

MEMORANDUM

TO: THE BOARD

SUBJECT: General Manager's Report

DATE: September 10, 2012

FROM: John Winkler, General Manager

- A. **INFORMATION/EDUCATION REPORT:** The I & E Report detailing Information and Education activities for the month of August 2012, is attached for your review.
- B. **PERSONNEL/MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:**
1. The District received a report from Chartis in regards to their Loss Control Consultation Visit from August 17, 2012. There were no formal recommendations or discrepancies noted. I want to thanks District staff for their efforts to reduce job loss prevention. The report is attached for your review.
 2. The Nebraska Unicameral Legislature Schedule of Interim Committee Hearings is attached for your review.
- C. **REPORT ON PURCHASES – CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND PERSONAL PROPERTY:** Pursuant to Board direction, attached is a report indicating construction services, professional services and personal property purchases for the month of August 2012. Please review this report and contact me if you have any questions.
- D. **PAPILLION CREEK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP REPORT:** The PCWP report for the month of August, 2012 is attached for your review. The next Partnership meeting is scheduled to be held on September 27, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. at the NRC.
- E. **NEWS CLIPS:**
- ✓ August 7, 2012 Omaha World Herald article, Development around Werner Park off to a slow start
 - ✓ August 7, 2012 Douglas County Post-Gazette article, Elkhorn River Access Parks to see increased law enforcement
 - ✓ August 10, 2012 Sioux City Journal article, Papio-Missouri tax levy to hold steady
 - ✓ August 13, 2012 Omaha World Herald article, No increase for Papio-Missouri River NRD tax levy
 - ✓ August 15, 2012 Papillion Times article, NRD expects flat tax levy next year

- ✓ August 16, 2012 Dakota County Star article, Dam making progress
- ✓ August 30, 2012 Dakota County Star article, No Increase for Papio-Missouri River NRD Tax Levy

*F. **Pigeon Jones Dam Site 15 Recreation Area:** Attached is the resolution to name the Pigeon Jones Recreation Area “Danish Alps Recreation Area” and to name the lake of the Pigeon Jones Dam Site 15 Recreation Area “Kramper Lake.”

August, 2012 Information/Education Report

Information

- Began work on groundbreaking ceremony for Structure WP-5.
- Completed retooling of NRD web site to accommodate new editing software
- Continued work on digital archiving of slides and B&W photos
- Updated Facebook page
- Continued scheduling of Public Service Announcements
- Began work on Fall Spectrum
- Assisted with World O Water event
- Assisted with Manager's Meeting

Education

August Programming Schedule:

- **8/1-** Girls in the Wild Camp- 20 kids (8-14 yrs. old)
- **8/13-** Legacy Primary School- Incredible Insects Program- 32 kids (2-4 yrs. old)
- **8/25-** World O! Water Festival- General Assistance/Facilitation of Children's Area
- **8/27-** Holy Name- Incredible Insects Program- 17 kids (5-13 yrs. old)
- **8/29-** Sandoz Elementary—Outdoor Classroom Garden Planting

Meetings:

- **8/6-** UNMC Capstone Presentation
- **8/8-** WET Workshop planning
- **8/11-** NAI Committee
- **8/15-** MORE Nature
- **8/20-** Girl Scout
- **8/28-** World O! Water Feedback/Recap

Planning

- NRD Summer Day Camps 2014
- MORE Nature and Go! Play Adventure Calendar, FaceBook Page, website
- Fall Nature Nights—flyers to schools, presenter confirmations
- Camp pictures/bios to Omaha World-Herald
- Updated LRIP verbiage
- QR trail at Chalco Hills Rec. Area

Global Loss Prevention
Specialty Workers' Compensation Division

300 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 2100
Chicago, IL 60606

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312-930-5479 Telephone
312-930-5607 Facsimile



August 20, 2012

Ms. Jean Friends Tait, jtait@papionrd.org
Administrative Coordinator
Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District
8901 S. 154th Street
Omaha, NE 68138

RE: LOSS CONTROL CONSULTATION VISIT
8901 S. 154th Street, Omaha, NE 68138
August 17, 2012
Policy Number: 005319545

Dear Ms. Tait,

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This letter is confirmation of my loss control visit in regard to your workers' compensation insurance coverage being provided by Chartis. In addition to you, I met with Heather Borkowski, Safety Coordinator. The purpose of my visit, conducted on behalf of Global Loss Prevention (GLP), was to resurvey operations, evaluate any changes in the operations and policies and complete a loss history review.

