Rynearson), Jen Gitt (USACE), Christin Cieslik (USACE), Ann Nissen (JEO), Lianne Dougherty (Jacobs), Paul Boyd (USACE), Ana Hanke (Schemmer), Nick Sutko (Jacobs), Greg Youell (MAPA)

The meeting began at 10:04 am.

1. Introductions

- An agenda and handouts were distributed via email. Marlin Petermann (P-MRNRD) facilitated introductions.

2. USACE Section 22 Stream Study Update - USACE

- Paul Boyd (USACE) introduced the new USACE project manager, Jen Gitt. He also gave a presentation on the progress and expected timelines of the project.
- The project team was able to secure a grant through the Engineer Research and Development Center to perform a change detection analysis. This analysis looked at the available LiDAR data sets and is able to map the changes in stream characteristics. The first level of analysis was completed on Thomas Creek, Little Papillion Creek, Big Papillion Creek, and Hell Creek. Leve 1 and level 2 analyses were completed on Cole Creek, West Papillion Creek, and South Papillion Creek. These analyses will be available to incorporated into existing GIS mapping platforms by the Partnership.
- The project team will be performing additional site visits when snow cover allows to look at specific locations that have experience degradation.
- Once the analysis and site visits have been completed, USACE will be developing a Solutions Toolbox that will provide a basis of design for stabilization projects in the watershed.
- The PowerPoint presentation and proposed site visit dates will be sent to the Partnership.

3. Proposed Stream Setback Policy Discussion - FHU

- Lori Laster (P-MRNRD) reviewed the proposed policy presented at the January 7, 2021 Partnership meeting. The recommended policy is to incorporate a future degradation depth into the existing 3:1+50 ft policy. This depth is calculated as the difference between the



existing stream slope and the assumed future stable slope of 0.15%. The future stable slope of 0.15% is different than the previously discussed 0.2% slope. The SSWP study had used a stable slope of 0.08%. Based on the soil types for this area, all of these numbers are within the range of stable slopes that could be expected. This will still allow for the installation of grade control structures to lessen the setback width if feasible and/or desired. The policy also calls for grade control to be installed with arterial road crossings and utility crossings.

- Alex Evans (Papillion) asked if utility lines could be placed within the 50-foot setback area below the 3:1 line. Lori stated that the policy only accounts for vertical degradation of streams and lateral movement would still be expected to occur within the setback corridor. Eric Williams (P-MRNRD) stated that the policy does allow for bank stabilization to be installed and the setback policy exempted.
- Lori stated that the proposed policy would be presented at the annual Sediment and Erosion Control Seminar on February 4 and an additional developer/designer stakeholder meeting will be scheduled for late February/early March. Once the policy is finalized and adopted by the Partnership, each community would then need to codify the new policy.
- Any comments on the proposed policy should be sent to Lori by February 2.

4. Other Items of Interest

- There will be a virtual open house to present the USACE Papillion Creek study. Amanda Grint will provide the details as soon as they are finalized.

5. Next Meeting Date

- The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2021.

6. Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 12:01 pm. An agenda and the emailed handouts are available upon request.

Please contact Lori Laster at 444-6222 regarding any questions or comments concerning these meeting minutes.