



**PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
April 10, 2025**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District Board of Directors was held at the Natural Resources Center, 8901 S. 154th Street, Omaha, NE on April 10, 2025. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tim McCormick at 4:00 p.m.

NOTIFICATION OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT POSTING AND MEETING PROCEDURE

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

Brian Adams	Zach Irvine
Larry Bradley	Tim McCormick
Fred Conley	Rod Storm
Tim Fowler	Rich Tesar
Anne Hubbard	Jim Thompson

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

- **MOTION NO. 1:** It was moved by Director Tesar 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	-	Adams, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Hubbard, Irvine, Storm, Tesar, Thompson, McCormick
Voting Nay	-	None
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	Davidson
Absent	-	Davidson

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- **MOTION NO. 2:** It was moved by Director Fowler and seconded by Director Tesar 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 April 10, 2025, Board of Directors Meeting are excused:

Phil Davidson.

Agenda Item 7. A.:

BE IT RESOLVED that the March 13, 2025, 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	-	Adams, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Hubbard, Irvine, Storm, Tesar, Thompson, McCormick
Voting Nay	-	None
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	Davidson
Absent	-	Davidson

PROOFS OF PUBLICATION OF MEETING NOTICE: Notice of the meeting was published in the Omaha World Herald on April 3, 2025. The District's February 14, 2025 through March 13, 2025, expenditures were published in the Washington County Enterprise on March 21, 2025. 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: Kristin Schlueter, District Conservationist, gave the report on NRCS activities for the month of April.
- B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts:
 - 1. Director Tesar provided information on the upcoming NARD Board of Directors meeting and the NRDs 2025 Annual Basin Tour being held on June 9-10, in Valentine, Nebraska. Director Tesar plans to attend the NARD Board of Directors Meeting and Director McCormick has signed up for the Basin Tour.
 - 2. Director Storm gave an update on the NARD Annual Meeting that he attended in Washington D.C. on March 24-26, 2025.
- C. Nebraska Natural Resource Commission: Director Bradley gave the report on the Nebraska Natural Resource Commission meeting that was held on April 9, 2025, in Kearney.
- D. Legislative Report – Catalyst Public Affairs: General Manager Winkler stated that Catalyst submitted a written report that was emailed to Directors earlier in the day. A copy of the written report is contained in the file copy of these minutes.

Reports can be heard on the District's podcast <https://www.papionrd.org/about/meeting-podcasts/>

PUBLIC HEARING ON ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY FOR DAM SITE 7 PROJECT:

Chairman McCormick appointed General Manager Winkler as the Hearing Officer. Hearing Officer Winkler called the hearing to order at 4:18 p.m. and submitted the following exhibits for the record:

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| Exhibit 1 | Agenda |
| Exhibit 2 | Proof of Publication of Hearing Notice <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Omaha World Herald, March 26, 2025◆ Omaha World Herald, March 31, 2025 |
| Exhibit 3 | Preliminary Map of Papio Dam Site 7 Project |
| Exhibit 4 | Map of Proposed Land Acquisition for Dam Site 7 |
| Exhibit 5 | Public Hearing Notice and Information Packet sent to Landowners <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Via Certified Mail – March 21, 2025 |
| Exhibit 6 | List of Landowners mailed Hearing Notice |
| Exhibit 7 | Certified Mail Return Receipts for Information Packet mailed to Landowners |

Brent Meyer, Husch Blackwell, stated the Public Hearing was being held in accordance with Neb. Rev. Statute § 25-2504. The District explained the nature and necessity of the proposed land acquisition at Papio Dam Site 7 Project. Project Manager Ian Ghanavati explained the purpose and location of the project. Each owner of property to be acquired by the District has the right to be represented by an attorney and to negotiate and accept or reject the offer made by the District for the proposed acquisition. The owner of property to be acquired has previously contacted the District regarding this potential acquisition and is a willing seller under applicable law.

At this hearing, the District will hear and consider any objections from any person. Hearing Officer Winkler opened the floor to the public. No one from the public came forward to offer testimony.

Hearing Officer Winkler closed the Public Hearing at 4:22 p.m. and returned the floor to Chairman McCormick.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee: Director Conley reported that the PPO Subcommittee met on April 8, 2025, and gave a brief recap of the meeting.

PPO Presentation: USGS Groundwater Quality Presentation: This was a presentation. No action was taken by the Subcommittee.

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

PPO Recommendation 1.a.: Joint Funding Agreements for Water Quality Monitoring – Lower Platte River Corridor Gages: Recommendation that the General Manager be authorized to execute the Joint Funding Agreement with Lower Platte South Natural Resources District for the Lower Platte River Corridor Gages in the amount of \$39,600 in FY 2026, \$43,400 in FY 2027, \$46,200 in FY 2028, \$49,200 in FY 2029, and \$37,400 in

FY 2030, 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	-	Adams, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Hubbard, Irvine, Storm, Tesar, Thompson, McCormick
Voting Nay	-	None
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	Davidson
Absent	-	Davidson

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

PPO Recommendation 1.b.: Joint Funding Agreements for Water Quality Monitoring – Leshara Gage: Recommendation that the General Manager be authorized to execute the Joint Funding Agreement with Lower Platte South Natural Resources District for the Leshara Gage in the amount of \$8,000 in FY 2026, \$6,400 in FY 2027, \$6,400 in FY 2028, \$6,400 in FY 2029 and \$5,000 in FY 2030, 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	-	Adams, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Hubbard, Irvine, Storm, Tesar, Thompson, McCormick
Voting Nay	-	None
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	Davidson
Absent	-	Davidson

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

PPO Recommendation 2: Contractor Agreement with University of Nebraska-Omaha for Glacier Creek Management Activities: Recommendation that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed Contractor Agreement with the University of Nebraska-Omaha, 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	-	Adams, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Hubbard, Irvine, Storm, Tesar, Thompson, McCormick
Voting Nay	-	None
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	Davidson
Absent	-	Davidson

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

PPO Recommendation 3.a.: FY 2026 Cost Share Programs – Urban Drainageway Program: Recommendation that the applications from the City of Omaha for \$450,000, the City of Papillion for \$218,000, and South Sioux City for \$213,883 for a total of \$881,883 be approved, subject to funding in the FY 2026 Budget.