LOSS SUMMARY & REVIEW:

According to the loss information provided by Chartis, there have been three claims since the prior visit:

In 2011 an employee twisted his knee while exiting a truck. This was a medical-only claim. Another medical-only loss occurred when an employee who wiped his eye with his work glove got a foreign particle in his eye.

In 2012 so far there have been two injuries: an employee got a thistle in his hand while pruning a bush (medical only). An additional incident (not included on the loss runs) that occurred recently involved an employee that tried to lift a mower deck by himself and strained a chest muscle.

Chartis is a world leading property-casualty and general insurance organization serving more than 70 million clients around the world. With one of the industry's most extensive ranges of products and services, deep claims expertise and excellent financial strength, Chartis enables its commercial and personal insurance clients alike to manage virtually any risk with confidence.

Chartis is the marketing name for the worldwide property-casualty and general insurance operations of Chartis Inc. For additional information, please visit our website at <http://www.chartisinsurance.com>. All products are written by insurance company subsidiaries or affiliates of Chartis Inc. Coverage may not be available in all jurisdictions and is subject to actual policy language. Non-insurance products and services may be provided by independent third parties. Certain coverage may be provided by a surplus lines insurer. Surplus lines insurers do not generally participate in state guaranty funds and insureds are therefore not protected by such funds.

Form Revision 008 - August 2011

ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION:

You indicated that you have developed a new cell phone usage policy for the district. You also indicated that the policy would be adopted and formally implemented at the January 2013 District meetings.

The district has adopted the use of ice cleats / boots for park staff involved in clearing ice and snow from District properties. This should help reduce the exposure that exists in this geographical area most winters.

All trenches up to 5 foot in depth are sloped, which exceeds OSHA standards, to protect employees from cave-ins. Trenches deeper than 5 feet are contracted out to excavation companies.

The District Safety Program and Safety Committee activities appear to be well established. It also appeared that the safety message is relayed to the field and practiced in day-to-day operations. I visited the main shop and found conditions generally satisfactory. The shop foreman and I discussed the need for separation of the oxygen and acetylene cylinders in storage in the shop. The foreman has done a good job of providing for secure storage of compressed gas cylinders.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

There are no outstanding prior recommendations. No formal recommendations are being submitted as a result of this survey.

CLOSING CONFERENCE/FUTURE SERVICE:

It appears that your organization has identified exposures to hazardous working conditions and addressed those by implementing policies and safe work practices and procedures. Your safety program will be enhanced by the cell phone usage policy. Thank you for the time and assistance provided to complete this survey.

To supplement your safety program, we strongly encourage you to register for our GLP RiskTool system at www.chartisinsurance.com/swc (this is our Specialty Workers' Compensation [SWC] Partners in Productivity website). When accessing the website, have your policy close by so the following information can be entered:

- ☐ Policy Number
- ☐ Agent or Broker Number
- ☐ Issuing Company
- ☐ Your email address to create a password

Once you have registered at the SWC website, you can sign on at the RiskTool System site using the same information. This valuable service is only available to current policyholders and

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August 20, 2012

Ms. Jean Friends Tait

Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District

contains continually updated information on safety, loss prevention, and regulatory compliance issues. If you need help in registering, please call GLP Customer Support at 214-758-1781.

Sincerely,

Glenn D. Gardner

Safety Consultant

Zeigle Consulting Associates, Inc. on behalf of Global Loss Prevention

cc: Luanne Brady, PMC Insurance Agency, lbrady@pmcinsurance.com

cc: Maria Chan, Global Loss Prevention, maria.chan@chartisinsurance.com

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NEBRASKA UNICAMERAL LEGISLATURE
ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF INTERIM COMMITTEE HEARINGS
August 31, 2012

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Health and Human Services Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR529 (Campbell) Interim study to provide for review and assessment and make recommendations relating to the entry of children into the child welfare system

Friday, September 14, 2012

Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1507, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

Briefing on insurance exchange program by the Nebraska Department of Insurance

Open to the public, invited testimony only.

