

**Programs, Projects, and Operations  
Subcommittee Meeting Minutes  
February 8, 2022**

A meeting of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District’s Programs, Projects, and Operations Subcommittee was held at the Natural Resources Center, 8901 S. 154<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, NE, on February 8, 2022. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Conley at 4 p.m.

**QUORUM CALL:** Quorum call was taken. The following subcommittee members were in attendance.

<b>Subcommittee Members Present</b>	<b>Subcommittee Members Absent</b>	<b>Other Directors Present</b>	<b>Others Present</b>
Fred Conley, Chairperson	Rich Tesar *	Larry Bradley	John Winkler
Patrick Bonnett **		Phil Davidson	Brent Meyer, Legal Counsel
Tim Fowler, Vice-Chair		Jim Thompson	Tracy Thompson
Ted Japp			Paul Woodward
Kevyn Sopinski			Brenda Densmore, USGS
			Mikaela Cherry, USGS
			Brent Hall, USGS
			Kathleen Cameron, ENWRA
			Martin Cleveland
			Lindy Rogers, FYRA
			Other Staff Members

- \* Absent
- \*\* Alternate Voting Member

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

- **It was moved by Director Fowler and seconded by Director Japp that the agenda be adopted.**

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

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

**PROOF OF PUBLICATION:** Public notice of the meeting was posted at all District offices and published in the Omaha World-Herald on February 3, 2022. The proof of publication affidavit is included with the file copy of these minutes.

**1. Review and Recommendation of Groundwater Monitoring Joint Funding Agreement with USGS – Paul Woodward, Brenda Densmore and Mikaela Cherry, USGS:**

Project Manager Paul Woodward, Mikaela Cherry, and Brent Hall, USGS, presented the proposed Groundwater Monitoring Joint Funding Agreement with the US Geological Survey (USGS) for 2022 through 2025 at a maximum total cost to the District of \$622,500 with District payments to USGS split out over fiscal years FY22-FY26. Paul reminded the Directors that groundwater quality monitoring is a requirement of the District’s Groundwater Management Plan which includes sampling and analyzing the groundwater of the four aquifer systems within the District, and increasing monitoring in certain areas that

may become Phase II Groundwater Quality Management Areas. USGS sampling will increase from 20 to 30 sample sites each year to gather required data for the Phase II areas. Paul reviewed the USGS expenses over the agreement period and said that USGS will be providing a higher percentage of cooperative funding. Paul, Brenda Densmore, Brent Hall, and Mikaela Cherry, USGS, answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Japp and seconded by Director Fowler that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the General Manager be authorized to execute the Joint Funding Agreement with USGS for the 2022-2026 Groundwater Quality Monitoring with a not to exceed amount of \$622,500, 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: Bonnett, Fowler, Japp, Sopinski, Conley  
Voting Nay: None  
Abstaining: None  
Absent: Tesar

**2. Review and Recommendation on the Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assessment (ENWRA) Interlocal Agreement Amendment #7 – Paul Woodward and Kathleen Cameron, ENWRA:**

Project Manager Paul Woodward presented the proposed Amendment #7 to the Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assessment (ENWRA) Interlocal Agreement which would extend the term of the agreement and workings of ENWRA from June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2027. Paul reviewed ENWRA’s scope of work and long-range plans to continue to work toward defining, mapping, and preparing volumetric estimates of aquifers in the six cooperating NRDs. Paul reported that the District has been a partner of the project for 15 years and that the District’s annual contribution of \$30,000 has never been increased. Paul and Kathleen Cameron, ENWRA, 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 execute Amendment #7 to the Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assessment Interlocal Cooperative Agreement with five other Natural Resources Districts to extend the term of the Agreement to 2027, 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: Bonnett, Fowler, Japp, Sopinski, Conley  
Voting Nay: None  
Abstaining: None  
Absent: Tesar

**3. Review and Recommendation of No Name Dike Culvert Rehabilitation, Professional Services Agreement with FYRA Engineering – Martin Cleveland and Lindy Rogers, FYRA Engineering:**

Construction Engineer Martin Cleveland presented the proposed Professional Services Agreement with FYRA Engineering, LLC for the No Name Dike Culvert Rehabilitation Station 47+65 Project for a maximum not to exceed cost of \$64,250. Martin stated that this amount is beyond the fee limit of \$50,000 for consultant selection without a Request for Proposals (RFP) as per Board Policy 15.2 Purchasing-Professional Services. Because of FYRA’s work on other District culvert rehabilitation projects over the past 5 years, staff believes they are the most qualified firm to provide the professional services needed to repair this culvert. Martin recommended that the Board waive the RFP process and approve the proposed professional services agreement with FYRA Engineering, LLC. Martin and Lindy Rogers, FYRA, answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Sopinski and seconded by Director Fowler that the Programs, Projects, and Operation Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that Policy 15.2 Purchasing-Professional Services be waived and that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed Professional Services Agreement with FYRA Engineering, LLC for the No Name Dike Culvert Rehabilitation Station 47+65 Project, with the maximum not to exceed amount of \$64,250, 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: Bonnett, Fowler, Japp, Sopinski, Conley  
Voting Nay: None  
Abstaining: None  
Absent: Tesar

**ADJOURNMENT:** Being no further business, the meeting adjourned by acclamation at 4:30 p.m.