



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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Memorandum

Date: February 16, 2023
To: Each Director
From: Paul D. Zillig, General Manager
Subject: Finance and Planning Subcommittee Meeting

The Finance and Planning Subcommittee met on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 1:30 pm in the NRD Small Conference Room. Subcommittee members participating included Chelsea Johnson, Bob Andersen, Ray Stevens, Deborah Eagan, Ken Vogel and Melissa Baker. Others participating included McKenzie Barry, Parker Robinson, Kristin Bunttemeyer and myself.

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order and welcomed all those in attendance. The first item on the agenda was to consider the budget overrun on lobbying services. Johnson reported that the NRD budgeted \$15,000 for lobbying without knowing for sure the amount of services required or obtaining any proposals. The Board then decided that it would be best to obtain lobbying services for more than just the conservation easement issue. The Board approved a contract with Mueller Robak for those services and payments for this session was \$24,200.

It was moved by Stevens, seconded by Andersen, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee to **recommend the Board of Directors approve the budget overrun in Budget code 439050 Professional Services - Lobbyist.**

I then reported that the LPSNRD currently invests nearly \$15M with NPAIT. The Legislature is considering a bill (LB 268) that would authorize the State Treasurer to establish an investment trust or pool, similar to NPAIT. Should LB 268 be approved the LPSNRD will need to consider interest rates offered and the option of investing funds with any new investment trusts or pools.

The final item on the agenda was a report on the 2023 Public Awareness Survey. I reported that the survey is completed every 4 years and the F&P Subcommittee included funds in the current budget for this purpose. Barry reviewed the process staff has followed to prepare the survey and the involvement of Unanimous finalizing the survey. Barry answered questions about the attached survey/information that was emailed out earlier and reported that the survey will begin later this month and Unanimous will report on the findings of the survey in April.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.

PDZ/pz