



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Dan Schulz, Resources Coordinator *DS*
DATE: October 16, 2020
SUBJECT: Minutes-Recreation, Forestry & Wildlife Subcommittee Meeting

On Thursday, October 15, 2020, the Recreation, Forestry and Wildlife Subcommittee held a virtual meeting at 7PM. Subcommittee members participating were Chair-Anthony Schutz, Gary Aldridge, Deb Eagan, Luke Peterson, and Ray Stevens. Others participating were Ariana Kennedy, David Potter, Larry Ruth, Dan Schulz, Jay Seaton and Paul Zillig.

The first agenda item was consideration of a right of entry agreement with UNL to conduct studies at the Marsh Wren and Whitehead Community Wetland Management Areas. Staff reviewed the attached materials (pages 1-13) and were instructed to make changes referencing exhibits to attachments and correct site names on page 10, see attached.

It was moved by Eagan and seconded by Peterson to recommend that the Lower Platte South NRD Board of Directors approve the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Office of Sponsored Programs right of entry agreement #136557 to conduct saline wetland research at Whitehead and Marsh Wren Community Wetland Management Areas.

Voting in favor of the motion were Aldridge, Eagan, Peterson and Stevens.
Abstaining-Schutz.
Motion passed.

Another agenda item was consideration of a request by the Saline Wetland Conservation Partnership for assistance with the Haines Branch Stream Stability and Wetland Protection Project. Staff reviewed the attached materials (pages 34-43) and indicated an update in the amount being requested for the District to contribute had been reduced from \$135,000 to \$67,500 or 26% of the estimated

and Wetland Protection Project. Staff reviewed the attached materials (pages 34-43) and indicated an update in the amount being requested for the District to contribute had been reduced from \$135,000 to \$67,500 or 26% of the estimated project costs. The new proposed division for funding is now \$67,500-Lower Platte South NRD (26%), \$67,500-City of Lincoln watershed funds (26%), \$75,000-Saline Wetland Conservation Partnership (29%), and \$50,000-Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch Project funds (19%) for the estimated total project cost of \$260,379.35.

It was moved by Eagan, seconded by Stevens and unanimously approved to recommend that the Lower Platte South NRD Board of Directors agree to cost-share 26% of the Haines Branch Tributary Stabilization Project cost in Pioneers Park not to exceed \$67,500.00 of District funds.

Another agenda item was consider accepting title from the City of Lincoln for the Denton Prairie property in accordance with the Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch Agreement. Staff reviewed the attached materials (pages 14-19) about the letter and the intent of the City of Lincoln to request transfer of two additional property's over the next two fiscal years, Two Creeks Prairie and Bobcat Prairie respectively.

It was moved by Peterson, seconded by Stevens and unanimously approved to recommend that the Lower Platte South NRD Board of Directors accept fee title interest in the City of Lincoln's property for the Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch Project, located in the south one half of the northwest quarter of section 22, township nine north, range five east, Lancaster County, Nebraska, known as the Denton Prairie, subject to legal counsel review.

The next agenda item was consider designating the Stiefel-Johnson Trailhead and Denton Prairie as NRD conservation corridors properties for rules and regulation purposes. Staff reviewed the attached materials (pages 20-29) and explained why the conservation corridor regulations fit both of these properties. Staff was instructed to attach maps of the two areas see attached pages 17A & 18A.

It was moved by Stevens, seconded by Eagan and unanimously approved to recommend that the Lower Platte South NRD Board of Directors designate District conservation corridor regulations on the Denton Prairie and Stiefel-Johnson Trailheads.

The next agenda item was consider approval of the 2021 Conservation Forestry Program rates. Seaton reviewed the attached materials (pages 30-33) and explained why the program rates are recommended to not change for the current fiscal year.

It was moved by Schutz, seconded by Peterson and unanimously approved to recommend that the Lower Platte South NRD Board of Directors set the 2021 Conservation Forestry Program rates at 90 cents per seedling for orders of less than 100 seedlings and 85 cents per seedling for orders of a 100 or more seedlings.

The subcommittee meeting wrapped up with reports by Kennedy on the Lied Platte River Bridge and Oak Creek Trail landslide repairs and by Schulz on the consultant selection process for the Little Salt Creek Watershed PL-566 grant.

Schutz adjourned the meeting at 7:48PM.