Monday, September 17, 2012

Education Committee

6:00 p.m. - Lincoln Elementary School, Gering, NE

LR489 (Adams) Interim study to examine early childhood education programs in Nebraska

LR492 (Adams) Interim study to examine the system of financing public education in Nebraska

Tuesday, September 18, 2012

Education Committee

2:00 p.m. - Performing Arts Center, Gothenburg High School, Gothenburg, NE

LR489 (Adams) Interim study to examine early childhood education programs in Nebraska

LR492 (Adams) Interim study to examine the system of financing public education in Nebraska

Friday, September 21, 2012

General Affairs Committee

1:30 p.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR586 (Karipsek) Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee

Monday, September 24, 2012

Education Committee

2:30 p.m. - Boone Central Elementary School Library, Albion, NE

LR489 (Adams) Interim study to examine early childhood education programs in Nebraska

LR492 (Adams) Interim study to examine the system of financing public education in Nebraska

Tuesday, September 25, 2012

Education Committee

1:30 p.m. - Administrative Building, Gretna Public Schools, Gretna, NE

LR489 (Adams) Interim study to examine early childhood education programs in Nebraska

LR492 (Adams) Interim study to examine the system of financing public education in Nebraska

Health and Human Services Committee

1:30 p.m. - Macy, NE (site pending)

LR578 (Bloomfield) Interim study to assess the State of Nebraska's compliance with both the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 and the Nebraska Indian Child Welfare Act, and to make recommendations for improvements

Friday, September 28, 2012

-Continued on next page-

Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1507, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR513 (Wightman) Interim study to examine ways in which health benefit policies and contracts could provide coverage for patient-centered medical homes

Friday, September 28, 2012
-Continued from next page-

Agriculture Committee

1:30 p.m. - Room 1524, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR557 (Carlson) Interim study to examine the progress of the creation of a blender fuel pump infrastructure in Nebraska

LR559 (Carlson) Interim study to examine potential structural models for commodity development programs to enhance flexibility, resources, and accountability to producers

Friday, October 5, 2012

Health and Human Services Committee and Judiciary Committee

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR529 (Campbell) Interim study to provide for review and assessment and make recommendations relating to the entry of children into the child welfare system

LR525 (Coash) Interim study to examine how Nebraska's system for screening, assessing, and investigating reports of child abuse and neglect contributes to Nebraska's rates of out-of-home care

Education Committee and Agriculture Committee

1:30 p.m. - Room 1113, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR511 (Sullivan) Interim study to examine Nebraska's kindergarten through twelfth grade education standards and curricula to determine whether agriculture is incorporated as an essential component

Tuesday, October 9, 2012

Natural Resources Committee

9:00 a.m. - Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District, 8901 S. 154 St., Omaha, NE

LR495 (Mello) Interim study to examine the flood control needs of Omaha and the greater Omaha metropolitan area

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Health and Human Services Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR506 (Sullivan) Interim study to examine issues surrounding the moratorium on long-term care beds under the Nebraska Health Care Certificate of Need Act

LR551 (Conrad) Interim study to assess the effectiveness of ACCESSNebraska for clients, community-based partners, and workers using qualitative and quantitative analysis

1:30 p.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR532 (Schumacher) Interim study to assess mechanisms in place for school districts to detect any cause and correlation of unusual health patterns among staff and students arising during construction, renovation, or other school projects in public school buildings

LR465 (Smith) Interim study to examine the impact of the pulse oximetry procedure in testing for critical congenital heart disease in newborns

Friday, October 19, 2012

Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1507, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

Briefing on insurance exchange program by the Nebraska Department of Insurance

Open to the public, invited testimony only.

Thursday, October 25, 2012

Health and Human Services Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR555 (Gloor) Interim study to review and examine the ongoing issues within Nebraska's Medicaid Insurance for Workers with Disabilities, also known as Nebraska's Medicaid Buy-In, enacted in 1999

LR517 (Nelson) Interim study to examine the benefits of adult day service programs currently provided to Nebraska seniors

LR519 (Mello) Interim study to examine wage subsidy programs

1:30 p.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR537 (McGill) Interim study to gather data and develop recommendations on the unmet needs of and gaps in services available to youth who transition or "age out" of Nebraska's foster care system

LR533 (McGill) Interim study to examine whether there are enough resources currently present in schools to detect and treat mental illness in school-age children

Friday, October 26, 2012

Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1507, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR498 (Pahls) Interim study to examine the processes, legislative and administrative, necessary for the establishment in Nebraska of a health insurance exchange in response to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Health and Human Services Committee and Appropriations Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR549 (Conrad) Interim study to determine the range of investment returns on the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund over the next ten years and the actual demands upon the current recipients of the funds over the next ten years

