



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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Agenda Item #8

Memorandum

Date: October 7, 2022
To: Each Director
From: Paul D. Zillig, General Manager
Subject: Executive Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

The Executive Subcommittee met at 5:30 pm on Tuesday, October 4, 2022 in the NRD Large Conference Room. Directors in attendance were Deborah Eagan, Bob Andersen, Luke Peterson, and Larry Ruth. Others attending included Corey Wasserburger, Steve Seglin, Dave Potter and myself.

Chair Eagan called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

The first item was an update on the NRD's lawsuit concerning damages to Deadmans Run at approximately 7101 Deadmans Run, see attached map. Wasserburger reported that the Board will need to go into closed session to discuss and consider the terms outlined in the attached "draft" Mediated Settlement Memorandum. Wasserburger reviewed the Settlement Memo with the Subcommittee, there were numerous questions and discussion. Wasserburger reported that the parties in the lawsuit (PWH Land, PWH Operations, Gosch & Sons, E&A Consulting Group and the NRD) have been meeting with the Court appointed mediator, Mark Christensen of Cline Williams Wright Johnson & Oldfather to prepare the final Mediated Settlement Agreement which will be more detailed than the Mediated Settlement Memorandum.

It was moved by Andersen, seconded by Ruth, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee to **recommend the Board of Directors approve the tentative Mediated Settlement Memorandum for claims of damages at 7101 Deadmans Run and authorize the General Manager to approve the final Mediated Settlement Agreement as prepared by NRD legal counsel.**

The Subcommittee then reviewed the salary actions from late last fiscal year. Salary adjustments were discussed in April, action was taken in May to increase salaries by 4% with \$30k for merit, and then in June an additional \$2k/full-time employee inflation adjustment payment was approved and the Subcommittee desired to re-visit the salaries in 6 months. The Subcommittee reviewed the updated salary information, CPI, and Social Security cost-of-living updates. The Subcommittee plans to discuss and prepare a recommendation in November.

The Subcommittee then reviewed the Salt Creek Floodplain Resiliency Study, including the attached information and Executive Summary. I reviewed the work being done by the City to make improvements in their drainage criteria manual, as per the recommendations in the SCFPRS. The City has also been approved for multi-year FEMA funding to re-map floodplains to current standards. The City, with matching NRD cost-share assistance, has applied for BRIC/FEMA funding to do an economic analysis of Salt Creek mitigation approaches as outlined in the SCFPRS.

I then reported that the LPSNRD is represented on the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission by a Lower Platte Basin Representative and a Nemaha Basin Representative, both are up for election by caucus in early January. Directors participate in the caucus by which basin they reside. For the Lower Platte Basin we've typically alternated every two 4-year terms between our NRD and Lower Platte North NRD. The past 8 years we've been represented by Karen Amen and Dan Steinkruger. I reported that Lower Platte North NRD will nominate Tom Mountford (form LPNNRD Assistant Manager who resides in NE Lincoln) at the caucus to be held in Wahoo. The Nemaha Basin caucus will occur in the NNRD.

The Subcommittee then discussed the remaining Board Meetings in 2022. The Subcommittee felt the remaining Board Meeting in 2022 should be held at the NRD Office, they felt that with covid and other logistic challenges that the Board should continue to meet at the NRD Office this year. The Subcommittee reviewed the remaining scheduled dates for the November 16th Board Meeting at 7:00pm and the December 21st Board Meeting at 2:00pm. The Subcommittee was concerned with the December 21st Board Meeting being just a few days before the holidays would likely interfere with travel plans for staff, Directors, and the public. It was moved by Andersen, seconded by Peterson, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee to **recommend the Board of Directors move the scheduled December Board Meeting to Wednesday, December 14th, starting at 2:00 pm in the NRD Office.**

I then reported that I've been talking to several lobbyists about the LPSNRD's interest in conservation easements and the potential need for lobbying services. For this search I am following the NRD's Operating Policy G-3: Procedure for Hiring Consultants for Professional Services. I plan to bring a recommendation to the Subcommittee in November.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

PDZ/pz

pc: Steve Seglin
Corey Wasserburger