

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**MIDDLE NIOBRARA NRD BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**October 10th, 2024**

The Middle Niobrara NRD Board of Directors meeting was advertised in the Valentine Midland News, Ainsworth Star Journal, Rock County Ledger, Springview Herald, & Sheridan County Journal Star.

The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman Wilke at 3:00 pm. Wilke noted that the Open Meetings Act Laws were posted. The following persons were present:

Directors: Present: Justin Hammond, Leonard Danielski, Greg Wilke, Marty Graff,  
Stephanie Ladely, Mark Monroe

Staff: Mike Murphy, Kyle Temple, Chandler Schmidt, Rick Joseph, James Battershaw,  
Travis Reagle.

NRCS:

UNL Ext:

Guests: Jenny Suhr, Dave Clabaugh

Absent: Tim Nollette

**Public Comment**

No public comment

**Approve last Month's Minutes**

*Motion by Graff second by Monroe to Approve the September 9th 2024, Board of Director's Meeting Minutes. Roll Call: Aye — Graff, Danielski, Wilke, Monroe. Nay - None. Abstain — Ladely. Absent — Hammond & Nollette. Motion carried.*

**Treasurer's Report**

Murphy reported the balances for general ledger, NPAIT general and sinking funds, CD's, manager's account and checks to be approved.

Murphy went over checks to be approved.

Hammond stepped in at 3:05 pm.

***Motion by Monroe second by Ladely to Approve the October 10<sup>th</sup> Treasurer's Report. Roll Call: Aye — Graff, Hammond, Danielski, Wilke, Monroe & Ladely. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Nollette. Motion carried.***

**Director's Forum**

Wilke discussed funding opportunities and inquired about well testing.

**Agency Reports:**

***Extension Office***

No update given.

***Niobrara Council***

Murphy gave an update from the September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. Next meeting scheduled for October 17.

***NRCS***

Murphy gave an update. New District Conservationist is Miles Anderson. Murphy discussed times for a Local Work Group meeting. Meeting was set for 10am on February 26, 2025 at the MNNRD Office in Valentine, NE.

***NARD***

Graff gave an update from the 2024 NARD Fall Conference. Murphy gave an update on the Nebraska Memorial Forest.

***NRC***

Wilke gave an update.

**Building Committee**

Mike, Stephanie & Mark gave an update from the September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting with Miller Architects.

**Water Committee**

Discussion held on 2024 New Irrigated Acre application(s), 2023 New Irrigated Acre extension(s) & rules & regulations.

***Motion by Graff second by Monroe to Approve 6 new irrigated acre applications for 660 acres. Roll Call: Aye — Graff, Hammond, Monroe, & Wilke. Nay - Ladely. Abstain — Danielski. Absent — Nollette. Motion carried.***

***Motion by Graff second by Monroe to Approve New Irrigated Acre Extension Requests for 6 months to May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 for Bill Frew, William Lawrence, Kevin Rayhill, Cherry Co. Land Group, Phil Miller, Byron Burdick, & Highland Grove Farms. Roll Call: Aye — Graff, Hammond, Danielski, Wilke, Ladely & Monroe Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Nollette. Motion carried.***

Discussions held on Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act (NRIA).

***Motion by Graff second by Monroe to accept Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act (NRIA) application(s) with the well head protection area on a first come first serve basis. Roll Call: Aye — Graff, Hammond, Monroe, Ladely, Danielski & Wilke. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Nollette. Motion carried.***

Graff stepped out at 3:45.

Graff stepped in at 3:50.

#### **Administrative Assistant Report**

Joseph's report was included in the director's packet.

#### **Coordinator's Report(s)**

Coordinator's reports from Battershaw, Purdy, Reagle, Temple & Schmidt were included the director's packet. Temple mentioned that Steve Koinzan has fulfilled all of the requirements on his cease and desist order.

#### **Manager's Report**

Murphy's report was included in the director's packet. Murphy congratulated the board and Chandler for their efforts on the Watershed Protection Plans. Murphy gave an update on the NRBA subordination agreement(s). Murphy discussed the need to move the November 2024 Board of Directors meeting.

***Motion by Graff second by Danielski to move the November Board of Director's Meeting to Tuesday November 12<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. Roll Call: Aye — Graff, Hammond, Danielski, Wilke, Ladely & Monroe Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Nollette. Motion carried.***

#### **Excused Absence**

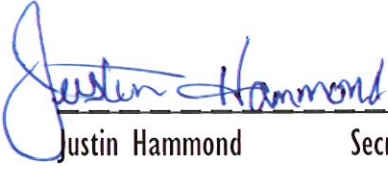
***Motion by Graff second by Ladely to approve Excused Absence for Tim Nollette. Roll Call: Aye — Graff, Hammond, Danielski, Wilke, Ladely & Monroe. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Nollette. Motion carried.***

#### **Announcements**

Graff mentioned that the NARD Association meeting will be held November 3<sup>rd</sup> — 4<sup>th</sup> at the MNNRD office. Murphy introduced former Little Blue NRD manager Dave Clabaugh from Beatrice, NE.

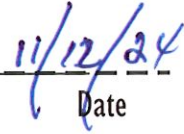
Adjourn

*Motion by Monroe second by Ladely to Adjourn at 4:02. Roll Call: Aye —Hammond, Danielski, Graff, Wilke, Ladely & Monroe. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — Nollette. Motion carried.*



Justin Hammond

Secretary/Treasurer



Date

## ACRONYM KEY

ACEP	Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
CC	Cherry County
CSP	Conservation Stewardship Program
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program
EWP	Emergency Watershed Protection Program
HMP	Hazard Mitigation Plan
LPCW	Long Pine Creek Watershed
LWG	Local Work Group
MNNRD	Middle Niobrara Natural Resources District
NACD	National Association of Conservation Districts
NARD	Nebraska Association of Resources Districts
NDEE	Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy
NDNR	Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
NET	Nebraska Environmental Trust
NFS	Nebraska Forest Service
NGPC	Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
NRIA	Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act
NRBA	Niobrara River Basin Alliance
NRC	Natural Resource Commission
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NSWCP	Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Program
NWRA	National Water Resources Association
NSIA	Nebraska State Irrigation Association
PF	Pheasants Forever
PIFR	Preliminary Investigation Feasibility Report
PIP	Project Implementation Plan
Plan-EA	Plan – Environmental Assessment
SINREC	Sandhills Interactive Natural Resource Educational Complex
STF	Sandhills Task Force
UNL Ext	University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
WFPO	Watershed & Flood Preventions Operations Program
WQMP	Water Quality Management Plan
WRP	Wetlands Reserve Program
WSF	Water Sustainability Fund