LR508 (Gloor) Interim study to review, assess, and provide recommendations relating to the implementation and sustainability of the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act

Transportation and Telecommunications Committee and Appropriations Committee

1:30 p.m. - Room 1113, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

Joint Hearing of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee and the Appropriations Committee State Highway Needs Assessment Briefing

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Executive Board of the Legislative Council

5:00 p.m. - Platte River State Park

Legislative Issues Symposium

Friday, November 16, 2012

Executive Board of the Legislative Council

8:00 a.m. - Platte River State Park

Legislative Issues Symposium

Tuesday, November 27, 2012

Health and Human Services Committee

9:00 a.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

Briefing by NCSL and the State Dept. of Health and Human Services regarding the federal Health Care Act and Medicaid

Open to the public, invited testimony only.

Health and Human Services Committee and Appropriations Committee

Note time change

9:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR546 (Nordquist) Interim study to examine the potential impact of implementing the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act on the state budget in upcoming years

1:30 p.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

Rescheduled to Nov. 13

LR549 (Conrad) Interim study to determine the range of investment returns on the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund over the next ten years and the actual demands upon the current recipients of the funds over the next ten years

LR508 (Gloor) Interim study to review, assess, and provide recommendations relating to the implementation and sustainability of the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act

Health and Human Services Committee

3:00 p.m. - Room 1510, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR515 (Nordquist) Interim study to examine new ways to pay for and deliver health care services through the medicaid program that improve the quality of care and health of participants while lowering costs

Friday, December 7, 2012

Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

9:30 a.m. - Room 1507, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

LR496 (Mello) Interim study to examine the issues surrounding the adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations

LR502 (Mello) Interim study to examine the issues surrounding governmental transparency

LR486 (Mello) Interim study to examine the issues surrounding state procurement policies

LR512 (Avery) Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

LR561 (Harms) Interim study to examine the feasibility of a merger between the Dept. of Economic Development and the Dept. of Labor, as proposed in LB971

HB#ISS58 68138

JEAN TAIT
PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER NRD
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MONTHLY UPDATE

August 2012



A Partnership meeting was held on August 23, 2012 at 10am at the NRC Building. Minutes are updated regularly on the Partnership's website: www.papiopartnership.org.

Water Quality Presentation

Jeff Mihulka, a former University of Nebraska, Omaha graduate student, presented results from water quality samples taken at locations throughout the Papillion Creek Watershed.

Samples were collected at four locations throughout 2010 and 2011:

- Big Papillion Creek at Highway 36
- Little Papillion Creek at L St.
- Big Papillion Creek at L St.
- Big Papillion Creek at Capehart Rd.

A total of 1,380 samples were collected in 2010 and 1,522 samples were collected in 2011. Each sample was tested for E. coli, total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and total suspended solids.

The sample testing results show that E. coli, total nitrogen, and total phosphorus are above water quality standards. The presentation is posted on the Partnership website under Resources.

CSO Update

Marty Grate from the City of Omaha updated the Partnership on Omaha's CSO program. About half of Omaha's sewer system is a combined system that takes both sanitary flows and stormwater to the treatment plants. In high rain events, the system cannot handle all the flow and combined sewage is discharged through 29 outfalls to the Papillion Creek Watershed and to the Missouri River. EPA has mandated that Omaha develop a long term control plan to address these events. The final long term control plan was approved on February 10, 2010.

The long term control plan identifies five major elements to help achieve water quality goals: targeted sewer separation projects, two high rate treatment facilities, one deep conveyance tunnel, two underground storage tanks, and one large stormwater conveyance tunnel.

Work on these projects began in 2009/2010. It is anticipated that 106 project contracts will be necessary to complete the five elements. At this time five projects have been completed, 11 projects are under construction, and 21 projects are in the design phase. It is anticipated that all five major elements will be completed in 2024.

Facility Runoff Control Plan Training Recap

On August 7th the City of Omaha held training on developing municipal facility runoff control plans. These plans are required as part of the Good Housekeeping element of each community's stormwater management plan. Every community with a MS4 permit attended the session. Training materials are available for checkout from the City of Omaha.

2012-2013 Meeting Dates

The schedule for meetings for the next year was distributed. Meetings are generally held on the fourth Thursday of each month with the exception of November and December.

