

**Programs, Projects, and Operations
Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2021**

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 July 6, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Conley at 4:05 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 Present
Fred Conley, Chairperson		Danny Begley	John Winkler
Tim Fowler, Vice-Chairperson		Patrick Bonnet	Brent Meyer, Legal Counsel
Ted Japp		Larry Bradley	Nicole Gust
Kevyn Sopinski		Tim McCormick	Lori Laster
Rich Tesar		Jim Thompson	Martin Cleveland
			Paul Woodward
			Lindy Rogers, FYRA
			Other Staff Members

- * Absent
- ** Alternate Voting Member

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

- **It was moved by Director Tesar and seconded by Director Sopinski that the agenda be adopted.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-yea.

Voting Yea: Fowler, Japp, Sopinski, Tesar, Conley
 Voting Nay: None
 Abstaining: None
 Absent: None

PROOF OF PUBLICATION: Public notice of the meeting was posted at all District offices and published in the Omaha World-Herald on July 1, 2021. The proof of publication affidavit is included with the file copy of these minutes.

1. Review and Recommendation of Water Sustainability Fund Application for West Papillion Regional Basin 4 – Lori Laster:

Project Manager Lori Laster briefed the Directors on the West Papillion Regional Basin Number 4 project (WP4) along with the District staff’s work with other potential project partners to help fund this project. Lori stated that the estimated total cost of WP4 is \$14,855,550 of which the District has contributed \$1,793,000, leaving \$13,062,550 required to complete the project. Lori told the Directors that the staff has worked with HDR and JEO to prepare a Water Sustainability Fund application and she presented the project cost breakdown. Lori answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Sopinski and seconded by Director Fowler that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute and submit a Water Sustainability Fund application for the West Papillion Regional Basin 4 Project, 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 5-yea.

Voting Yea: Fowler, Japp, Sopinski, Tesar, Conley
 Voting Nay: None
 Abstaining: None
 Absent: None

2. Review and Recommendation of the Big Papio Levee Culverts Phase 2 – Graham Construction Contract Change Order #6 – Martin Cleveland:

Project Manager Martin Cleveland reminded the Directors that in April 2019 the District signed a contract with Graham Construction to rehabilitate 17 aging culverts, with a total contract price of \$3,146,227.15. Since that time there have been 5 change orders with a total cost of \$302,760.71. Martin presented change order #6 which adds no work items but reflects quantity deviations at a total cost of \$31,259.84 bringing the overall construction cost to \$3,480,247.70. This amount exceeds more than 10% of the approved original contract cost and as such requires Board approval. Martin answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Fowler and seconded by Director Sopinski that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to approve the Big Papio Levee Culverts Phase 2 Graham Construction Change Order #6, bringing the total construction contract amount of \$3,480,247.70, 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 5-yea.

Voting Yea: Fowler, Japp, Sopinski, Tesar, Conley
 Voting Nay: None
 Abstaining: None
 Absent: None

3. Review and Recommendation of Water Sustainability Fund Grant Application for the P-MRNRD IMP Water Quantity Monitoring Project – Paul Woodward:

Project Manager Paul Woodward briefed the Directors on the Groundwater Rules and Regulations and District Policy 17.21 which was adopted by the Board in March 2018 to encourage landowners to conserve and protect groundwater. Paul stated that the District’s current proposed budget recommends that funds be secured to help cost-share flow meter installations in order to reduce both the District and landowner’s costs. Paul reviewed the proposed WSF cost and cost-share and explained how the IMP Water Quantity Monitoring Project would work. Paul answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Japp and seconded by Director Sopinski that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute and submit a Water Sustainability Fund application for the PMRNRD IMP Water Quantity Monitoring project, 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 5-yea.

Voting Yea: Fowler, Japp, Sopinski, Tesar, Conley
Voting Nay: None
Abstaining: None
Absent: None

4. Review and Recommendation to Groundwater Level Monitoring Sites Joint Funding Agreement with USGS and Amendment to Interlocal Agreement with Lower Platte North NRD – Paul Woodward:

Project Manager Paul Woodward briefed the Directors on the Joint Funding Agreement between the USGS and the District. Paul stated that continuous groundwater level monitoring is important to better understanding our groundwater resources and explained the need for nine additional monitoring sites. Paul detailed the costs required to add and maintain the proposed additional nine sites as well as the one-time costs needed to purchase the monitoring equipment. The District's total cost in the first year is \$57,835, of which \$6,426.11 will be reimbursed by the LPNNRD. Paul answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Fowler and seconded by Director Japp that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute a Joint Funding Agreement with U.S. Geological Survey for a total cost to the District of \$57,835 for the addition of continuous groundwater monitoring sites in the Platte and Elkhorn River valley, and furthermore that the General Manager be authorized to execute an amendment to the Groundwater Monitoring Interlocal Agreement with the Lower Platte North NRD for reimbursement of \$6,426.11 of such total cost, 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 failed on a vote of 2-yea and 3-nay.

Voting Yea: Fowler, Conley
Voting Nay: Japp, Sopinski, Tesar
Abstaining: None
Absent: None

ADJOURNMENT: Being no further business, the meeting adjourned by acclamation at 4:43 p.m.