



General Manager's Report

MEMORANDUM to the Board
John Winkler, General Manager

December 14, 2023

A. INFORMATION/EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS:

Our education team recently hosted field trips with two local high school AP Environmental Science classes. Students participated in qualitative testing of local bodies of water and learned about common pollutants found in Nebraska waters. Students also did a qualitative analysis on macroinvertebrates they sampled from our sediment pond. The field trip was an excellent opportunity to provide older students with more hands-on experience with real, local environmental issues.

B. PERSONNEL/MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:

1. The District's 2024 election will be held for odd numbered subdistricts (#1, #3, #7, #9, #11). Individuals running for election will have to run in the May 14, 2024, primary to narrow the field of candidates to two for each subdistrict for the November 5, 2024, general election. The incumbent deadline for filing is February 15, 2024. The non-incumbent deadline for filing is March 1, 2024.
2. I want to announce a job change within the District. Doug Bithell served as Land Steward from February 2020 through December 1, 2023. Doug will continue to work in the Park Department as seasonal Groundskeeper next spring.
3. The District received a heartfelt poem from Joe Pierson about the beauty of Wehrspann Lake and Chalco Hills and the memories he has created here. He ends the poem with: "Just a little poem to say thank you for keeping this park so beautiful. Your efforts do not go unnoticed." A huge thank you to Tom and his team who work hard every day to make this place as wonderful as Joe describes it. The poem 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 November is attached for your review.

D. CURRENT AND ON-GOING PROJECTS – PAPIO NRD LEGAL COUNSEL: A copy of current and on-going projects for District Legal Counsel, Husch Blackwell, as of November 13 is attached for your review.

E. PAPILLION CREEK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP REPORT: The PCWP meeting was held Thursday, November 30. The meeting minutes are attached. There will be no meeting in December.



PAPIO
MISSOURI RIVER
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT

NOVEMBER 2023

STUDENT QUALITATIVE WATER TESTING



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Wehrspann lake poem



Joe Pierson <midnightcube@yahoo.com>

To Papio website admins




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Every time

I want to take a pleasant drive

Wehrspann comes to mind

It's beauty can be noticed all year round From bird's singing out loud And Eagle might be on its nest Seeing them is such and amazing experience As you travel down the walking path breezes calm the day as you pass The sky above is so clear Maybe the watchful eye of a passing deer In the fall the leaves colors are so bright Watch a sunset as the day turns to night People fishing along the shore Wehrspann beauty can not be ignored When the snow flakes come to be It looks like a perfect winter scene So thank you for giving us a place Where memories are easy to create Every time we pass through her gates Merry Christmas to all who keep it so alive Every time we drive by

Just a little poem to say thank you for keeping this park so beautiful.

Your efforts to not go unnoticed.

Joe

Report on Purchases
Construction Services, Professional Services, Personal Property

November 2023

Date	Project Name	Item / Task	Company	Cost
11/8/2023	Stream Stabilization Project	Hefflinger Ditch Stabilization – Conceptual Design	Embris	\$14,500
11/8/2023	Stream Stabilization Project	Meadow Lane Creek Stabilization – Conceptual Design	Embris	\$14,500
11/10/2023	NRC Maintenance	Fire Hydrant Replacement	Eyman Plumbing	\$32,639.34



Updated: November 13, 2023

Current and On-Going Projects Legal Counsel

A = Active Project
B = Next Board Meeting
N = New Assignment

Little Papio: (Cleveland)

- City of Omaha Culvert Group B Interlocal Agreement (B)
- Cooperation Agreement with OMG Midwest Inc. for Replacement of LP R-14 (B)

Big Papio: (Cleveland)

West Branch: (Cleveland/Grint)

Western Sarpy Dike, Union Dike and No Name Dike: (Cleveland)

Floodway Purchase Program: (Laster/Grint)

- Purchase Agreements for Washington/Douglas/Sarpy Acquisition Projects (A)

Trail Projects: (Williams)

- West Papio Trail, West Maple Underpass Interlocal Agreement (A)
- Applewood Creek Trail Interlocal Agreement (A)
- Elkhorn River Trail Bridge Interlocal Agreement (A)
- Beltline Trail, Phase 3 – Land Rights (N)
- MoPac Trail, Sand and Gravel Easements (B)

Missouri River Corridor Project:

USDA PL 566 Projects, Silver Creek and Pigeon/Jones Watershed: (Schumacher/Cleveland/Grint)

- Silver Creek 30 & 33 Construction Contract Review (B)

Papio Watershed Dam Sites: (Grint/Laster/Ghanavati)

- Public Hearing DS12 Land Acquisition (B)
- DS12 Magnolia Trails Public Access Easement (N)

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

Southern Sarpy Watershed Partnership (Stormwater): (Ghanavati)

Missouri River R-613 and R-616 Levees: (Cleveland/Grint)

- Offutt Ditch O&M Agreement (A)
- Offutt AFB Storm Sewer Outlets O&M Agreement (A)

Rural Water Projects: (Novak)

Other:

- E-500 Professional Service Agreement (2000 edition) (Project Managers) (A)
- Dunker Wet Retention Basin Easement (N)
- Dunker Purchase Agreement (A)
- Cole Creek Interlocal Agreement Amendment (N)
- Summit Carbon Solutions Permanent Easement Dakota County (A)
- District Policy Manual Updates (A)



Meeting Minutes
November 30, 2023

Attendees: See attached sign in sheet

The meeting began at 10:04 am.

