

**Programs, Projects & Operations
Subcommittee Meeting**

August 12, 2008

6:50 p.m.

(Or immediately following the FEL Subcommittee Meeting)

Agenda

Programs, Projects & Operations:

John Conley, Chairman
Rich Tesar, Vice-Chairman
Fred Conley
David Klug
Rick Kolowski

Alternate Members: Dorothy Lanphier
Jim Thompson

Staff Liaison: Gerry Bowen
Martin Cleveland
Amanda Grint
Ralph Puls
Dick Sklenar
Paul Woodward *

1. Meeting Called to Order – Chairperson John Conley
2. Notification of Open Meetings Act Posting and Announcement of Meeting Procedure – Chairperson John Conley
3. Quorum Call
4. Adoption of Agenda
5. Proof of Publication of Meeting Notice
6. Review and Recommendation on Renewal of Agreement with Nebraska Game and Parks on Mentored Youth Hunting – Gerry Bowen and Jeff Rawlinson, NGPC
7. Review and Recommendation on Mopac Trail (Hwy 50 to Chalco Hills) – Transportation Enhancement Program Application – Gerry Bowen
8. Review and Recommendation on Cambridge Oaks and Estates NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Project Agreement – Martin Cleveland
9. Review and Recommendation on Whitted Creek Stream Restoration Project – NDEQ 319 and Nebraska Environmental Trust Grant Applications for Stream Restoration Work– Martin Cleveland
10. Review and Recommendation on Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund Grant for Pigeon/Jones Site 15 – Marlin Petermann and Ralph Puls

11. Review and Recommendation on Additional Payment to Valley Corp. for California Bend Road Repairs – Jim Becic
12. Review and Recommendation on Bids for Aerial Application Contract for Lower Platte River Weed Management Demonstration Program Area – John Winkler
13. Review and Recommendation on Option Purchase Agreement for Blair Office Property – Dick Sklenar
14. Adjourn

Memorandum

To: Programs, Projects, and Operations Subcommittee

Subject: Mentored Youth Hunting – Renewal of Agreement with Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Date: July 25, 2008

From: Gerry Bowen

In 2005, the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) approached the District about the utilization of the NRD-owned lands on “Vencil’s Island” located at the confluence of the Platte and Elkhorn Rivers in Sarpy County (see map) for mentored youth hunting and fishing. The current agreement (attached) expires in 2008, but includes an option for another three year period.

NGPC has requested (see attached letter) that the agreement be renewed. A summary of the mentoring activities of the past three years is included. They have also requested that the agreement be amended to include youth mentored trapping as another acceptable use on the property.

The draft, revised agreement is attached for your review. The revised agreement would expire in 2011.

- **Management recommends that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the General Manager be authorized to execute a renewal agreement with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission to allow for mentored youth hunting, fishing, and trapping on the Glasshoff Tract at Vencil’s Island, subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approved as to form by the District Legal Counsel.**

Memorandum

To: Programs, Projects, and Operations Subcommittee

Subject: Mopac Trail (Hwy.50 to Chalco Hills) – Transportation Enhancement Program Application

Date: July 23, 2008

By: Gerry Bowen

The District will be applying for Transportation Enhancement Program funds for construction of the Mopac Trail (Hwy. 50 to Chalco Hills). The application deadline is September 22, 2008. The District is requesting \$500,000 of TE funds for the \$925,000 (estimated) project.

Current guidelines for the program require a resolution (see attached) of the Board of Directors authorizing the application. The staff recommends that the resolution be adopted.

It is recommended that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the Transportation Enhancement Program application for funding of the Mopac Trail (Hwy 50 to Chalco Hills) be approved.

Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT, NEBRASKA:

Whereas, the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District proposed to apply for assistance from the Transportation Enhancement Program for the purpose of constructing the Mopac Trail (Hwy. 50 to Chalco Hills); and

Whereas, the project includes the construction of a hiking/biking trail between Hwy. 50 and Chalco Hills Recreation Area following Schram Road and 168th Street; and

Whereas, the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District has available minimum of 20% of the project cost, and has the financial capability to operate and maintain the completed facility in a safe and attractive manner for public use; and

Whereas, the proposed application and supporting documents were made available for public review at a properly announced meeting of the papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District Board of Directors;

NO, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT THAT the NRD applies for assistance from the Transportation Enhancement Program for the purpose of constructing the Mopac Trail (Hwy 50 to Chalco Hills).

