

**Programs, Projects, and Operations Subcommittees  
Meeting Minutes  
April 13, 2004**

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 13, 2004. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson John Conley at 7:30 p.m.

**QUORUM CALL:** Quorum call was taken. The following subcommittee members were in attendance.

<b>Subcommittee Members Present</b>	<b>Subcommittee Members Absent</b>	<b>Other Directors Present</b>	<b>Others in Attendance</b>
John Conley	Rich Jansen *	Barbara Nichols	Steve Oltmans
Tim Fowler	Joe Neary *		Marlin Petermann
Rich Tesar			Paul Peters
Richard Connealy **			Jim Becic
Jim Thompson **			Dick Sklenar
			Trent Heiser
			Rich Hurley
			Paul Woodward
			Gerry Bowen
			Don Doty, NRCS

\* Excused Absence

\*\* Alternate Voting Member

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

\* **It was moved by Connealy, Seconded by Thompson, that agenda be adopted.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of five (5) to zero (0).

Voting Yea: Tim Fowler, Rich Tesar, Richard Connealy, Jim Thompson, John Conley

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: Jansen, Neary

Excused Absence: Jansen, Neary

**PROOF OF PUBLICATION:** Public notice of the meeting was posted at all District offices and published in the Omaha World-Herald on April, 9 2004.

**NEW PAPIILLION CREEK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT:** There was no discussion.

\* **It was moved by Tesar and seconded by Fowler to table this item until a meeting of the Program, Projects, and Operations Subcommittee, scheduled for May 12, 2004 at 7:30 p.m., with the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership as the sole agenda item.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of four (4) to one (1).

Voting Yea: Tim Fowler, Rich Tesar, Jim Thompson, John Conley  
Voting Nay: Richard Connealy  
Abstaining: None  
Absent: Jansen, Neary  
Excused Absence: Jansen, Neary

**INTERLOCAL COOPERATION ACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER NRD AND THE CITY OF DAKOTA CITY:**

Ralph Puls reviewed the provisions of the agreement with the City of Dakota City for the proposed Natural Resources Center (NRC) building including necessary land rights from the City, demo of existing building, paved parking lot, free sewer and water hook-ups, no fees for necessary building permits, and the temporary office space for District DCRW staff for up to 18 months. Ralph noted that Dakota City has approved these provisions, but not the entire agreement. He recommended approval of the agreement. John Conley asked about the impact of the Dakota County Extension decision not to have offices in the proposed building. Ralph responded that there would probably be no change to the size of the building in anticipation of more space needed in the future.

- ✱ **It was moved by Connealy, and seconded by Fowler, that Management recommends that the Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute an Interlocal Cooperative Act Agreement between the Papio-Missouri River NRD and Dakota City for a Natural Resources Center office building in Dakota City, 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 five (5) to zero (0).

Voting Yea: Tim Fowler, Rich Tesar, Richard Connealy, Jim Thompson, John Conley  
Voting Nay: None  
Abstaining: None  
Absent: Jansen, Neary  
Excused Absence: Jansen, Neary

**FY 2005 URBAN COST SHARE PROGRAM:**

Gerry Bowen reviewed applications for the following programs as noted:

- a. **Urban Drainageway Program:** No new applications were received this year. However, there are two unfunded projects from last year from the City of La Vista and the City of Elkhorn be cost-shared 60%/40% by the District for a total of \$178,382.
- b. **Recreation Area Development:** The City of South Sioux City was initially approved in FY 03 for renovations to Crystal Cove Park, but was not funded due to pending cost-share from the Corps which was recently authorized. It is recommended that they receive the maximum of \$50,000 for this project. In addition, new applications from the City of Arlington, Bellevue, and Bennington have all requested 50% cost-share to improve their respective parks for a total of \$92,025.

- c. **Recreation Trails Projects:** Cities requesting assistance for public trails include the City of Dakota City, City of Waterloo, and the City of South Sioux City. All are requesting 50% of the local share for a total of \$111,787.
- d. **Urban Conservation Assistance Program:** The City of Omaha is asking for \$25,000 to help create a soccer complex on the property acquired under the Weir Crest buyout near 62<sup>nd</sup> and Q Street.

Gerry concluded his review by stating that all applications for funding are being recommended by the staff, subject to the FY 2005 budget.

John Conley asked if the City of Arlington has a phased project approach to purchase land and then perform improvements. Gerry responded that they were requesting what they could afford during the given time period. It was noted that staff would prepare a priority list of applications for budgeting purposes. However, Gerry noted that the total of all requests was less than last year's budget. Thompson commented that assisting with funding for Weir Crest may be double-dipping for one project.

- \* **It was moved by Tesar, and seconded by Connealy, that Management recommends that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the Recreation Area Development applications from the Village of Arlington for \$45,750, City of Bellevue for \$37,775, the City of Bennington for \$8,500, the City of Dakota City for \$60,325, the City of Waterloo for 43,104, and the City of South Sioux City for \$8,358 be approved, and in addition, fund a request from the City of South Sioux City for \$50,000, for a total of \$253,812, subject to funding in the FY 2005 budget; and that the Urban Conservation Assistance Program application from the City of Omaha for \$25,000 be approved, subject to funding in the FY 2005 budget.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of five (5) to zero (0).