1. Introductions
 - a. Lori Laster (Papio NRD) facilitated introductions.
2. Watershed Plan Update
 - a. Sara Mechtenberg presented the initial financial scenarios for completing the structural projects in the Watershed Management Plan.
 - b. HEI has looked at three funding scenarios. The first one is using only the projected revenues from Watershed Fees and NRD general fund contributions. The second and third incorporate a \$20 million bond issue by the NRD at interest rates of 4.5% and 3%. Also incorporated in each scenario is the contribution from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for Dam Site 19 and Dam Site 10. For a bond issue to be helpful in completing projects, interest rates need to be favorable.
 - c. Before financial scenarios can be finalized the priority of the remaining sites needs to be determined. Six regional detention sites are remaining. Dam Sites 7 and 12 have preliminary designs and heavy development pressure. It makes sense that these would be the next reservoirs to be constructed. The NRD has been able to purchase some of the land for both projects.
 - d. Dam Site 19 is also a priority due to approaching development. However, the timeline for this project is uncertain as the design will be completed by USACE,
 - e. Another scenario that will be analyzed is a loan through the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA). The NRD and HEI are still researching the requirements of the program and how it could be used to help complete the remaining detention basins.
3. Working Group Meeting Recap & Discussion
 - a. Lori Laster shared that a Working Group meeting on November 15 was well attended and there was a lot of constructive discussion regarding potential policy updates for the next interlocal agreement.
 - b. The working group consisted of both Partners and representatives of companies who are involved in land development.



- c. The idea to enforce a 3:1+50-foot setback on all watercourses without looking at future degradation was presented to the group. This policy is already in place in the Southern Sarpy County area. The new policy would also allow some overlap of utility easements and passive recreation features in the outer 30 feet of the setback.
 - d. Members of the working group stated that this policy was better than the policy proposed in 2021. Other comments included having a map available to see the areas where the new policy would apply and providing information about the number and costs of stream repairs.
 - e. The working group also suggested having discussions with Metro Omaha Builders Association and the Nebraska Chapter of American Council of Engineering Companies.
 - f. The NRD will be working with the Partners and HEI/RDG to put together more information for outreach prior to the next meeting.
4. Other Items of Interest
 - a. No other items of interest were noted.
5. Next Meeting Date
 - a. The next regular meeting is scheduled January 25, 2024.
6. Adjourn
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 11:09 am.



Name/Organization	Email
Lori Laster/Papio NRD	llaster@papionrd.org
Amanda Grint/Papio NRD	agrint@papionrd.org
Ian Ghanavati/Papio NRD	ighanavati@papionrd.org
Andy Szatko/Omaha	andy.szatko@cityofomaha.org
Jim Kee/Omaha	james.kee@cityofomaha.org
Selma Kessler/Omaha	selma.kessler@cityofomaha.org
Chris Anderson/Omaha	christopher.anderson@cityofomaha.org
Heaven Davis/Omaha	heaven.davis@cityofomaha.org
Jason Kubicek/Sarpy County	jkubicek@sarpy.gov
Kelly Jeck/Sarpy County	kjeck@sarpy.gov
Zach Hergenrader/Sarpy County	zhergenrader@sarpy.gov
Kevin Balentine/Sarpy County	kbalentine@sarpy.gov
Greg Perry/Gretna	gregp@eaagleengineeringgroup.com
Kristine Stokes/Gretna	kristine@cityofgretna.com
Alex Evans/Papillion	aevans@papillion.org
Travis Gibbons/Papillion	tgibbons@papillion.org

Name/Organization	Email
Mike Kleffner/Papillion	mkleffner@papillion.org
Pat Dowse/La Vista	pdowse@cityoflavista.org
Garrett Delgado/La Vista	gdelgado@cityoflavista.org
Matt Knight/Bellevue	matt.knight@bellevue.net
Robert Laroco/Omaha	robert.laroco@cityofomaha.org
Lisa Smith/Omaha	elisabeth.smith@cityofomaha.org
John Krager/Bellevue	john.krager@bellevue.net
Matt Pillard	matt.pillard@chdinc.com
Sara Mecklenberg/HFI	smecklenberg@houstoneng.com
Molly Hanson/RDG	mhanson@rdgusa.com
Reggie Dorkan/Gretna	reggie@cityofgretna.com