




**LOWER PLATTE SOUTH**  
natural resources district

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TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Dan Schulz, Resources Coordinator 

DATE: March 14, 2019

SUBJECT: Minutes-Recreation, Forestry & Wildlife Subcommittee Meeting

The Recreation, Forestry and Wildlife Subcommittee met on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 5PM in the District conference room. Subcommittee members present were, Chair-Anthony Schutz, Gary Aldridge, Tom Green, Chelsea Johnson, Dan Steinkruger, and Sarah Wilson. Others present were Gary Hellerich, Ariana Kennedy, Tom Malmstrom (Saline Wetland Conservation Partnership Coordinator), David Potter, Larry Ruth, Dan Schulz, Justin Stark (Olsson's) and Paul Zillig.

The first agenda item was consideration of the Olsson engineering proposal for MoPac East and Homestead trail repairs. Kennedy introduced Stark and then reviewed the trail repairs and locations. Stark went through the scope of services and answered questions. Stark indicated the proposal would be on a time and materials basis with an upset limit of \$39,550.00 for the Homestead Trail and \$35,000.00 for the MoPac East Trail (see attached Olsson proposal).

**It was moved by Green, seconded by Steinkruger and unanimously approved to recommend that the Board of Directors enter into the professional services contract with Olsson for engineering and permitting services to make repairs on the MoPac East and Homestead trail corridors subject to legal counsel review.**

The second agenda item was consideration of entering into an interlocal cooperation agreement on saline wetlands (see attached). Schulz indicated this

agreement maintains the cooperation between the City of Lincoln and the Game & Parks Commission to continue to work cooperatively together on saline wetland acquisitions, restorations, management, operation and maintenance. Schulz also indicated the current agreement expires at the end of June 2019 and this agreement would be for 5 years. Malmstrom and Schulz reviewed the past agreements over the last 16 years in which Malmstrom has been the coordinator. The Districts annual contribution would be \$45,000 for years 2020 and 2021, increasing to \$50,000 per year for years 2022-2024.

Schulz and Malmstrom also discussed Lancaster County being a partner in previous agreements before dropping out. They indicated, due to changes in the makeup of the county board and encouragement from District board members, discussions are underway with Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, Lancaster County Board of Commissioners about Lancaster County re-joining the saline wetland cooperative agreement. Schulz indicated District legal counsel has reviewed the agreement.

**It was moved by Steinkruger, seconded by Johnson and unanimously approved to recommend that the Board of Directors enter into the interlocal cooperation agreement with the City of Lincoln and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission on saline wetlands.**

The third agenda item was consideration of proposals to replace the Whitehead saline wetland observation kiosk. Schulz reviewed the vehicular destruction of the kiosk with photos and the subsequent payment by the driver's insurance company in the amount of \$14,994.00. He indicated the District had requested proposals from five local businesses to replace the kiosk and that 84 Lumber and Decks Unlimited submitted proposals. The low proposal was from Decks Unlimited in the amount of \$15,073.18 (see attached).

**It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Green and unanimously approved to recommend that the Board of Directors accept the low proposal from Decks Unlimited in the amount of \$15,073.18 to replace the Whitehead saline wetland observation kiosk.**

Schulz reported on land rights negotiations for the Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch Project. He indicated negotiations were completed on the Cochran

conservation easement in the amount of \$250,000 and that the negotiations on the Samani acquisition was on-going.

Aldridge reported on his discussions with 34 senators in the Unicameral concerning LB 552 – The Tree Recovery Act.

Hellerich requested the District develop a program for pollinators. Hellerich then reviewed NARD policy 1995-7 - Payment of in Lieu of Taxes and thinks the District should abide by that policy. Paraphrasing the policy - when private land is acquired, the public is informed of the amount of property tax revenue that will be lost to local government, and the duty of the acquiring entity to compensate local government with payments in-lieu-of taxes equivalent to local property taxes currently paid by private citizens for comparable tracts of land.

Schutz adjourned the meeting at 6:22PM.