Semi Annual Report Due October 1

The semiannual report for MS4 communities is due to NDEQ by October 1. The NRD will send out a template for the letter report.

Next Meeting:

The next Partnership meeting will be **September 27, 2012 at 10 am** at the NRC building.





CHRIS MACHIAN / THE WORLD-HERALD

Werner Park, in its second year, has drawn good crowds for Omaha Storm Chasers' games but remains surrounded by farm fields.

SARPY COUNTY

Development around Werner Park off to a slow start

By *John Ferak* / World-Herald staff writer

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Sarpy County officials remain confident that they can pay off Werner Park's debt without increasing property taxes.

The county will make about \$1.4 million in bond payments during the next budget cycle. The county is setting aside \$754,785 in lodging taxes and \$69,500 in keno funds for the payments.

The Omaha Storm Chasers and stadium revenue receipts will cover the rest. The team has \$450,000 in coming stadium lease payments. An additional \$111,662 will come from the 50-cent per ticket seat surcharge, a fee on concession and merchandise sales and naming rights.

“We should be fine for a while,” County Administrator Mark Wayne said.

In time, the county is counting on using a portion of the new property taxes generated from the Pennant Place development to help pay off the stadium debt.

The county envisioned that the future commercial development would increase the county's tax base between \$50 million and \$225 million. — **John Ferak**

Werner Park is a hit with Omaha Storm Chasers fans, but hopes for development around the stadium remain a field of dreams.

The Pennant Place development has yet to break ground, although more than three years have passed since Sarpy County selected the site near 126th Street and Nebraska Highway 370 for the new ballpark.

Developer Roger Langpaul donated his family's land for Werner Park and pitched plans for an ice arena, a water park, a fitness center, hotels, shops, restaurants, a grocery store, executive offices and new homes.

County officials touted the stadium as Sarpy County's next big development project and planned to tap its tax revenue to help pay for the publicly funded ballpark. The County Board chairwoman at the time proclaimed the development to be the county's economic stimulus package.

As the Storm Chasers play to strong crowds in the team's second season at Werner Park, roughly 300 acres of farmland remain the ballpark's neighbor.

The slow development is a financial matter for local governments, and so far, they have gone without a key source of revenue they envisioned.

But Langpaul said his proposed project is building momentum.

He said he is working on two separate deals for Pennant Place and anticipates that construction will start by next year. He said he expects to make an announcement in about 60 days.

In addition, Langpaul has sold a 20-acre parcel east of the ballpark to the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society for a senior housing community.

Sarpy County Administrator Mark Wayne said that organization wants to start construction next spring.

County officials say the absence of commercial development surrounding the ballpark is not unexpected.

“We never expected much development to occur in the first two to three years due to the slow economic climate for new developments, not just in Sarpy but the whole region and across the United States,” Wayne said.

Sarpy County is counting on property and sales taxes generated by the development to help pay off the debt for the 25-year stadium construction bonds.

The City of Papillion spent about \$815,000 bringing water and sewer lines to the ballpark site and expects to recoup those costs as the area develops.

"You have people saying that nothing has happened out there, but I know in my mind, it's a good area," Sarpy County Attorney Lee Polikov said. "I am not disappointed. I think it's good that Roger Langpaul was not in a rush to throw any development in that area."

Langpaul said that with the economic slowdown, development deals have taken longer to complete.

PROPOSED PENNANT PLACE DEVELOPMENT

Developer Roger Langpaul proposed an extensive development around Werner Park, but it has yet to get started. An ice arena is out of the plans, but a parcel has sold for a retirement community. Langpaul says the first project could get underway by next year.



"It's not that they are saying 'No,'" Langpaul said. "The approval process with lenders and corporate bureaucracies to put a deal together just takes much longer today."

John Winkler, general manger of the Papio-Missouri Natural Resources District, said he isn't surprised that the site has been slow to develop.

This fall, the NRD plans to break ground for a \$30 million lake near Werner Park and the development site.

Winkler said the lake, which will resemble Papillion's Walnut Creek Recreation Area when completed in about three years, should help create interest in Langpaul's project.

"With the way the economy is, everybody is waiting to see who is the first development to go there," Winkler said. "I think it will develop and fill in. It's a beautiful area and a beautiful stadium. Time will tell whether it was the right spot for the stadium. I personally feel it is."