Approved this 14th Day of August, 2008.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee

FROM: Martin P. Cleveland

SUBJECT: West Branch Papillion Creek (Pacific to Dodge)
Cambridge Oaks and Cambridge Estates Creek Bank Repair
NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Project Agreement

DATE: August 8, 2008

The Cambridge Oaks and Cambridge Estates creek bank failure segments of the referenced West Branch Papillion Creek are shown on the attached map. The creek bank failure erosion areas (right bank) were noticed a year ago and have expanded towards the homes in the referenced location this spring/summer with the numerous intense rainfall events and subsequent creek high water events. Considerable downed trees in this reach of the West Papio also threaten property and downstream bridges.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has visited the sites at the request of the NRD to see if stabilizing the sloughing areas and clearing the downed trees would qualify for their Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP) funding. The NRCS has concluded that these sites (DSR 1a, 1b and 1c) are eligible, but it does require a local sponsor such as NRD, to cost share on the repair project, design the repair work, administer the construction project and maintain the repaired locations. The proposed project agreement with NRCS provides for 75% Federal and 25% local cost share of construction costs. Some cost share funds are also available for engineering work on the projects. NRCS's preliminary estimated total costs are: DSR1a-\$84,000; DSR1b-\$250,000 and DSR1c-\$66,000 for a total of \$400,000.

The NRD recently approved (City of Omaha request) and has budgeted Urban Drainage Way cost share funds (\$70,800) for the DSR1a Cambridge Oaks site. The NRD Urban Drainage Way cost share will need to be increased to \$100,000 to complete all sites (DSR1a, DSR1b, DSR1c). It is hoped that with the emergency federal dollars and cost sharing with the City of Omaha (and possibly an SID or Homeowners Association), repair of both slough sites and snagging of trees can all be accomplished with the adjusted NRD contribution of \$100,000. Additional agreements between local entities may be necessary to most efficiently utilize the NRCS Federal funds.

It is Management's recommendation that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the General Manager be authorized to execute a project agreement with NRCS for Emergency Watershed Protection funding of the Cambridge Oaks and Cambridge Estates Creek Bank Repair Projects, and furthermore be authorized to execute agreements with the City of Omaha, Cambridge Estates SID and Cambridge Oaks Homeowners Association and other documents necessary to complete these projects, such agreements being subject to approval as to form by District Legal Counsel and that the budgeted Urban Drainage Way cost share funds be increased to \$100,000.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee

FROM: Martin P. Cleveland

SUBJECT: Whitted Creek Stream Restoration Project
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and
Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund Applications

DATE: August 5, 2008

The referenced project is located near 25th and Capehart Road in Bellevue, Nebraska (see enclosed location map). The Whitted Creek project extends for about 3,500 ft. from Papio Creek confluence to 25th Street. The District owned levee is located along the north side (left bank) of the creek. The stream bank erosion is threatening the integrity of the levee system.

The referenced project area has been studied by CH2M Hill and a Study report is available on line at <http://sharepoint.papionrd.org/consultants> Complete username: whitted@papionrd.org and password: Wh1ttedc and then double click on the Whitted Folder to access the study report. The report is also available on a CD upon request.

There is a current Request for Proposals (RFP) for project design and construction and consultant proposals will be reviewed by the Ad Hoc Subcommittee in August 2008.

Enclosed are draft Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality Section 319(H) and Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund applications (\$300,000 each) for your consideration. As a result of the once-a-year application submittal timing (September 2008), applications must be submitted prior to design commencement/completion. The grant requests are hoped to offset some of the District's anticipated \$1,000,000 plus construction contract costs.

It is Management's recommendation that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the General Manager be authorized to submit grant applications to Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund for Whitted Creek Stream Restoration Project.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee

FROM: Ralph Puls and Marlin Petermann

SUBJECT: Pigeon/Jones Watershed Site #15 , Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund
Application and Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
Application for funding

DATE: August 5, 2008

The Pigeon/Jones Watershed Site #15 near Hubbard in Dakota County is a project that has been approved by the District Board. An illustration of the Master Plan is shown in an attachment. A project Fact Sheet is also attached. This is a P-MRNRD project that will provide a multitude of benefits including recreation, flood control, water quality, wildlife habitat, sediment retention and other valuable benefits to the project area. This project has an approval for Nebraska Resources Development Fund dollars pending availability of funds. The Resources Development Funding has been tentatively approved in the amount of up to but not to exceed 65% of the approximately \$10 million project cost.

The Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund is a potential source of additional funding for this project that the P-MRNRD should explore. The P/J project fits well with three or more of the Trust board Funding Categories: Habitat, Surface and Ground Water and Soil Management, and it satisfies all of the Project Eligibility Criteria established for NETF (a copy of the Categories and Eligibility Criteria is attached). Management proposes that the P-MRNRD requests a total of \$2,000,000; \$1,000,000 per year for two years.

The Project Work Plan includes the preparation of a Section 319 application for funding and this process has been initiated with the formation of a Technical Advisory Team. Other steps in the program must be completed with the end result being the request for funding.

It is Management's recommendation that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the General Manager be authorized to submit grant applications to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund for Pigeon/Jones Site #15 Project.

Memorandum

To: Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee

Re: California Bend Road Repair Billing

From: Jim Becic

Date: July 29, 2008

The Board approved an access road repair agreement with Valley Corp. General Contractors on 8 May, 2008 for \$57,675.00. The agreement was signed on May 12th and the construction work commenced on May 19th.

