



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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Memorandum

Date: May 2, 2024
To: Urban Subcommittee
From: Mark Lindemann, District Engineer
Subject: Urban Subcommittee Meeting Minutes – May 2024

The Urban Subcommittee met on Thursday, May 2nd, at the NRD Office, at 5:30 pm. Subcommittee members participating included John Yoakum- committee chair, Deborah Eagan, Luke Peterson, Larry Ruth, and Anthony Schutz. Others participating included NRD staff Mike Sousek, Drew Ratkovec, Craig Matulka, and Mark Lindemann. Mike Barret with the City of Weeping Water, Travis Figard with E&A Consulting Group, Inc., Tim Zach and Jared Nelson from the City of Lincoln Watershed , and Mike Sotak and Connor Kelley from Houston Engineering were also in attendance. Director Yoakum called the meeting to order at 5:35pm. There were two (2) items the Subcommittee took action on, and one report. A quorum was present for the meeting.

A. Consideration of a Community Assistance Program Application for Weeping Water Creek Bank Stabilization & Realignment Project from the City of Weeping Water [ACTION] – Matulka explained that the City of Weeping Water has submitted a Community Assistance Program (CAP) application for the design phase of stabilizing and realigning Weeping Water Creek. Please refer to Matulka’s memo dated April 26, 2024. Weeping Water Creek flows west to east through the town and along the City Park. The location of the project is located at the western edge of the City Park and there are concerns of the existing stream path and erosion impacting park property. E&A Consulting Group, Inc. has provided a proposal for survey, design, and permitting services and to prepare plans and specifications for construction at a total cost of \$72,250. Weeping Water has submitted an application for a cost share of 50% for the design phase of the project, not to exceed \$36,125. Mike Barret, mayor of Weeping Water and Travis Figard, of E&A were present to answer Directors’ questions on the details of the channel realignment and cost. Figard explained that the current channel path has moved to the north over time, impacting an existing tributary and encroaching park property. In addition to redirecting channel flow to its original location, the design will include stabilizing and armoring impacted banks and repairing existing grade stabilization structures of the north tributary. Lindemann noted that E&A’s fee was reasonable and comparable to other projects done for the NRD.

It was moved by Eagan, and seconded by Ruth, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee to recommend that the Board of Directors approve the Community Assistance Program application request for the Weeping Water Creek Bank Stabilization and channel realignment project at a cost share amount of 50% of the total eligible design costs, not to exceed \$36,125.00.

B. Consideration of the Annual Workplan for the Stormwater Interlocal Agreement with the City of Lincoln [ACTION] – Lindemann described how the City of Lincoln and NRD have an Interlocal Agreement on Stormwater Management in place that is updated each year prior to finalizing the Urban Budget/ LRIP. The agreement lists the activities the two agencies work together on and who is the lead for each activity. Lindemann stated that much of the agreement is the same as past years. Lindemann and Tim Zach and Jared Nelson, with the City of Lincoln Watershed, provided details of the new or updated activities in more detail. Items discussed included 1) Watershed Master Plan capital improvement projects on Haines Branch (HB-1 & 2) and Middle Creek (MC-5) where the NRD and City split costs 50/50 (\$1.8M), 2) three projects on Southeast Upper Salt Creek where the City is the lead and will pay all the costs (\$500,000), and 3) the Deadmans Run Flood Reduction Project (\$3.165M each). Directors, staff, and representatives from the City of Lincoln discussed that the purpose of the work plan is to annually prioritize and budget tasks and projects that meet stormwater management goals of both parties. Lindemann noted that the City and NRD coordinate and meet regularly and are able to effectively prioritize tasks and projects for each work plan year. There was an appreciation of the cooperation between the two entities and ability to accomplish their goals. The budgeted items in this work plan will be included in the upcoming Urban Budget/ LRIP meeting next week.

It was moved by Eagan and seconded by Peterson, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee to recommend that the Board of Directors approve the Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025 Work Plan for the Interlocal Agreement on Stormwater Management with the City of Lincoln.

REPORT:

Deadmans Run Flood Reduction Project

The report on the Deadmans Run Flood Reduction Project provided an update on Houston Engineering's Value Engineering (VE) work, approved by the Board February 2024. The scope of the VE proposal was to look at alternatives to reduce project costs. Total project costs of the current USACE-designed project have increased from \$25 million to over \$55 million. Mike Sotak and Connor Kelley, with Houston Engineering, were in attendance to provide a summary of results. Multiple alternatives were analyzed, with seven feasible alternatives that were looked into at great detail that met or exceeded the project goals. The seven alternatives range from approximately \$21 million to \$29 million to design and construct, with more information to be provided at a later date. Directors asked questions on how uncertainty from changes in future climate models and development were addressed. Sotak explained the main goals were to design for an appropriate level of risk, remove residents from the floodplain, and look for optimization to reduce costs. All seven alternatives meet these goals and provide flexibility and resiliency for changes within the project area and upstream. The City and NRD are continuing to evaluate the alternatives and will be seeking input from other stakeholders.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

cc: Dave Landis
Corey Wasserburger
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