




LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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Agenda Item #13

Memorandum

Date: October 19, 2021
To: Each Director
From: Paul D. Zillig, General Manager 
RE: Water Resources Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

The Water Resources Subcommittee met at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, October 18, 2021 in the NRD Office in Lincoln. Subcommittee members participating included Larry Ruth, Chelsea Johnson, John Yoakum, Vern Barrett, Ken Vogel, and Gary Hellerich. Other Directors participating included Deborah Eagan. And others participating included Steve Seglin, Corey Wasserburger, David Potter, Tracy Zayac, Chris Witthuhn, Mike Murren, and myself.

Chair Ruth opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance.

The Subcommittee then took up the following action items:

Item 13a – Consideration of the Annual Stream Gage Operation Agreement with the United States Geologic Survey Division (USGS).

There are 24 USGS stream gages located in the LPSNRD (see attached map). This NRD contributes to USGS towards the cost of operating 16 of these gages. USGS requires local partners to annually approve joint funding agreements with USGS for this assistance. Please find attached a copy of the annual joint funding agreement with USGS for the operation of these 16 gages at a cost of \$114,615 to the LPSNRD. The Subcommittee discussed the USGS cost of the stream gages.

It was moved by Yoakum, seconded by Vogel, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee (Hellerich had not yet logged on) to recommend the Board of Directors approve the October 2021 Joint Funding Agreement with USGS for the operation of 16 stream gages in the Lower Platte South NRD.

Item 13 b, c, & d. - These three items are all pertain to agreements with USDA/NRCS for our watershed rehabilitation projects at Upper Salt 3-A and Oak-Middle 82-B. The construction of both of these projects are essentially completed but we expect that closing out the projects and receiving all reimbursements from USDA/NRCS will likely not occur until early 2022. These three agreements will expire late this year so we need to extend the agreements in order to be eligible for the federal reimbursement. Potter reviewed and explained the three modifications/amendments.

Item 13b – Consideration of Amendment #2 to the Upper Salt 3-A Cooperative Construction Agreement with USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

This project is located near Sprague. This agreement is for the construction of the project, the agreement expires December 15, 2021. The proposed modification (attached) extends the agreement to July 30, 2022.

It was moved by Yoakum, seconded by Vogel, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee (Hellerich had not yet logged on) to recommend the Board of Directors approve Amendment #2 to the Upper Salt 3-A Cooperative Construction Agreement with USDA/NRCS.

Item 13c – Consideration of Amendment #4 to the Upper Salt 3-A Reimbursable Agreement.

This is the second agreement for this project near Sprague. This agreement is the reimbursable technical assistance agreement, and it is set to expire December 15, 2021. The proposed amendment (attached) extends the agreement to July 30, 2022.

It was moved by Chelsea Johnson, seconded by Yoakum, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee (Hellerich had not yet logged on) to recommend the Board of Directors approve Amendment #4 to the Upper Salt 3-A Reimbursable Agreement.

Item 13d – Consideration of Amendment #2 to the Oak-Middle 82-B Cooperative Construction Agreement.

This project is located north of Garland. This agreement is the single cooperative construction agreement, and it is set to expire December 30, 2021. The proposed amendment (attached) extends the agreement to July 30, 2022.

It was moved by Barrett, seconded by Vogel, and unanimously approved by the Subcommittee (Hellerich had not yet logged on) to recommend the Board of Directors approve Amendment #2 to the Oak-Middle 82-B Cooperative Construction Agreement with USDA/NRCS.

The Subcommittee then briefly reviewed and discussed the attached summary of the District's Groundwater Management Plan and Groundwater Rules & Regulations. The Subcommittee noted several portions of those documents that they would like to learn more about from staff and legal counsel. The Subcommittee's recent experience in the well permitting process raised several questions. Directors should let them know of any

items that need to be reviewed specifically. The Subcommittee plans to devote time at their next meeting to first increase their understanding and purpose of the rules.

The Subcommittee then briefly reviewed the recent article in the Lincoln Journal Star concerning trace pesticides in a Lincoln Water System monitoring well in LPNNRD northeast of Ashland, and the LPSNRD current pesticide monitoring program.

There being no additional business the meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.

PDZ/pz

cc: Steve Seglin & Corey Wasserburger