

**Programs, Projects, and Operations
Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
October 11, 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 South 154th Street, Omaha, NE, on October 11, 2022. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Conley at 4 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, Chairman		Patrick Bonnett	John Winkler
Tim Fowler, Vice-Chairman		Larry Bradley	Amanda Grint
Ted Japp		Phil Davidson	Brent Meyer, Legal Counsel
Rich Tesar		Tim McCormick	Tracy Thompson
Jim Thompson		Kevyn Sopinski	Ian Ghanavati
			Eric Williams
			Bart Pugh, Schemmer
			Maria Rodriguez, Midwest ROW
			Other Staff Members

- * Absent
- ** Alternate Voting Member

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

- **It was moved by Director Tesar and seconded by Director Fowler 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, Tesar, Thompson, 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 October 6, 2022. The proof of publication affidavit is included with the file copy of these minutes.

1. Renewal of USGS Maintenance Agreement for Papio Floodwarning System Gages - Ian Ghanavati:

Project Manager Ian Ghanavati presented the proposed 2023 Joint Funding Agreement with USGS for the annual renewal of the Papillion Creek Watershed flood warning system maintenance contract. He stated that USGS will cost share \$16,875 through their Cooperative Matching Funds and \$19,805 through the Federal Priority Streamgages Program. The District cost share totals \$131,640 for operation and maintenance of the gages. Ian reviewed the cost breakdown and the type of data collected from the different gage stations. Ian, Asst. GM Amanda Grint, and GM John Winkler answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Tesar and seconded by Director Fowler that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed Joint Funding Agreement with the USGS in the amount of \$131,640 in District funds for the operation of the District's floodwarning system for 2023, subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager.**

Director Thompson made a motion to table the 2023 Joint Funding Agreement with USGS and requested detailed cost data from USGS. The motion died for lack of a second.

After lengthy discussion on the USGS cost concerns, GM Winkler suggested that USGS be notified of the request for detailed cost data and be given adequate time to provide the information to the Subcommittee at a later date.

Roll call was taken on the original motion. The motion carried on a vote of 4-yea and 1-nay.

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

2. Groundwater Monitoring Joint Funding Agreement with USGS - Amanda Grint:

Assistant GM Amanda Grint presented the proposed Joint Funding Agreement between the USGS and the District for operation of the six existing groundwater monitoring sites in the Platte and Elkhorn River Valley from Oct. 1, 2022, to Sept. 30, 2023. She reported that the total cost for all six sites is \$18,090, with the District paying \$13,720 and USGS providing cooperative funding of \$4,370. Amanda reviewed the results of the 2021-2022 groundwater monitoring study of the Elkhorn and Platte rivers and answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Fowler and seconded by Director Tesar 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 \$13,720 for the continuation of groundwater monitoring in the Platte and Elkhorn River valley, 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 4-yea and 1 nay.

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

3. Lower Platte Collective Groundwater Modeling Interlocal Agreement - Amanda Grint:

Assistant GM Amanda Grint presented the proposed 3-year interlocal agreement for the Lower Platte North NRD (LPNNRD), Lower Platte South NRD (LPSNRD), Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Pappio Missouri River NRD to create the Lower Platte River Groundwater Modeling Collective (Collective). She reported that the purpose of the Collective is the development of a baseline sub-regional groundwater flow model of the Lower Platte Basin. Amanda indicated that the Collective anticipates receiving a Water Sustainability Fund (WSF) grant to provide a portion of the costs and outlined the cost breakdown in the proposed agreement: DNR \$188,500 and WSF - \$282,900. LPSNRD, LPNNRD, and PMRNRD would each pay \$62,866.67 (\$20,956 annual payments for three years). Amanda, GM Winkler, and Brent Meyer answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Thompson and seconded by Director Tesar that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the General Manager be authorized to execute the Lower Platte River Basin Sub-Regional Groundwater Modeling Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Department of Natural Resources, Lower Platte North NRD, and Lower Platte South NRD 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, Tesar, Thompson, Conley
 Voting Nay: None
 Abstaining: None
 Absent: None

4. Amendment to Lower Platte River Consortium Interlocal Agreement - Amanda Grint:

Assistant General Manager Amanda Grint presented the proposed Amendment to the Lower Platte River Consortium Interlocal Agreement between the Lower Platte South NRD, Lower Platte North NRD, City of Lincoln, Metropolitan Utilities District, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources and the District. The proposed Amendment would extend the duration of the agreement for one (1) additional year through November 2023. Amanda reviewed the purpose of the Consortium and answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Tesar and seconded by Director Fowler that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed Lower Platte River Consortium Interlocal Cooperation Agreement 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.**

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

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

5. FY 2023 Long Range Implementation Plan (LRIP) - Eric Williams:

Project Manager Eric Williams presented the proposed FY 2023 Long Range Implementation Plan (LRIP) and explained that the LRIP is required by state statute for the District to be eligible for certain state cost share programs. He reviewed the various planned programs and projects in FY 2023 and projections for the next five fiscal years. Eric, Asst. GM Grint, and GM Winkler answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Thompson and seconded by Director Fowler that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Long Range Implementation Plan be approved.**

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

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

ADJOURNMENT: Being no further business, the meeting adjourned by acclamation at 4:42 p.m.