

**Programs, Projects, and Operations Subcommittees  
Meeting Minutes  
April 12, 2005**

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 154<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, Nebraska, on April 12, 2005. Public notice of the meeting was posted at all District offices and published in the Omaha World-Herald on April 7, 2005.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson John Conley at 7:00 p.m.

**QUORUM CALL**

Quorum call was taken. The following subcommittee members were in attendance.

<b>Subcommittee Members Present</b>	<b>Other Directors Present</b>	<b>Others in Attendance</b>
John Conley	Connealy	P-MRNRD Staff:
Fred Conley	Fowler	Steve Oltmans
Kolowski	Thompson	Marlin Petermann
Tesar	Jansen	Trent Heiser
Neary *	Schwope	Dick Sklenar
Lanphier **		Christine Jacobsen
		Jerry Herbster
		Randy Lee
		Paul Woodward
		Ralph Puls
		Gerry Bowen
		Paul Peters, District Legal Counsel
		Others:
		Vicki Fraser
		Sandra Powell
		Barb Nichols
		John Timmermier
		Lyle Christianson, HDR
		Kent Holm, Douglas County
		Sign In Sheet attached to file copy of minutes

\* Attended meeting, but not present for quorum call.

\*\* Alternate Voting member for Director Neary.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

- **It was moved by Tesar, seconded by F. Conley, that the agenda be adopted.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Voting Yea: J. Conley, F. Conley, Kolowski, Lanphier, Tesar  
Voting Nay: none  
Abstaining: none  
Absent: none

**MOPAC TRAIL – EQUESTRIAN USE**

Bowen noted that the District had received a letter from Vicki Fraser requesting use of the Mopac Trail between Springfield and the Platte River. He noted that the staff recommendation was to allow equestrian usage, but on a separate path. The separate path would require some additional clearing, signage, and bridge modification.

Vicki Fraser addressed the Board and answered questions.

Sandra Powell, City Administrator for Springfield, noted the Council took no action to endorse the usage since the majority of the trail was outside their city limits. She did add there wasn't any opposition to the concept.

- **It was moved by F. Conley, seconded by Neary, that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the staff be directed to further investigate this proposal and prepare a cost estimate to create a separate equestrian trail on the Mopac Trail between Springfield and the Platte River, and report back to the Subcommittee in May, 2005.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Voting Yes: J. Conley, F. Conley, Kolowski, Neary, Tesar  
Voting No: none  
Abstaining: none  
Absent: none

**PIGEON/JONES CREEK WATERSHED STRUCTURES – CONSTRUCTION BIDS:**

Puls noted that four construction bids were received for Pigeon/Jones Watershed Sites 4, 5, and 14. The apparent lowest and best bid was submitted by Cooney Fertilizer, Inc., in the amount of \$165,835.35.

- **It was moved by F. Conley, seconded by Tesar, that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the bid from Cooney Fertilizer, Inc. in the amount of \$165,835.35 be accepted, and that the General Manager be authorized to execute the necessary contract documents.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Voting Yes: J. Conley, F. Conley, Kolowski, Neary, Tesar  
Voting No: none  
Abstaining: none  
Absent: none

## **POLICY MANUAL AMENDMENTS/ADDITIONS**

Peters noted that the recent court action concerning Dam Site 13 demonstrated that some clarification to avoid misunderstanding was needed in District Policies 1.3, 4.2, and 15.9.

John Timmermier addressed the Board concerning Policy 15.9.

Director Schwope briefly discussed the proposal (Policy 4.0) to change the time of the Board meetings during the months of November through April from 8:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Jacobsen noted that the District currently has several geocaching sites at Chalco Hills and Walnut Creek, and she expects more of these sites to occur in the future. She described geocaching as a modern “scavenger hunt” utilizing GPS equipment. The policy change was to establish rules and regulations to govern use of District property for this purpose.

Barb Nichols addressed the Board requesting clarification about use of areas for geocaching where the District only has an easement, such as PL 566 sites located on private land. It was pointed out that the policy would only apply to public access sites.

- **It was moved by F. Conley, seconded by Tesar, that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the following amendments/additions to the District Policy Manual be tabled for one month pursuant to District Policy 1.5, with final consideration at the May 12, 2005 Board Meeting:**
  - **1.3 Policy Manual – Effect of Policies**
  - **4.0 Board Meetings – Regular Monthly Meetings**
  - **4.2 Board Meetings – Emergency Meetings**
  - **15.9 Purchasing – Cost Shared Projects**
  - **16.9 District Property – Geocaching Regulations on All Properties Open for Public Use and Operated by the P-MRNRD**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Voting Yes: J. Conley, F. Conley, Kolowski, Neary, Tesar  
Voting No: none  
Abstaining: none  
Absent: none

Bowen summarized the Trails Assistance Program. This new program would formalize the District’s previous action regarding cost sharing with communities on trails approved for federal enhancement funding. The program called for the District paying half of the local share of those costs.

- **It was moved by F. Conley, seconded by Kolowski, that “17.40 District Programs– Trails Assistance Program” be approved and added to the District’s Policy Manual.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Voting Yes: J. Conley, F. Conley, Kolowski, Neary, Tesar  
Voting No: none  
Abstaining: none  
Absent: none

Sklenar noted that a policy covering the Washington County Rural Water System #2 was needed in the District's Policy Manual.

