




LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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Memorandum

Date: November 10, 2022
To: Each Director
From: Paul D. Zillig, General Manager 
Subject: Executive Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

The Executive Subcommittee met at Noon on Thursday, November 10, 2022 in the NRD Large Conference Room. Directors in attendance were Deborah Eagan, David Landis, Chelsea Johnson, Luke Peterson, and Larry Ruth. Others attending included Steve Seglin, Corey Wasserburger, Kristin Buntmeyer, Dave Potter and myself.

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

The first item was to consider a professional services agreement for a lobbyist for the upcoming legislative session. I reported the NRD has budgeted \$15,000 in the FY' 23 Budget. I consulted with Dean Edson of NARD and Katie Zulkoski of Zulkoski-Weber on lobbying services. Larry Ruth provided input on lobbying strategy and insights. I discovered that Lobbying services provided are similar. Effective lobbyists invest a lot of time and do not bill by the hour. I determined the following lobbying firms were best qualified for these basic professional services. I met with each firm and requested a proposal to provide lobbying services for the "conservation easement" issue and include information should the NRD Board decide to expand the requested lobbying services beyond just the "conservation easement" issue.

I reviewed the proposals received from Mueller Robak LLC; American Communications Group, LLC; and Kissel Kohout ES Associates, LLC. The Subcommittee discussed the proposals and needs of the NRD, especially concerning the importance of conservation easements.

The Subcommittee directed me to contact Mueller Robak concerning their proposal and report back to the Subcommittee prior to the November Board Meeting.

The next item on the agenda was to consider an annual extension of our work crew agreement with the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services/Cornhusker State Industries. I reported that our agreement requires an annual renewal. The Subcommittee discussed the agreement and the services provided, the Subcommittee directed staff to clarify the working arrangements for the crew and report back to the Subcommittee. It was moved by Landis, seconded by Ruth, and

unanimously approved by the Subcommittee to **recommend the Board of Directors approve the Renewal Acknowledgement Work Crew Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services/Cornhusker State Industries.**

The next item on the agenda was to further consider FY'23 cost-of-living adjustments for NRD staff. I reviewed the attached memo on Staff Salary Adjustments for FY'23. The Subcommittee reviewed the memo, including past actions, the current situation, and discussed appropriate actions that would be fair for all involved. The subcommittee felt that we need to increase compensation for our staff to at least keep in line with the cost-of-living. It was moved by Landis, seconded by C. Johnson, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee to **recommend the Board of Directors increase staff salaries an additional 4.3% for the remaining 6 months of FY'23.**

The Subcommittee then heard several updates on lawsuits and end of year activities for the NRD and transitioning for the new Board in 2023.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.

PDZ/pz

pc: Steve Seglin
Corey Wasserburger