Memorandum

Date: January 10, 2020
To: Board of Directors
From: David Potter, Assistant General Manager
RE: Land Resources Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

The Land Resources Subcommittee met at 5:30 pm on Thursday, January 9, 2020 in the NRD Large Conference Room in Lincoln to discuss two agenda items and take action on one of them. Subcommittee members present included Gary Hellerich, Mike DeKalb, Vern Barrett, Karen Amen, Gary Aldridge, Bruce Johnson and Dave Landis. Members absent included Mark Spangler. Others present included David Potter, Cory Schmidt, John Albert, Donna Reid and Tracy Zayac. Hellerich called the meeting to order and gave a brief welcome.

a. The first item was consideration of the NRD/NSWCP 2020 LPS NRD Average Costs for the Surface Water Quality BMP Cost-Share Program. Our District Conservationist and NRD technician noted the practices frequently used in our District and some average costs that were not correctly listed in the 2020 NeDNR Docket. The prepared NRD/NSWCP average costs with corrections for 2020 were presented (attached). It was noted that the entire 2020 NeDNR docket is referenced on the LPSNRD Docket sheet, therefore if approved would be approved by reference. A spreadsheet was also presented which compared the new cost-share numbers with those approved December 2018 (attached). Schmidt and Albert noted that the 2020 average costs were reasonably comparable to last year’s numbers. If the docket is approved by the Board, all new applications received after January 15th will be based off the 2020 docket. The proposed docket was also reviewed by both NRD and NRCS technicians.

It was moved by Landis, seconded by DeKalb, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee to recommend the Board of Directors approve the 2020 LPSNRD Average Costs for the Surface Water Quality BMP Cost-share Program.

b. The second item was a discussion regarding a potential 319 grant and project for the Twin Lakes Watershed. The 2019 District-wide Water Quality Management Plan identified the Twin Lakes Watershed as a priority area. In addition, the District’s FY20 Long Range Implementation Plan and budget has set aside $10,000 for establishing a watershed workgroup to identify watershed needs and implement 319 funding for best management practices in a priority watershed. In fiscal years 2021-24 more dollars are proposed to implement those 319 BMPs. The District has met with Nebraska Game & Parks and with Nebraska Dept. of Environment & Energy to prepare for a 319 project and funding for the Twin Lakes Watershed. David Potter and Tracy Zayac presented some general information on the watershed and grant opportunity. A map of the watershed and a copy of a letter from Nebraska Game & Parks indicating their cooperation for such a project was provided to the subcommittee. NRD & NRCS staff will be touring the watershed to determine landowner interest/needs and then working on the details of a Section 319 application for this winter/spring.

Potter informed the subcommittee that an NRD-NRCS Technician Workshop was held the morning of January 9th and that Farm Pond Applications will be considered in February. There being no further business the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:05 pm.