

LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT



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TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Dan Schulz, Resources Coordinator *DS*

DATE: September 12, 2017

SUBJECT: Minutes-Recreation, Forestry & Wildlife Subcommittee Meeting

On Monday, September 11, 2017, the Recreation, Forestry and Wildlife Subcommittee met in the District conference room at 5:30PM. Subcommittee members present were Chair-Milt Schmidt, Gary Aldridge, Don Jacobson, Chelsea Johnson, Mark Spangler, Ron Svoboda and Sarah Wilson. Others present were Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Gary Hellerich, Ariana Kennedy, Matt Manning, David Potter, Dan Schulz, Jay Seaton, Ray Stevens and Paul Zillig.

The first agenda item was the Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch Interlocal Agreement Extension. Fleck-Tooze with Lincoln Parks and Recreation gave an over view of the project and the progress to date. She also discussed the one year extension (attached) and the City of Lincoln's plans to propose a long term agreement in the November-December time frame. The City of Lincoln is also planning the formation of a steering committee and a press conference for the public rollout of the project.

It was moved by Jacobson, seconded by Svoboda and unanimously approved to recommend the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to sign the one year extension for the Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch Interlocal Agreement with the City of Lincoln.

The second agenda item was consideration of bids received for a culvert repair on the Oak Creek Trail. Kennedy reviewed the location and the existing condition of the drainage structure. Matt Manning, with Mainelli Wagner & Associates, Inc., reviewed the attached bid tabulation and indicated bids were submitted by, M.E. Collins Contracting Co. Inc., and Husker Engineering Inc. Manning recommended the District accept the low bid from M. E. Collins Contracting Co. Inc. in the amount of \$29,222.30.

It was moved by Svoboda, seconded by Wilson and unanimously approved to recommend the Board of Directors approve the low bid from M.E. Collins Contracting Co. Inc., in the amount of \$29,222.30 to install a new culvert on the



Oak Creek Trail pending legal counsel review and the General Manager can waive any informalities.

The third agenda item was consideration of a Community Forestry Program application from Edenton South Townhouse Association. Seaton reviewed the application to plant a mixture of twelve 6 foot tall conifers. He indicated even though the application lists only Colorado blue spruce, he is specifying the planting also includes Norway spruce and Concolor, Balsam and White Fir (see attached). These new trees are replacing Scotch Pines and will be provided by Nebraska Nursery and Color Gardens for \$5,296.80.

It was moved by Aldridge, seconded by Jacobson and unanimously approved to recommend the Board of Directors approve the Community Forestry Program application from Edenton South Townhouse Association to plant a mixture of twelve six foot conifers with the District's share not to exceed \$2,648.40.

The fourth agenda item was a tree planting program report by Seaton (see attached). He indicated tree sales were up from last year and the on-line tree orders were nearly double that of the mail in orders. He reviewed the program costs and was confident there probably won't be a need to raise the price of seedlings. He'll know for sure after the October Halsey Clients Day when the NRD's will find out next year's seedling prices.

The fifth agenda item was consideration of entering into an interlocal agreement for U.S. Highway 34 Bike and Walking Trail. Zillig indicated he'd been attending meetings on this since January and the new Platte River Bridge is being built to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists.

The project is divided up into two phases with the Papio-Missouri River NRD acting as the project sponsor. The first phase, to place girders between the 14 piers will be completed by the Nebraska Department of Transportation. Phase 2, to construct the trail is estimated to cost 2 million dollars with 80% or \$1.6 million coming from federal funds designated by the Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA). The other 20% (\$400,000) will be divided between six partners (see attached page 4 #5). The Lower Platte South NRD's share is \$40,000. Zillig indicated the fiscal year 2018 budget has \$50,000 in it for this project.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Svoboda and unanimously approved to recommend the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to sign the Highway 34 Platte River Trail Bridge interlocal agreement with the District's share not to exceed \$40,000.

The sixth agenda item was to discuss proceeding with an appraisal on the Wilcox property near Roca and along the Homestead Trail (see attached). Schulz indicated this is an action item for the Fiscal Year 2018 Long Range Implementation Plan with about half of the estimated cost in the budget.

It was moved by Spangler, seconded by Jacobson and unanimously approved to direct staff to proceed with an appraisal of the Wilcox property.

The last item was to discuss fall tours to the newly completed Marsh Wren Saline Wetland Restoration and the Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch. The Directors gave staff some suggested days and dates to avoid. Staff will send out some possible dates for a late afternoon, early evening tour.

Chair Schmidt adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:50PM.