

MEETING MINUTES
MIDDLE NIOBRARA NRD BOARD OF DIRECTORS
December 9th, 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 3:03 pm. Wilke noted that the Open Meetings Act Laws were posted. The following persons were present:

Directors: Present: Justin Hammond, Leonard Danielski, Greg Wilke, Tim Nollette, Marty Graff, Mark Monroe, Stephanie Ladely.
Staff: Mike Murphy, Kyle Temple, Chandler Schmidt, Rick Joseph, James Battershaw.
RJ Meyer: Bob Meyer
NRCS: Miles Anderson
UNL Ext:
Guests: Marla Shelbourn
Absent:

Public Comment

No public comment

Approve last Month's Minutes

Motion by Danielski second by Monroe to Approve the November 12th 2024, Board of Director's Meeting Minutes. Roll Call: Aye — Danielski, Hammond, Wilke, Monroe & Nollette Nay - None. Abstain — Graff & Ladely. Absent — None. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Hammond 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.

Motion by Hammond second by Monroe to Approve the December 9th Treasurer's Report. Roll Call: Aye — Danielski, Hammond, Wilke, Graff, Monroe, Ladely & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — None. Motion carried.

FY23-24 Audit — Bob Meyer

Bob Meyer from RJ Meyers provided an overview of the 2023-2024 MNNRD Audit Report.

Motion by Graff second by Hammond to approve the 2023-2024 audit report. Roll Call: Aye — Danielski, Hammond, Wilke, Graff, Monroe, Ladely & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — None. Motion carried.

Director's Forum

Marty mentioned that some producers inquired about subordination agreements.

Agency Reports:

Extension Office

No update given.

Niobrara Council

Murphy gave an update. The November 21st meeting was cancelled. The next scheduled meeting is December 19th, 2024 at the Middle Niobrara NRD office.

NRCS

Miles Anderson gave an update and reviewed his report that was included in the director's packets. Miles role as acting District Conservationist ends on January 3, 2025. Julianna Hinton will be the new acting District Conservationist starting January 6, 2025.

NARD

Graff thanked the staff and Niobrara Valley Vineyards for their work on setting up the NARD Association Meeting. Murphy mentioned the upcoming NARD Legislative and Washington D.C. Conferences.

NRC

Wilke gave an update.

Water Committee Meeting

Discussion(s) held on water quality cost share applications and an irrigated acre transfer.

Motion by Danielski second by Graff to approve Water Quality Cost Share Application for Randy Boone. Roll Call: Aye — Danielski, Hammond, Wilke, Graff, Monroe, Ladely & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — None. Motion carried.

Motion by Graff second by Danielski to approve one Water Quality Cost Share Application for either Kelly or Fuchs with conditions. Roll Call: Aye — Danielski, Hammond, Wilke, Graff, Monroe, Ladely & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — None. Motion carried.

Motion by Graff second by Danielski to approve an Irrigated Acre Transfer with MEBRPL Farms of 1.5 acres from NW 35-32N-22W to SW 32-32N-21W. Roll Call: Aye — Danielski, Hammond, Graff, Monroe, Ladely & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — Wilke. Absent — None. Motion carried.

Executive Committee Meeting

Discussion(s) held on selling property to extend the car wash.

Motion by Hammond to approve the sale of property.

Motion Died from lack of a second.

Discussion held on Public Meeting Notices. No action taken at this time.

Discussion held on NACD 2024 Board Succession Plan.

Motion by Graff second by Ladely to approve the NACD 2024 Board Succession Plan. Roll Call: Aye — Danielski, Hammond, Wilke, Graff, Monroe, Ladely & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — None. Motion carried.

Discussion held on Niobrara Scenic River Designation. Graff mentioned the need to talk to Federal Representatives on the scenic river designation and the use of Federal & State Tax Dollars to purchase private property.

Motion by Graff second by Monroe to oppose the land sale along Scenic River to National Park Service and investigate the possibility of rescinding Scenic River Designation. Roll Call: Aye — Danielski, Hammond, Wilke, Graff, Monroe, Ladely & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — None. Motion carried.

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 in the director's packet. Temple went over the results from the district's nitrate testing and updated the static water level testing result spreadsheet.

Manager's Report

Murphy's report was included in the director's packet. Murphy discussed Christmas Holiday Vacation and Christmas Holiday Party for staff & directors.

Motion by Graff second by Hammond to approve 2 extra days off to the staff to be used at Christmas or New Years. Roll Call: Aye — Danielski, Hammond, Wilke, Graff, Monroe, Ladely & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — None. Motion carried.

Excused Absence

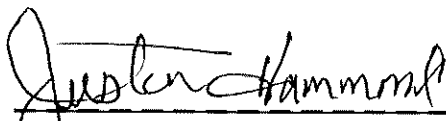
No Excused Absences.

Announcements

No announcements.

Adjourn

Motion by Monroe second by Nollette to Adjourn at 5:01. Roll Call: Aye —Hammond, Danielski, Wilke, Ladely, Graff, Monroe & Nollette. Nay - None. Abstain — None. Absent — None. Motion carried.


Justin Hammond

Secretary/Treasurer

1/13/25
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

