




## LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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### Memorandum

**Date:** January 12, 2018  
**To:** Each Director  
**From:** Paul D. Zillig, General Manager   
**RE:** Water Resources Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

The Water Resources Subcommittee met in the NRD Office at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 11, 2018. Subcommittee members present included Don Jacobson, Greg Osborn, Gary Hellerich, Gary Aldridge, Vern Barrett, Chelsea Johnson and Karen Amen. Others present included Ray Stevens, Jim Hunter (friend of Barrett), Katie Cameron, Dan Schulz, Dick Ehrman, Dave Potter and myself.

Chair Jacobson called the meeting to order and called on Cameron to report on the first two agenda items. Cameron reported that there are two actions required at this point for ENWRA's effort to complete the next phase of AEM mapping (attached are two maps showing the LPSNRD and the ENWRA area to be mapped).

The first action was to consider approving the proposed Water Sustainability Fund (WSF) contract with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (attached is contract #5189). Cameron reported that this grant contract is the next step in implementing the ENWRA Interlocal Agreement that covers this project. The WSF contract allocates \$1.968M for the project.

The Subcommittee again reviewed and discussed the desired work to be done and the terms of the contract with DNR to receive the Water Sustainability Funds. There were several questions about the contract and reporting requirements.

It was moved by Hellerich, seconded by Osborn, and unanimously approved by the Water Resources Subcommittee to **recommend the NRD Board of Directors on behalf of ENWRA, authorize the General Manager to sign the Water Sustainability Fund Grant Agreement (Application # 5189) with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources to receive funds for the Airborne Electromagnetic Mapping (AEM) Project in the amount of \$1,968,000.00.**



The next item on the agenda was to review the proposed contract with Aqua Geo Frameworks headquartered out of Mitchell, NE. Cameron reported that the proposed professional services agreement will be for collecting approximately 4,500 miles of AEM data and providing individual report chapters to each of the ENWRA NRDs. The contract (attached) is for \$3.28M and the ENWRA Interlocal Agreement requires front end payments from the NRDs so LPSNRD can make timely payments to AGF under the terms of the agreement. The LPSNRD's share of the final cost is \$304,000.

The Subcommittee discussed contracting with this private firm and requested legal counsel to look into ownership of the data. The Subcommittee also discussed the proposed fees, reimbursement schedule, and that we have been very satisfied with the quality of work by Aqua Geo Frameworks.

It was moved by Osborn, seconded by Barrett, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee to **recommend that the Board of Directors, on behalf of ENWRA, authorize the General Manager to sign the professional services contract with Aqua Geo Frameworks, LLC to complete the AEM flights and flight data reports for an amount not to exceed \$3,280,000.00 subsequent to the execution of the Water Sustainability Fund Grant Agreement for Application #5189.**

The next item on the agenda was to consider the proposals received for the NRD's Water Well Construction and Modification project. Ehrman reported that the NRD advertised a Request for Proposals (RFP) to install wells and other work and opened bids yesterday (see attached memo). Ehrman reviewed the proposals received.

The Subcommittee discussed the work to be done and proposals received. It was moved by Aldridge, seconded by Amen, and unanimously approved by the subcommittee to **recommend that the Board of Directors accept the proposal from Bornemeier Well Drilling for an estimated cost of \$21,313.00 to install one monitoring well in the Dwight-Valparaiso-Brainard Special Management Area, install one livestock well in the Warner Wetland property, and repurpose solar panels and pumps for use in livestock wells in the Warner Wetland and Little Salt Springs properties.**

The last action item was to consider authorizing landrights acquisition for the Oak-Middle 82-B Watershed Rehabilitation Project and approve professional services for appraisal and right-of-way services. Potter reviewed the attached report on the project, landrights map, and proposed contracts with Great Plains Appraisal, RL Keith Consultant (Appraisal "yellow book"), and MidWest Right of Way Services. Potter reported that due to federal funding a yellow book review of the appraisal would be required.

The Subcommittee discussed the project and the process required to acquire additional easements. It was moved by Osborn, seconded by Amen, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee to **recommend the Board of Directors authorize the acquisition of landrights for the Oak-Middle 82-B Watershed Rehab Project and approve the professional services agreement with Great Plains Appraisal, not to exceed \$17,400.00.**

**with RL Keith Consultant, Inc., not to exceed \$5,900.00 and Midwest Right of Way Services, not to exceed \$9,895.00, subject to legal counsel review.**

Staff then reported that Aqua Geo Frameworks will present the results of the previous AEM project to the NRD at a meeting in mid-March. Staff will be preparing a Lower Platte River Basin Water Management Plan Coalition annual member report for the period of July 1, 2016 to December 31, 2017, the report will include ground water irrigation changes in the HCA, the report is due March 1<sup>st</sup>. Staff will continue to work on the Ground Water Annual Review, we anticipate presenting the review to the subcommittee in April. Water meter reporting is nearly complete with approximately a dozen remaining reports to be submitted. Plattsmouth 18-A will require some principal spillway repairs, staff is obtaining proposals to line the pipe, the NRD has an interlocal agreement with the City of Plattsmouth to fund the repairs. The Upper Salt 3-A Watershed Rehabilitation project is nearly completion of the design stage. This project also requires a relocation of a county road (SW 2<sup>nd</sup>) so additional landrights will be required, staff hopes to have this completed and present this information to the Subcommittee in February.

There being no additional business the meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

PDZ/pz

cc: Steve Seglin

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