Three areas were involved. Areas "A" "B" and "C". Area "A" needed to be repaired (for access) before proceeding to the other two sites. (CALIFORNIA BEND - Pic)

Upon essentially completing area "A", the contractor proceeded to grade and haul materials to area "B". Area "B" was proceeding well- within an estimated less than 2 days of completing (20 & 21 May – pics) - when a period of two plus weeks of heavy rains and high Missouri River water prevented construction access.

Returning to the site in June (9 June - pic), it was apparent that floodwaters had overtopped the rock, slope toe and eroded much of the materials back into the chute causing an additional slope failure.

The work proceeded quickly to haul additional rock and fill material to the site and rebuild the toe – closer to the channel bottom depth – until an additional rain/flood delay occurred mid June (12 June – pic). It appeared that even though the flood waters overtopped the toe again – the additional amount and depth of rock placement "held" the toe.

Once the area dried off enough, site work proceeded (16 & 18 June – pics) until 'cracks' began to form (18 June - pic). It appeared that the cracks were resulting from poor drainage through the soils (18 June – pic). A series of rock drains were installed between several rain delays (19 June pic) to intercept the water and convey it down-slope through the rock toe.

Following completion of the rock drains and nearly all of the remaining soil by the contractor, additional rain delays occurred.

Returning to the site on 8 July following this latest rain delay (pic), it appeared that the newly rock toe continued to hold but the slope had a vertical slough of several feet. The contractor was directed to cease any additional work at the site.

The final billing by the contractor amounted to \$186,240.74. Payment for the original contract amount of \$57,675.00 has been made to Valley Corporation – leaving a balance of \$128,565.74. Virtually all of this additional amount was for extra rock and soil needed to address the failed site "B" structure and install the rock drains. (Both sites "A" and "C" have been repaired.) All of the rock and soil was billed by the contractor at the original contract rate – with the exception of an approved additional amount of \$2,171.81 for rock

used to complete the second, deeper toe – prior to the second flood event. These additional 300 tons were procured from the Weeping Water Quarry when the Fort Calhoun Quarry would not sell additional rock to the contractor. The Fort Calhoun Quarry was providing all of its rock to Union Pacific for its Elkhorn River bridge crossing and barging rock elsewhere.

It is the staff recommendation that the Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the balance amount of \$128,565.74 be paid to Valley Corp.; General Contractors for the California Bend access road repair project.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee

FROM: John Winkler, General Manager

SUBJECT: Lower Platte River Weed Management Project Aerial Spraying Bid

DATE: August 5, 2008

The work consists of aerial application of habitat herbicide to vegetated islands in the stream bed of the reach of the lower Platte River extending from the Burlington Northern Railroad Bridge (downstream of Nebraska State Highway 77) to the confluence of the Platte and Missouri Rivers. The work includes the furnishing of the labor, materials, equipment, tools and incidentals necessary to apply herbicide, by aerial application, on approximately one thousand acres of vegetated areas in the project area. The overall goal of the project is to proactively control the growth and spread of noxious weeds in the project area, specifically, invasive species such as phragmites which can contribute to ice jam formation and ultimately flooding, in addition, to altering the natural stream flow of the river. A bid summary is attached for your consideration. The sole bidder and apparent low bidder is Sky Copters, Inc

This work will be funded via funds included in Water Quality Lower Platte Vegetation Management Budget (Account 0500-4451), in addition to funds from Lower Platte North NRD, Lower Platte South NRD, Cass, Douglas, Sarpy, Lancaster and Saunders County Weed Management Authorities and private landowners in the project area. This project will be completed in the late summer and early fall of 2008.

It is Management's recommendation that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute a contract for aerial application of one thousand acres of vegetated areas in the project area with Sky Copters Inc. for their total base bid of 150.70 per acre.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Programs, Planning & Projects Subcommittee

SUBJECT: Option Purchase Agreement for Blair Office Property

DATE: 8-7-08

From: Dick Sklenar

Although the Board of Directors took action earlier this year to purchase a parcel of land from the Blair YMCA , the District' staff will need several more months to get confirmation from the USDA on their intent to move to the new location. The District has been advised that the current NRCS lease is specific for only the current address, even though the move is about 6 blocks away. Thus the District will have to submit a bid for new office space to the NRCS later this year for the new address.

The process has been slowed however, because the NRCS employee that handles state-wide leases has retired and the position has not been filled. The General Services Administration is also now involved with all USDA leases, which was not the case 3 years ago.

To compensate for the extended length of time needed by the District prior to closing, the Blair YMCA has agreed to provide the District with a 1-year option purchase agreement. The deposit (\$10,000) for the option is 10% of the agreed to purchase price. This amount will be credited to the purchase price upon closing. In the event the property is not purchased within the 1-year time frame, the Blair YMCA retains the deposit and no credit will be made.

It is recommended that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to purchase an option, approved as to form by Legal Counsel, giving the District a 1-year option to purchase from the Blair YMCA for the price of \$100,000 an approximately 1.8 acre parcel of property for a new District field office at the northwest corner of 10th & Wilbur Streets, in Blair, Nebraska, in return for a District payment of an option premium in the amount of \$10,000, such premium to be creditable against the purchase price if the option is exercised.