There was discussion on the application submitted by the City of Omaha. Project Manager Eric Williams stated Omaha’s application met the criteria of the Cost Share Program policy, and added the purpose of the program is to provide assistance to government agencies whose purpose is consistent with the District’s mission. There was additional discussion.

- **MOTION NO. 6.a.:**

Amended Motion: It was moved by Chairman McCormick and seconded by Director Thompson to amend the original motion, removing the Urban Drainageway Program application that was submitted by the City of Omaha for Eagle Run Creek in the amount of \$450,000.

Roll call vote was held on the amendment. The amendment carried on a vote of 9-yea and 1-nay.

Voting Yea	-	Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Hubbard, Irvine, Storm, Tesar, Thompson, McCormick
Voting Nay	-	Adams
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	Davidson
Absent	-	Davidson

- **MOTION NO. 6.b.:** It was moved by Director Conley and seconded by Director Fowler that the following recommendation be adopted:

Original Motion as Amended: FY 2026 Cost Share Programs – Urban Drainageway Program: Recommendation that the applications from the City of Papillion for \$218,000, and South Sioux City for \$213,883 for a total of \$431,883 be approved, subject to funding in the FY 2026 Budget.

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

Voting Yea	-	Adams, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Hubbard, Irvine, Storm, Tesar, Thompson, McCormick
Voting Nay	-	None
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	Davidson
Absent	-	Davidson

- **MOTION NO. 7:** It was moved by Director Conley that the following recommendation be adopted:

PPO Recommendation 3.b.: FY 2026 Cost Share Programs – Recreation Area Development Program: Recommendation that the applications from Fort Calhoun for \$50,000, the City of Omaha for \$50,000 and \$50,000, the City of Papillion for \$50,000, and South Sioux City for \$50,000 and \$50,000 for a total of \$300,000 be approved, subject to funding in the FY 2026 Budget.

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

Voting Yea	-	Adams, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Hubbard, Irvine, Storm, Tesar, Thompson, McCormick
Voting Nay	-	None
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	Davidson
Absent	-	Davidson

•• **MOTION NO. 8:** It was moved by Director Conley that the following recommendation be adopted:

PPO Recommendation 3.c.: FY 2026 Cost Share Programs – Trails Assistance Program: Recommendation that the applications from Douglas County for \$19,690, City of Ralston for \$180,475, Sarpy County for \$178,500, SID 313 for \$250,000, SID 405 for \$135,086, and South Sioux City for \$30,000 for a total of \$793,751 be approved, subject to funding in the FY 2026 Budget.

Director Tesar had questions on Douglas County’s application for Trails Master Plan. Project Manager Eric Williams addressed all questions.

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

Voting Yea	-	Adams, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Hubbard, Irvine, Storm, Tesar, Thompson, McCormick
Voting Nay	-	None
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	Davidson
Absent	-	Davidson

B. Ad-Hoc Consultant Selection Subcommittee RFP for the Oakleaf Grade Stabilization Project: Director Fowler reported that the Ad-Hoc Consultant Selection Subcommittee met on April 8, 2025, and gave a brief recap of the meeting.

•• **MOTION NO. 9:** It was moved by Director Fowler that the following recommendation be adopted:

Ad-Hoc Recommendation 1: Initial Screening of Proposals for Consultant Selection Interviews: Recommendation that the Subcommittee request interviews with Benesch, Embris Group, HDR Engineering, and JEO Consulting Group, in the order presented on May 1, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

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

Voting Yea	-	Adams, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Hubbard, Irvine, Storm, Tesar, Thompson, McCormick
Voting Nay	-	None
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	Davidson
Absent	-	Davidson

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- **MOTION NO. 10:** It was moved by Director Fowler and seconded by Director Bradley 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 March 2025, 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 Elk/Pigeon Creek Drainage Project, the Western Sarpy Drainage District, the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership, and the Southern Sarpy Watersheds Partnership project bills listed on the March 2025, 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	-	Adams, Bradley, Conley, Fowler, Hubbard, Irvine, Storm, Tesar, Thompson, McCormick
Voting Nay	-	None
Abstaining	-	None
Excused Absence	-	Davidson
Absent	-	Davidson

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: The Chairman reminded Directors of the NRDs 2025 Niobrara River Basin Tour and encouraged them to attend if their schedule allows.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT: GM Winkler reviewed his report with the Board. The report is posted to the District's website. He also provided an update on the Riverfront Trail, Phase 4 project.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

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

April 26, 2025 Earth Day Omaha, Elmwood Park, Omaha, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

April 30, 2025 State Envirothon Competition, Chalco Hills, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

May 6-7, 2025 Water Works Field Days, Schramm Education Center, 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

May 6, 2025 Papio NRD Subcommittee Meetings, 4:00 p.m., at NRC

May 8, 2025 Papio NRD Board of Directors Meeting, 4:00 p.m., at NRC

B. Next Meeting – The next scheduled meeting of the Papio NRD Board of Directors will be held on May 8, 2025, at the NRC.

ADJOURNMENT: Being no further business, the Chairman declared that the meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

NOTE: These minutes reflect the actions and votes taken at the April 10, 2025, 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 April 10, 2025, 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