



## LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Dan Schulz, Resources Coordinator *Dan*

DATE: December 9, 2020

SUBJECT: Recreation, Forestry & Wildlife Subcommittee Minutes-12/8/20

On Tuesday, December 8, 2020, the Recreation, Forestry and Wildlife Subcommittee held a Zoom meeting at 5:30PM. Subcommittee members participating were Chair, Anthony Schutz, Gary Aldridge, Deb Eagan, Luke Petersen, Mark Spangler, Ray Stevens and Sarah Wilson. Others Participating were Andrew Appleget-Flatwater Group, Inc., Gordon Coke-The Flatwater Group, Inc., Julie Harris-Bike Walk Nebraska, Ariana Kennedy, Nathan Kuhlman, Rick Krushenisky-The Flatwater Group, Inc., Larry Ruth, Dan Schulz, Jay Seaton and Paul Zillig.

The first agenda item was the contract with The Flatwater Group, Inc. for the Little Salt Creek Watershed PL-566. Schulz reviewed the operating policy G-3 for the consultant selection process, selection of The Flatwater Group, Inc., and negotiations on the scope of services and estimated contract fees. Questions and clarifications were addressed by staff and The Flatwater Group personnel. See attached pages 1-18.

**It was moved by Stevens, seconded by Eagan and unanimously approved to recommend that the Lower Platte South NRD Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to enter into the professional services contract with The Flatwater Group, Inc., to complete the Little Salt Creek Watershed PL-566 Work Plan Environmental Assessment with the cost not to exceed \$295,110.00.**

The second agenda item was consideration of the proposals received for the Marsh Wren berm repair project. Schulz reviewed the burrowing mammal damage to the berm compromising the water control structure and indicated Krushenisky was participating to answer questions and provide clarifications to the Directors questions about the project and proposals received. See attached documents between the attached pages 18 & 19.

**It was moved by Stevens, seconded by Eagan and unanimously approved to recommend that the Board of Directors approve the proposal from Gana Trucking & Excavation to complete the Marsh Wren berm repair project at a cost not to exceed \$28,025.72.**

The last agenda item was information about potential future subcommittee action items. Seaton discussed the first one about a new windbreak program. He reviewed the status of the cooperation between the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Nebraska Forest Service and the natural resources districts. Seaton indicated USDA funding through NRCS will allow for new funds to plant and renovate windbreaks in the District and it will likely be brought to the subcommittee for action in the next couple of months. See attached pages 19 & 20.

Seaton and the Directors also discussed a new tree voucher program (see pages 21 & 22). District staff will continue to work on program specifications and guidelines over the next couple of months.

Kennedy and Harris discussed attached page 23 which is a letter from the MoPac Alliance regarding future trail enhancement projects. When asked, Harris indicated that of the three trail enhancement projects listed in her letter, developing trailhead facilities at Wabash is the top priority of the Alliance.

The last information topic was a request from Valparaiso, Nebraska to install a gazebo on the Oak Creek Trailhead in town. Zillig has been in discussions with the village representative and it will be necessary to review existing agreements to determine how to move forward.

Chair Schutz adjourned the subcommittee meeting at 7:10PM.