



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH
natural resources district

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TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Dan Schulz, Resources Coordinator *Dan*

DATE: July 21, 2021

SUBJECT: Recreation, Forestry & Wildlife Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

On Tuesday, July 20, 2021, the Recreation, Forestry and Wildlife Subcommittee met virtually at 5:30PM. Members participating were Chair-Anthony Schutz, Christine Lamberty, Lisa Lewis, Susan Seacrest, Ray Stevens, and John Yoakum. Other Zoomies were Deborah Eagan, Ariana Kennedy, Brian Schuele – Olsson, Dan Schulz, and Paul Zillig.

The first agenda item was consideration of the annual mentored hunt agreement with the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission on the Warner Wetlands (see attached). Schulz reported 64 hours were spent hunting last year and that no animals were harvested. Legal counsels review resulted in adding a non-discrimination clause to the agreement. The District has participated in the mentored hunt program since 2010.

It was moved by Lewis and seconded by Yoakum, to recommend that the Board of Directors approve the mentored hunt agreement with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission on the District's Warner Wetland property.

Voting yay – Lamberty, Lewis, Schutz, Seacrest, and Stevens.

Not voting – Yoakum

Motion passed.

The second item was Ken Mohr's request for a property access agreement across the corner of the Homestead Trail Conservation Corridor near Roca, Nebraska (see attached map and photo). Schulz indicated Mohr had contacted the District in May about getting an agreement to use the existing driveway off state highway 55F to get to his walnut plantation. Staff reported the property is for sale and listed at \$75,000 for the 7.06-acre tract. The county's assessed value is \$4,700. The subcommittee discussed the District acquiring the property and Schulz indicated the process to acquire property was to have the property appraised which typically costs \$3,000-\$5,000, and using the appraised value as a basis to begin negotiations.

It was moved by Seacrest, seconded by Yoakum, and unanimously approved to recommend that the Board of Director approve a non-transferable access license agreement with Ken and Carolyn Mohr to cross the Homestead Conservation Corridor subject to legal counsel review.

Stevens made a motion, seconded by Lewis, to direct staff to inform Ken Mohr of the District's interest in purchasing the property and to initiate appraisal of the property.

Zillig indicated there is informal evidence or information available to determine market value besides having an appraisal completed.

Stevens and Lewis agreed to modify the motion which was unanimously approved directing staff to contact Ken Mohr about the District's interest in acquiring the property and to obtain evidence of value to determine market value and not initiate an appraisal.

The last agenda item was trail repair reports. Kennedy reported the final plans and specifications for the Oak Creek Trail repairs (bank stabilization/landslide) project are nearly complete by Olsson. This project will be advertised for bid in the first part of August, bid opening held in late August, and consideration for award of contract at the September Board of Directors meeting. It is anticipated this project will have reached substantial completion by end of this calendar year.

Schulz reported on the Homestead Trail bridge #9 closure and replacement. He indicated the bridge was closed as recommended by JEO the District's bridge

inspector. He gave some background on the site inspections of bridge #9 by Lynn Lightner, Ross Greathouse and Roger Figard who in their opinion indicated the bridge could be made safe for reopening by placing rock rip-rap to protect against further degradation of the south abutment. Schulz indicated District staff, Olsson and JEO met at bridge #9 today and were directed by Zillig to find out what the placement of rock rip-rap will achieve, what additional work (if any) would need to be done, the estimated cost and timeline to make bridge #9 safe for reopening. Olsson and JEO will provide that information in the next few days.

Staff expects the bridge #9 replacement with a concrete box culvert project will be ready for construction contract approval by the Board in October 2021. Schuele answered questions about the trail repair projects.

Schutz adjourned the meeting at 6:20PM.