- **It was moved by F. Conley, seconded by Tesar, that "19.8 Improvement Projects – Washington County Rural Water System #2" be approved and added to the District's Policy Manual.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Voting Yes: J. Conley, F. Conley, Kolowski, Neary, Tesar  
Voting No: none  
Abstaining: none  
Absent: none

**ELKHORN RIVER PROJECT – CHANGES TO THE ALLBERY TRACT EASEMENT:**

Bowen noted that this item be removed from the agenda under a request from the landowner. No action was taken.

**FISCAL YEAR 2006 URBAN COST SHARE PROGRAMS:** Bowen summarized the applications received for the Recreation Area Development, Trails Assistance, Urban Drainageway, and Urban Conservation Assistance Programs.

- **It was moved by F. Conley, seconded by Kolowski, that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the Recreation Area Development Program applications from the City of South Sioux City for \$8,310, the City of Papillion for \$7,687, the City of Bellevue for \$40,000, and the City of Elkhorn for \$25,000 be approved, for a total of \$80,997, subject to funding in the FY 2006 Budget.**

**And, that the Trails Assistance Program applications from the City of Springfield for \$14,170, the Village of Arlington for \$26,983, the City of Omaha for \$109,786, and the Winnebago Tribe for \$23,761 be approved, for a total of \$174,700, subject to funding in the FY 2006 Budget.**

**And, that the Urban Drainageway Program applications from the City of Papillion for \$300,000, the City of LaVista for 246,600, and the Omaha Tribe for 144,427 be approved, and that the District budget the additional \$136,390 for the City of Omaha, for a total of \$827,417, subject to funding in the FY 2006 Budget.**

**And, that the Urban Conservation Assistance Program applications from the City of Papillion for \$22,320, and the City of Bellevue for \$24,000, for a total of \$46,320, be approved, subject to funding in the FY 2006 Budget.**

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

Voting Yes: J. Conley, F. Conley, Kolowski, Neary  
Voting No: Tesar  
Abstaining: none  
Absent: none

**WASHINGTON COUNTY RURAL WATER SYSTEM #2 – CITY OF BLAIR’S REQUEST TO EXTEND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM:** Sklenar discussed the results of a survey of Washington County residents along County Roads P35, P28, and P37 about hooking up to the Washington County Rural Water System #2 pursuant to a request from the City of Blair to extend the water lines to serve this area. He noted that there weren’t enough sign-ups to justify the installation at this time.

- **It was moved by Neary, seconded by Tesar, that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that further investigation into the City of Blair’s request to extend the Washington County Rural Water #2 distribution system to Highway 75 be terminated due to lack of sufficient sign-ups.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Voting Yes: J. Conley, F. Conley, Kolowski, Neary, Tesar  
Voting No: none  
Abstaining: none  
Absent: none

Sklenar then described another request from the City of Blair to extend and upgrade the water line along County Road P26 about 1,800 feet west to Highway 30 and connect with a water main serving the Village of Kennard. He noted that after discussion with the City, it was decided that this area be part of the City water distribution system and not part of the District’s rural water system.

- **It was moved by Tesar, seconded by F. Conley, that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the Washington County Rural Water #2 Service area boundary be revised so that properties along Victory Lane and County Road P26, all west of Highway 133, be a part of the City of Blair’s water distribution system, at no additional construction cost to the District.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Voting Yes: J. Conley, F. Conley, Kolowski, Neary, Tesar  
Voting No: none  
Abstaining: none  
Absent: none

**ELKHORN RIVER CANOE ACCESS (W. MAPLE ROAD) – TRAILS DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FUND AGREEMENT:**

Sklenar noted that the District was approved for funding under the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission's Trails Development Assistance Fund for the Elkhorn River Canoe Access site on West Maple Road near Waterloo. A funding agreement with NGPC was necessary to secure the funds. He stated that the site would be constructed this summer.

- **It was moved by Tesar, seconded by F. Conley, that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the project agreement with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for the Trails Assistance Fund be approved, and that the General Manager be authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the District.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Voting Yes: J. Conley, F. Conley, Kolowski, Neary, Tesar  
Voting No: none  
Abstaining: none  
Absent: none

**PAPILLION CREEK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP – STAGE III PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH HDR ENGINEERING, INC.**

Woodward noted that Stage III of the professional services contract with HDR Engineering had been reviewed and approved by the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership (PCWP). Stage III includes public information and watershed master plan development. He noted that the District needed to approve the contract since the District was the contracting agent for the PCWP.

Lyle Christianson, HDR, addressed the subcommittee and answered questions.

Kent Holm, Douglas County Environmental Services, addressed the subcommittee supporting the PCWP's position on the contract.

- **It was moved by Tesar, seconded by F. Conley, that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the General Manager be authorized to execute a professional services contract with HDR Engineering, Inc. on behalf of the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership, for the Papillion Creek Watershed Stage III Study for a maximum fee of \$315,000, subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager, and approved as to form by District Legal Counsel.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Voting Yes: J. Conley, F. Conley, Kolowski, Neary, Tesar  
Voting No: none  
Abstaining: none  
Absent: none

**OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST:** Oltmans noted that Douglas County approved the agreement for funding of the Western Douglas County Trails Project.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by acclamation at 8:52 p.m.

/pt/com/ppo/2005/april/apr05\_ppo\_minutes