



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH
natural resources district

3125 Portia Street | P.O. Box 83581 • Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-3581
 P: 402.476.2729 • F: 402.476.6454 | www.lpsnrd.org

Memorandum

Date: November 8, 2023
To: Urban Subcommittee
From: Mark Lindemann, District Engineer *ML*
Subject: Urban Subcommittee Meeting Minutes – November 2023

The Urban Subcommittee met on Wednesday, November 8, 2023, at the NRD Office, at 5:30 pm. Subcommittee members participating included John Yoakum- committee chair, Gary Aldridge, Melissa Baker, Deborah Eagan, Stacie Sinclair, and Ray Stevens. Others participating included Tim Zach from LTU Watershed Division, Mark Thompson, James Clements from Wedgewood Manor Lake, Association and Travis Hazard with Hazard Engineering. NRD staff attending included Mike Sousek, David Potter, Drew Ratkovec, and Mark Lindemann. Director Yoakum called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm. There were three (3) items the Subcommittee took action on and staff updates on current projects. A quorum was present for the meeting.

A. Consideration to approve the Lincoln Flood Mitigation Master Plan [ACTION] – Lindemann explained that the NRD has partnered with the City of Lincoln Watershed Management in the development of the Lincoln Flood Mitigation Master Plan (FMMP). The plan builds off of the NRD’s Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, focusing specifically on flooding within the City of Lincoln Boundaries. It was noted that while the plan report was in its final draft stage, the FMMP team held an open house and met with various neighborhood and community organizations to inform of the plan and get feedback from residents to incorporate into the plan. Tim Zach, Superintendent of Stormwater was present to provide a brief presentation explaining the purpose of the plan and the process of the risk analysis and identification of actions, (such as flood mitigation projects, raising awareness) to reduce flood risk. Zach noted that the FMMP will be brought to City Council for adoption on November 20, 2023. Questions related to current processes for warning residents of flooding were answered by Zach and staff. It was also clarified to Directors that the actions identified in the FMMP allow for eligibility of FEMA funding for future action related projects and upon Board approval, will be added to the NRD’s Hazard Mitigation Plan

It was moved by Baker, seconded by Stevens, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee to recommend that the Board of Directors approve Lincoln Flood Mitigation Master Plan.

B. Consideration of a Community Assistance Program Application from Wedgewood Manor Lake Association Dam Repair Project [ACTION]– Yoakum introduced the next project and the floor was given to Drew Ratkovec. Ratkovec explained that inspection reports from the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR) showed failure of the internal drainage system of the dam structure at the Wedgewood Manor Lake Association (WMLA). Hazard Engineering performed the design and developed plans for the necessary repairs, which have been reviewed by NeDNR. The project was advertised for construction and a single bid from Pat Thomas Construction, Inc. All work is to be completed by April 15, 2024. The Wedgewood Manor Lake Association has selected Pat Thomas Construction to perform the repairs with Hazard Engineering providing construction engineering. Hazard Engineering’s fee proposal is \$24,900. The WMLA has submitted a Community Assistance Program application request to the NRD for cost-share for the construction project and construction engineering at a total cost of \$238,045.01. The NRD share of the 50% funds for reimbursement would be \$119,022.00. Ratkovec noted that Mark Thompson and James Clements from the WMLA, and Travis Hazard from Hazard Engineering were present to answer questions. Hazard confirmed that because this structure is a high hazard classification, it is inspected yearly by NeDNR, and that the deficiency was discovered through an NeDNR periodic camera inspection of the drainage pipes last year. Noting that the \$200,000 project threshold, Directors also asked if the requirements of the proposed new CAP Policy (see item C) will be utilized for this project. It was explained that it was staff’s intent to apply the requirements of the new CAP policy for this project and that a contract has been drafted and will be sent to legal counsel for review. Upon legal counsel review, the contract will be included as part of the background materials for Directors to review prior to Board Meeting.

The original motion was amended to include “pending legal counsel review” as stated below:

It was moved by Stevens, seconded by Eagan, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee to recommend that the Board of Directors approve the Community Assistance Program application request for the Wedgewood Manor Lake Association Dam Repair Project, in an amount not to exceed \$119,022 of NRD funds, pending legal counsel review.

C. Consideration to approve the Community Assistance Program Policy [ACTION] –Lindemann noted and thanked Directors for their comments and suggestions for the draft Community Assistance Program (CAP) Policy at the October Urban meeting. Ratkovec noted that these changes have been incorporated into the proposed final policy. One inclusion of note is for projects with costs greater than a \$200,000 threshold, a contract for HOAs or an interlocal agreement with municipalities will be required. These contracts and interlocal agreements between the NRD and applicants will also require the applicant to maintain the project for five years, or be required to reimburse the NRD for its share of funding. A contract or interlocal agreement will also allow staff to define the timing of NRD reimbursement with the applicant. Staff will work with legal counsel to develop such contracts and agreements in the future. With approval by the Board, staff will adopt the policy and begin utilizing it immediately.

It was moved by Sinclair, seconded by Baker, and approved by the Subcommittee (6 voting Yes, Aldridge Voting No) to recommend that the Board of Directors approve and adopt the Community Assistance Program Policy.

Reports

Deadmans Run South Bank Repair Project – 70th & “O” Streets – Lindemann noted that as of October 27th, all work for the bank repair project next to Tommy’s Car Wash has been completed. Staff are arranging to have the original guardrail re-installed at the request of the car wash.

Deadmans Run 205 Flood Reduction Project –The open house for the Deadmans Run Flood Reduction Project scheduled for November 9th (then moved to the 14th) **has been postponed until early spring**. It was explained that due to federal funding delays, there has been a slow down in USACE resources to work on the project and to get the plans to the 95% milestone. The NRD was notified today that the USACE design team has now received funding and can now commence work. Lindemann agreed to send an email to Directors notifying them of the postponement.

South Salt Creek #6 –The contractor started work on November 1st and has begun clearing and construction an access road off of South 1st Street to prepare work on the main stem of Salt Creek project location. The contractor expects to complete work at the Jamaica Trail Bridge location in two to three weeks. The Jamaica trail will then be re-opened.

Community Assistance Program Projects

Ratkovec noted that this week the contractor for the Rolling Hills HOA has started work on the low flow liner project. Work is expected to be completed in a two to three weeks

Progress for the Pine Lake Association Dam rehab is going well, with concrete and pipe construction completed and a large amount of backfilling has taken place.

The Hickman CAP project is complete! Staff have reviewed the as-built plans and approved the final payment request.

cc: Dave Landis
Steve Seglin
Corey Wasserburger