



**PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
January 12, 2023**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Papiro-Missouri River Natural Resources District Board of Directors was held at the Natural Resources Center, 8901 S. 154th Street, Omaha, NE on January 12, 2023. The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Larry Bradley at 4:00 p.m.

OATH OF OFFICE: Brent Meyer, District Legal Counsel with Husch Blackwell, administered the oath of office to the following Directors elected in the November 2022 general election.

**Fred Conley
Tim Fowler
Tim McCormick**

**Kevyn Sopinski
Jim Thompson**

The floor was then turned over to Board Chairman Kevyn Sopinski.

NOTIFICATION OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT POSTING AND MEETING PROCEDURE

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

Patrick Bonnett
Larry Bradley
Fred Conley
Phil Davidson
Tim Fowler

Josh Henningsen
Ted Japp
Tim McCormick
Kevyn Sopinski
Jim Thompson

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

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

Roll call vote was held on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-yea.

Voting Yea - Bonnett, Bradley, Conley, Davidson, Fowler, Henningsen, Japp,
McCormick, Thompson, Sopinski
Voting Nay - None
Abstaining - None
Excused Absence - Tesar
Absent - Tesar

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- **MOTION NO. 2:** It was moved by Director McCormick and seconded by Director Bradley 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 Director(s) from the January 12, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting is excused:

Rich Tesar.

Agenda Item 7. A.:

BE IT RESOLVED that the December 8, 2022, Papio-Missouri River NRD Board Meeting minutes are approved as printed.

Roll call vote was held on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-yea.

Voting Yea - Bonnett, Bradley, Conley, Davidson, Fowler, Henningsen, Japp,
McCormick, Thompson, Sopinski
Voting Nay - None
Abstaining - None
Excused Absence - Tesar
Absent - Tesar

PROOFS OF PUBLICATION OF MEETING NOTICE: Notice of the meeting was published in the Omaha World Herald on January 5, 2023. The District's November 11, 2022 – December 8, 2022, expenditures were published in the Papillion Times on December 21, 2022. The Chairman 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, gave a report on NRCS activities for the month of January.
- B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts: Director Fowler reported the NARD's Legislative Conference is scheduled to be held on January 24-25, 2023, in Lincoln, NE.
- B. Legislative Report – Catalyst Public Affairs: Tim Gay began by congratulating the Directors who were sworn in earlier in the meeting and then briefed the Board on the opening session of the 108th Nebraska Legislature. Tim also briefed the Board on the Bills of Interest to the P-MRNRD and identified the Senators that make up the Natural Resources Committee.

Before the Subcommittee Reports Chairman Kevyn Sopinski congratulated Director Larry Bradley on his re-election to the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Personnel, Legislative and Public Affairs Subcommittee: Director Japp reported that the PLPA Subcommittee met on January 10, 2023, and gave a brief recap of the meeting.

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

PLPA Recommendation 1: P-MRNRD Affirmative Action Policy for 2023: It is recommended that the Papio-Missouri River NRD's Affirmative Action Policy for 2023 be adopted and incorporated to the District Policy Manual.

Roll call vote was held on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-yea.

Voting Yea	-	Bonnett, Bradley, Conley, Davidson, Fowler, Henningsen, Japp, McCormick, Thompson, Sopinski
Voting Nay	-	None
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	Tesar
Absent	-	Tesar

B. Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee: Director Conley reported that the PPO Subcommittee met on January 10, 2023, and gave a brief recap of the meeting.

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

PPO Recommendation 1: WP-4 Project Construction Bids: Recommendation that the General Manager be authorized to execute a construction contract with General Excavating for the WP-4 Regional Basin project in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,275,505, subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approval as to form by District Legal Counsel.

Director Japp asked if any contractors who were rejected in the original bid process re-bid, and if their bids changed. He also asked about the timeline of the project. Project Manager Lori Laster addressed all questions.

Roll call vote was held on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-yea.

Voting Yea - Bonnett, Bradley, Conley, Davidson, Fowler, Henningsen, Japp, McCormick, Thompson, Sopinski
Voting Nay - None
Abstaining - None
Excused Absence - Tesar
Absent - Tesar

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

PPO Recommendation 2: Amendments to Appendix H, Rules and Regulations for the Rural Water System: Recommendation that the proposed amendments to the District's Policy Manual, Appendix H, Rules and Regulations Rural Water Supply Systems be approved, with the revision that non-essential water usage under Level 3 of the Water Emergency Plan be specifically identified, subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approval as to form by District Legal Counsel.

Roll call vote was held on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-yea.

Voting Yea - Bonnett, Bradley, Conley, Davidson, Fowler, Henningsen, Japp, McCormick, Thompson, Sopinski
Voting Nay - None
Abstaining - None
Excused Absence - Tesar
Absent - Tesar

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

PPO Recommendation 3: Mentored Youth Hunting Agreement with Nebraska Game and Parks: Recommendation that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed Youth Mentored Hunting Agreement with Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approval as to form by District Legal Counsel.

Roll call vote was held on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-yea.

Voting Yea - Bonnett, Bradley, Conley, Davidson, Fowler, Henningsen, Japp, McCormick, Thompson, Sopinski
Voting Nay - None

Abstaining - None
Excused Absence - Tesar
Absent - Tesar

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to expend general funds to pay: (l) claims listed in the December, 2022, 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 Dakota County, Thurston County and Washington County Rural Water System, the Elkhorn River Bank Stabilization Project, the Elkhorn Breakout Project, the Elk/Pigeon Creek Drainage Project, and the Western Sarpy Drainage District, the project bills listed on the December, 2022, 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 the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-yea.

Voting Yea - Bonnett, Bradley, Conley, Davidson, Fowler, Henningsen, Japp, McCormick, Thompson, Sopinski
Voting Nay - None
Abstaining - None
Excused Absence - Tesar
Absent - Tesar

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman Sopinski offered highlights of 2022. He stated that despite the adversities faced in 2022 the District became stronger. Sopinski listed some of the District's accomplishments in 2022 and finished by stating that the District's record of transparency, accountability, and success in getting projects done on time and on budget shows the Papio NRD to be an efficient and effective small government agency and he thanked the staff for their efforts.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT: GM Winkler congratulated the newly elected and re-elected representatives to the Board and reviewed the GM Report with the Board and noted that the report had been posted to the website.

Director Jim Thompson thanked General Manager Winkler and Assistant General Manager Grint for their assistance during the December 2022 Missouri River ice jam.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

A. Future Meetings: The Chairman reviewed the following upcoming meetings with the Directors:

January 16, 2023	Papio NRD Offices Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 24-25, 2023	NRD's Legislative Conference, Lincoln, NE
February 7, 2023	P-MRNRD Subcommittee Meetings, 4:00 p.m., at NRC
February 9, 2023	P-MRNRD Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m., at NRC
February 20, 2023	Papio NRD Offices Closed for President's Day

B. Next Meeting – The next scheduled meeting of the P-MRNRD Board of Directors will be held on February 9, 2023, at the NRC.

ADJOURNMENT: Being no further business, the Chairman declared that the meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

NOTE: These minutes reflect the actions and votes taken at the January 12, 2023, 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 January 12, 2023, 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