Baseball fans have taken to the ballpark.

During Werner Park's 2011 debut, the Storm Chasers drew a regular season average of 5,947 — higher than during Rosenblatt Stadium's farewell year.

This season, the team is only slightly behind last year's average, drawing 5,839 fans per game. But Martie Cordaro, the Storm Chasers' president and general manager, said he still expects to equal or surpass last season's attendance total.

Toby Churchill, executive director of the Sarpy County Economic Development Corp., said he has been fielding more calls than in years past from investors interested in Pennant Place.

Churchill said the site was considered for the new SAC Federal Credit Union headquarters, which will go near Shadow Lake Towne Center in Papillion.

Churchill said the economic downturn has meant increased competition throughout the metro area for development sites.

"I think it's a timing issue," he said. "Roger came on the market when the housing market took a little slump. It's a great development with a great future."

Dennis Hoth, a developer involved with the nearby Southport West project around Cabela's, said Langpaul's site could use development anchors besides the ballpark.

"Ballparks alone cannot be considered an anchor," said Hoth, whose site was a finalist for the ballpark.

Two County Board members, Rusty Hike and Tom Richards, wanted to build the stadium in Bellevue along the Kennedy Freeway.

At the time, Richards said it was important for development to "happen as quickly as possible." But Richards recently said he remains confident that the site will develop in time.

"It's just not developing at the speed people would like. ... It will develop," he said. "It has to at some point, when you look at the growth of the Papillion and La Vista area."

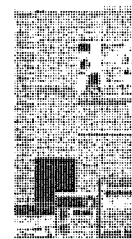
Meantime, real estate signs and billboards touting Pennant Place dot the area around the stadium. The proposed ice arena has melted now that Ralston is building a \$32 million arena.

Langpaul said he is pursuing "all avenues that make sense."

"Werner Park has just been a wonderful asset to have. ... We've got a fabulous project, and in time, the lots will develop."

Contact the writer:

402-444-1056, john.ferak@owh.com



Elkhorn River Access Parks to see increased law enforcement

Three NRD Elkhorn River access parks in Douglas County will see heightened law enforcement presence the remainder of this summer.

"We are thrilled that so many people are enjoying the sites," said John Winkler, Papio-Missouri River NRD general manager. "However, there are those who choose to break the recreation area rules and spoil the outdoor experience for others. Additional law enforcement will enhance enjoyment for everyone."

No alcohol consumption or glass containers are permitted at these parks. Littering in the parks and river has been a concern along with the failure to possess or wear life jackets (personal floatation

devices) required for all tubes, rafts and other inflatable vessels. Violators of these rules are subject to being cited.

The three parks are Elkhorn Crossing, near 252nd and Bennington Road, Graske Crossing, near West Dodge Road, and the West Maple Road River Access site. All three public parks are open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The hours are strictly enforced.

"These river access sites have created ever-expanding opportunities for our water-based recreation enthusiasts in the metro area," said Winkler. "Safe and conscientious users will appreciate the need for greater law enforcement."

Sioux City Journal

Papio-Missouri tax levy to hold steady

August 10, 2012 5:30 pm

OMAHA | The Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District's proposed fiscal year 2013 budget calls for no tax levy increase.

If approved, it would be the sixth consecutive year the NRD's Board of Directors has passed a budget with no tax levy increase.

The board will conduct a public hearing and vote on the final budget at its Sept. 13 meeting in Dakota City. The Papio-Missouri River NRD includes Dakota, Sarpy, Douglas and Washington counties and parts of Burt and Thurston counties.

The proposed budget calls for a levy of .032753, the same as the current year's levy. The budget outlines total spending estimated at \$87.4 million, of which \$17.2 million will be raised through the property tax levy. Other NRD revenue comes from bonds, federal and state cost sharing for specific projects and income from improvement project areas.

-- *Nick Hytrek*

No increase for Papio-Missouri River NRD tax levy

By *Kevin Cole*

WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

The budget for the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District contains no increase in the tax levy for the sixth consecutive year, but holding the line is becoming harder, the general manager warned.

John Winkler said the elimination of state aid and a reduction in federal funding are squeezing the NRD. The board will hold a public hearing and vote on a final budget at its Sept. 13 meeting in Dakota City.

