



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH
natural resources district

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TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Dan Schulz, Resources Coordinator *Dan*

DATE: November 5, 2019

SUBJECT: Minutes – Recreation, Forestry & Wildlife Subcommittee Meeting

The Recreation, Forestry and Wildlife Subcommittee met in the District conference room on Monday, November 4, 2019, at 5PM. Subcommittee members present were Chair-Anthony Schutz, Gary Aldridge, Tom Green, Don Jacobson, Dan Steinkruger and Sarah Wilson. Others present were Travis Figard – Olsson, Ariana Kennedy, Larry Ruth, Dan Schulz and Jay Seaton.

The first agenda item was consideration of the professional services agreement with Olsson to provide design and bidding services to repair the Oak Creek Trail landslide. Kennedy reviewed the location of the landslide about a mile and a half west of Valparaiso, Nebraska (see attached) and a picture of the landslide (see attached). Kennedy then reviewed the professional services agreement (see attached). Figard and staff answered questions about the agreement, repair options, estimates on repair costs, repair durability, trail relocation and permanent trail closure.

It was moved by Steinkruger, and seconded by Jacobson to recommend that the Lower Platte South NRD Board of Directors approve the professional services agreement with Olsson for design and bidding services to repair the Oak Creek Trail land slide at a cost not exceed \$25,500.00 subject to legal counsel review.

Schutz called for the vote with Green, Jacobson, Schutz, Steinkruger and Wilson voting to approve the recommendation and Aldridge voting no. Motion passed.

The second agenda item was a report by Seaton on the Lower Platte South NRD FY 2020 Conservation Tree Program (see attached memo). Seaton informed the Directors about tree species being offered this year, the five cent per tree cost increase, and reviewed this year's tree program brochure (see attached). He reported the District will begin taking on-line orders November eighth and that last year, 85% of the tree orders were placed on-line. He also indicated how well the on-line ordering works with Mike Mascoe updating the brochure and coordinating with the on-line services provider; reports going to Kathy Spence about orders and payments; and Kathy Hauschild covering the majority of the call in questions.

The third agenda item was to discuss the letter the District received from Nancy and Scott Stuckey concerning their inquiry about the District's potential interest in purchasing a conservation easement on property they are contemplating purchasing. The property reportedly contains over 50 acres of virgin (never plowed) prairie (see attached letter & aerial photo, blue outline). Schulz indicated the property is located about two and a half miles southwest of Spring Creek Prairie and is outside of the Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch project boundary.

The Directors directed staff to respond to the Stuckey's that if they purchase the property they can contact the District about acquiring a conservation easement and as part of the request, provide documentation verifying the grasslands on the property is virgin prairie. Staff also needs to make it clear the District is not making a commitment to purchase a conservation easement if the Stuckey's acquire the property.

The last agenda item was a staff update on the Lied Platte River bridge flood damage repairs. Staff indicated the Pappio-Missouri River NRD (PMRNRD) was set to open debris removal bids for the PMRNRD Board consideration in November 2019. Staff also indicated that once the debris is removed, PMRNRD has a consultant lined up to do a flood damage evaluation for use in developing repair plans.

Schutz adjourned the meeting at 6:10PM.