



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH
natural resources district

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TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Dan Schulz, Resources Coordinator *Dan*

DATE: June 15, 2018

SUBJECT: Minutes-Recreation, Forestry & Wildlife Subcommittee Meeting

The Recreation, Forestry and Wildlife Subcommittee met in the District conference room, Thursday, June 14, 2018, at 5:36PM. Subcommittee members present were Chair-Sarah Wilson, Gary Aldridge, Don Jacobson, Bruce Johnson, Chelsea Johnson, Anthony Schutz, and Ron Svoboda. Others present were Andrew Applet, Justin Cermak, Gordon Coke (all with The Flatwater Group (TFG)), Kevin Poague (Spring Creek Prairie Audubon), Ariana Kennedy, Dan Schulz, Ray Stevens and Paul Zillig.

The first agenda item was consideration to serve as applicant for a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant for Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center's Handicap accessible interpretive trail and the southern terminus for the Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch Project (PCHBP). Schulz reviewed the attached letter from Glynnis Collins, Director Spring Creek Prairie, the map of the proposed trails and the cost estimate provided by JEO Consulting Group. Poague answered questions and provided clarification about the RTP application and project matching funds.

Schulz indicated the Spring Creek Prairie's request to be the applicant is due to the RTP Program's requirement for a government entity to be the applicant and the District's role as per the PCHBP agreement for the District to be the lead in trail development outside the City of Lincoln's three mile jurisdictional limit.

It was moved by Jacobson, seconded by Svoboda and unanimously approved to recommend the Lower Platte South NRD Board of Directors agree to serve as the applicant for a Recreational Trails Program grant for the Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center's Handicap assessable interpretive trail which is the southern trail terminus of the Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch Project.

The second agenda item was consideration of a professional service contract for the Saline Wetlands Conservation Partnership's (SWCP) Upper Little Salt Creek Saline Wetlands Plan restoration projects. Schulz reviewed the consultant selection process G-3 in the District's operating policies that was followed for the selection of The Flatwater Group (TFG). District staff and the representatives from The Flatwater Group reviewed the attached scopes of work A1-A4 and answered questions.

Staff also provided information regarding the Upper Little Salt Creek Restoration Plan and that the consideration at this time is for the A-1 scope of work. Staff also indicated this consultant selection process included entering into future contracts with TFG for scope of works A-2, A-3 and A-4. Schulz indicated funding for the TFG contract was included in the draft of the fiscal year 2019 budget (see attached) and that the District's expenditure for A-1 would only be on District properties. The remaining cost for A-1 would come from the SWCP and the other SWCP land owners (Nebraska Game & Parks, Pheasants Forever). See attached memo from the SWCP Coordinator, Tom Malmstrom and the map showing the properties and the projects to be designed.

It was moved by Svoboda, seconded by Jacobson and unanimously approved to recommend the Lower Platte South NRD Board of Directors approve the A-1 Scope of Work to design the Upper Little Salt Creek saline wetlands restoration projects and authorize the General Manger to sign the professional services contract with The Flatwater Group for up to \$310,000 with the District's share not to exceed \$139,500 subject to legal counsel review.

The third agenda item was a report on a letter from the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission on proposals for threatened and endangered species listings (see attached). Staff indicated the letter outlines the Commission's process to review the listings and the associated state statutes. The subcommittee directed staff to

obtain photos of the species in the District listed on the attached table and a map showing each species distribution in the District.

Wilson reported on the contacts by trail users concerning tree mortality on the MoPac East Trail. Staff indicated a site inspection would take place June 19th. Wilson adjourned the meeting at 6:36PM