"If the district is to continue to construct projects which protect life and property and enhance the quality of life of our constituents, the district will find it necessary to seek additional revenues, delay critical flood control improvements or eliminate vital infrastructure," Winkler said.

The proposed budget calls for a property tax levy of .032753 for the 2013 fiscal year. That means that the owner of property valued at \$100,000 would again pay \$32.75 in annual property taxes to support NRD projects.

The budget identifies an estimated \$87.4 million in spending. Of that amount, \$17.2 million in revenue would be generated by property taxes in Sarpy, Douglas, Washington and Dakota Counties plus the eastern 60 percent of Burt and Thurston Counties.

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NRD expects flat tax levy next year

The Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District is not anticipating a tax increase next year.

At its Aug. 9 Board of Directors meeting, the NRD's fiscal year 2013 was introduced. The proposal calls for a tax levy of 3.2753 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, the same as the current levy, assuming a 1 percent increase in valuations across the entire district. The district expects a 1.24 percent increase in Sarpy County.

At that rate, the owner of a typical \$150,000 home would

pay \$49.13 next year to support the NRD. The district provides services to Sarpy, Douglas, Washington and Dakota counties as well as most of Burt and Thurston counties.

"Following final review and adoption in September, this will be the sixth consecutive year that the NRD has held steady or reduced its property tax levy," NRD General Manager John Winkler said in a news release. "It is extremely challenging to hold the line on property taxes considering the recent elimination of state aid

and the constant reduction of federal funding and programs supporting natural resources management."

The district's budget estimates total spending at \$87.4 million, of which \$17.2 million in revenue is raised through property taxes. Other sources of income are bonds, income from improvement project areas and federal and state cost-sharing for specific projects.

A public hearing will be held on the budget at the board's Sept. 13 meeting in Dakota City, Neb.



Dam making progress



Photos by Mike Renning/Dakota County Star

The Site 15 Pigeon/Jones Creek Dam Project is progressing along nicely. The project, which began in June, is expected to be completed in 2015. The work on the grade of the dam, picture inset, should be completed this fall. The area surrounding the 226-acre lake, including day-use areas and overnight camping, should be completed in the fall of 2015.

Dakota County Star
8-30-2012

***No Increase for
Papio-Missouri River
NRD Tax Levy***

The Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District's 2013 budget contains no increase in the tax levy for the sixth consecutive year, but holding the line is becoming "harder, the general manager warned.

John Winkler said the elimination of state aid and a reduction in federal funding are squeezing the NRD... The board will hold a public hearing and vote on a final budget at its September 13 meeting in Dakota City.

"If the district is to continue to construct projects which protect life and property and enhance the quality of life of our constituents, the district will find it necessary to seek additional revenues, delay critical flood control improvements or eliminate vital infrastructure," Winkler said.

The proposed budget calls for a property tax levy of .032753 for the 2013 fiscal year. That means that the owner of property valued at \$100,000 would again pay \$32.75 in annual property taxes to support NRD projects. The budget identifies an estimated \$87.4 million in spending. Of that amount, \$17.2 million in revenue would be generated by property taxes in Sarpy, Douglas, Washington, and Dakota Counties, plus the eastern 60 percent of Burt and Thurston County.

A public hearing to set the property tax levy and adoption of the proposed fiscal year 2013 budget will be addressed at the meeting starting at 7 p.m., followed by a regular Board of Director's meeting at 7:30 p.m. The meeting is open to the public and interested individuals are encouraged to attend.

Whereas, the Pigeon-Jones Dam Site 15 Project is being constructed by the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District on lands in Dakota County, Nebraska, that resemble the terrain of Denmark and which evoke the proud heritage and homeland of the Danish immigrants who settled such lands; and,

Whereas, Vince Kramper has been a long-standing advocate for and protector of the natural environment, having served as a Natural Resources District Director, as a Member of the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission, and as a Member of the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board, always working tirelessly and effectively for the betterment of the natural resources of Nebraska,

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Directors of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District that the recreation area being constructed by the District as a principal feature of its Pigeon-Jones Dam Site 15 Project, should be named and henceforth shall be referred to as the "Danish Alps Recreation Area."

Be it further resolved that, in recognition of and sincere appreciation for Vince Kramper's support and advocacy for environmentally valuable programs and projects such as the Pigeon-Jones Dam Site 15 Project, the flood control reservoir located in the Danish Alps Recreation Area should be named and henceforth shall be referred to as "Kramper Lake."