



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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Memorandum

Date: May 24, 2023

To: SCFR (Salt Creek Flood Resiliency) Subcommittee members

From: Mike Sousek, General Manager Designate

RE: SCFR Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

The SCFR Subcommittee met at 5:30pm on Thursday, May 24, 2023 at the NRD Office in Lincoln. Subcommittee members present included Larry Ruth, Deb Eagan, Chelsea Johnson, Ken Vogel, Susan Seacrest, Ray Stevens, Bob Andersen, and Gary Hellerich. Subcommittee members absent were Dave Landis and Anthony Schutz. One member of the public attended. NRD staff members in attendance included Mark Lindemann, Dave Potter, Paul Zillig and myself.

Chair Ruth opened the meeting and addressed the subcommittee welcoming all to the initial meeting of the newly formed subcommittee. His thoughts were shared on the purpose of the committee, which is to work with others (City, groups, etc.) to develop a comprehensive flood resiliency strategy. He discussed various tasks that needed to be completed both short term and long term, and he reviewed the memo dated April 19, 2023 from Board Chair David Landis.

Paul Zillig reviewed the SCFR report from Olsson dated August 15, 2020. Some highlights included:

- 1960 rainfall data is being used for the existing conditions in current floodplain maps.
- The current floodplain maps were drawn in 1984.
- New maps which are currently in the process of being redrawn will use current data taken from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Atlas 14 precipitation frequency estimates.
- 16 upstream structures are needed to keep water from overtopping Salt Creek levees using the old data, using the new data the levees may overtop in some places.

Discussion continued with the nonstructural recommendations of the report. This included reviewing the accomplishments of the City of Lincoln in response to the recommendations of the report. It was noted that the county was absent from the study and needs to be brought into the loop as discussions continue. Director Vogel expressed the need for more education on the public front to discuss the report, explaining the problem, and explaining what the NRD has been doing to address the flooding concerns. The suggestion of more education was echoed by the committee.

An update was given on the City of Lincoln efforts to utilize a BRIC (Building Resiliency in Infrastructure and Communities) grant. The city has been given verbal notification that they have secured the grant but are waiting for an official written document to proceed. The money will be used to study the cost-benefit ratios of both nonstructural and structural recommendations taken from the Olsson SCFR report. The district is supporting this effort with a \$50,000 (Urban Subcommittee LRIP) contribution which is 50% of the local cost.

Paul Zillig led a discussion on the efforts of the City of Lincoln and NRD in developing a comprehensive flood resiliency work plan. The first draft is currently being prepared by the City of Lincoln and is expected this summer, possibly in July.

The committee discussed goals and expectations for the purpose of providing staff with direction in planning the next steps. This subject was left open for members to return to as more information becomes available and more thoughts are processed.

Paul Zillig led a discussion on the history of the current Salt Creek Resiliency sinking fund. As of April 30, 2023, the fund had a balance of \$821,199.61. Director Hellerich made a motion to recommend to the Planning and Finance subcommittee that an additional \$100,000 be added to the Salt Creek Resiliency fund. This was seconded by Director Vogel. Discussion ensued focused on the fact that the Urban Subcommittee had recommended \$200,000 be added to the same sinking fund. The committee recognized this fact and felt a total of \$300,000 was needed and rather than making a request for \$300,000 chose to just add \$100,000 in combination with the \$200,000 from the Urban Subcommittee. By a show of hands, the motion passed with one no vote from Director Stevens.

Topics for the next meeting will include the City of Lincoln SCFR workplan and discussion on the history of buyout programs that the NRD has participated in. The meeting will be scheduled closer to a date when the work plan is ready to be discussed and the City of Lincoln can present said plan.

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

MJS

cc: SCFR Subcommittee members

NRD Chair Landis

NRD staff attending