Voting Yea: Tim Fowler, Rich Tesar, Richard Connealy, Jim Thompson, John Conley  
 Voting Nay: None  
 Abstaining: None  
 Absent: Jansen, Neary  
 Excused Absence: Jansen, Neary

**INTERLOCAL COOPERATIVE ACT AGREEMENT WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY – MISSOURI RIVER TRAIL SURFACING:**

Jim Becic explained that this agreement with Washington County would allow any federal funds “left over” from the asphaltting of County Road 51 from the Washington/Douglas County Line to Boyer Chute to be used to asphalt the trail instead of the currently planned crushed rock surface. Jim noted that the Washington County Board had passed the agreement earlier that morning and that the road and trail construction should be completed by the end of June. John Conley asked what the advantage of a hard surface was versus a crushed rock trail. Jim responded that it is more convenient, safer and easier to maintain and lends itself to a wider variety of users.

- \* **It was moved by Connealy, and seconded by Thompson, that staff recommends that the Projects, Programs and Operations Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the General Manager be authorized to execute an Interlocal Cooperation Act**

**Agreement between the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District and the County of Washington, Nebraska for the Surfacing of the Trail from Washington County Line to Boyer Chute subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approval as to form by the District Legal Counsel.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of five (5) to zero (0).

Voting Yea: Tim Fowler, Rich Tesar, Richard Connealy, Jim Thompson, John Conley

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: Jansen, Neary

Excused Absence: Jansen, Neary

**WETLAND RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (WREP) FUNDING REQUEST:**

Jim Becic briefly reviewed his recommendation and then introduced Don Doty with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). Don explained that this would be a pilot project for Nebraska and that as a special project area, it would not have to compete nationally for funding. He further explained that the channelized portion of Missouri River ranked highest throughout the state and that they were very close to having this project approved in Washington. Don also informed the subcommittee that a multi-agency meeting to start formulating a plan for addressing wetlands along this stretch of the Missouri was held about 3 weeks ago and was well attended. Steve Oltmans added that this program would have more long-term potential to restore habitat along the Missouri than manipulating flows because it worked directly with private landowners. John Conley questioned the future potential cost to the District. Jim responded that the memo outlined a joint application with both the Lower Platte South and Nemaha Natural Resources District to the Nebraska Environmental Trust fund to commit \$50 per acre for the project.

- \* It was moved by Connealy, and seconded by Tesar, that Management recommends that the Projects, Programs and Operations Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the District supports the NRCS's Wetland Reserve Enhancement Program and approves a joint application to the Nebraska Environmental Trust with the Lower Platte South and Nemaha Natural Resources Districts, requesting funding for the habitat restoration efforts under the NRCS's Wetland Reserve Enhancement Program.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of five (5) to zero (0).

Voting Yea: Tim Fowler, Rich Tesar, Richard Connealy, Jim Thompson, John Conley

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: Jansen, Neary

Excused Absence: Jansen, Neary

**DISCUSSION ON S.I.D. 296 REGARDING RURAL WATER SERVICE:** Dick Sklenar indicated that over the past several months he has had conversations with representatives of S.I.D. 296, a development in Northeast Douglas County. The S.I.D. would like to hookup to the District's Washington County Rural Water system which is about ½ mile away. The S.I.D. is willing to pay for all costs to connect to the District's system. The development, of about 1 dozen homes, is currently served by a community well. A draft agreement is currently being drafted for Board consideration later this year. The Metropolitan Utilities District has already given the NRD written consent to serve this area. This was necessary because it is within MUD's current service area boundary.

**AMENDMENT TO COLE CREEK INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT:** Paul Woodward explained that a revised memo dated April 9, 2004 had been prepared after recent discussions with Omaha Public Works staff and an addendum that incorporated proposed additional funding from the NRD had been drafted in place of actually amending the existing agreement. He reviewed the success of Omaha's property acquisition efforts along Cole Creek. He also explained what projects under the existing agreement that the City had used or was planning to use funds from the District for. Paul explained that additional funding from the District would be used for 50% of the local share of all previously completed property purchases and for 50% of the total cost of any future purchases completed without the aid of federal dollars from FEMA. Steve Oltmans commented that the City had done a great job on the buyout so far, but that continued efforts would be needed to meet the visions of inner city greenways suggested by Omaha by Design.

**\* It was moved by Connealy, and seconded by Tesar, that Management recommends that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the General Manager be authorized to execute the Amended Cole Creek Flood Mitigation Program Agreement with the City of Omaha for a maximum cost share of \$1,400,000 over six years, subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approval as to form by the District Legal Counsel.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of four (4) to one (1).

Voting Yea: Tim Fowler, Rich Tesar, Richard Connealy, John Conley  
Voting Nay: Jim Thompson  
Abstaining: None  
Excused Absence: None

**UPDATE ON WESTERN SARPY/CLEAR CREEK PROJECT:** Steve Oltmans explained that the Project Cooperative Agreement has been authorized by the Assistant Secretary of the Army. Marlin Petermann then updated the Subcommittee on the funding and cost for the project. The estimated total project costs, excluding Camp Ashland, have increased from \$14,537,047 to \$19,693,020. He reported that the District has requested that the Natural Resources Development Fund allocation be revised from \$3.1 million to \$4.6 million primarily due to cabin raising and other increases in construction cost estimates. It was noted that there was no federal cost share for the cabin raising.

**OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Being no further business, the meeting adjourned by acclamation at 8:45 p.m.

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