

LOWER LOUP NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 30, 2017

Ord, Nebraska

The March meeting of the Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District was held at the Headquarters Office, 2620 Airport Drive, Ord, Nebraska, on March 30, 2017. Chairman Citta called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Directors in attendance

James C. Adams
Timothy E. Bartak
Beth Boesch
James J. Eschliman, Vice Chairman
Randy Kauk
Clifford P. Loseke
James C. Nelson
Dean J. Rasmussen
Dean G. Thede

Rollie D. Amsberry, Treasurer
Robert Bauer
Joseph L. Citta, Chairman
Virgil W. Gellermann
Gary A. Kruse
Matt Lukasiewicz
Alan D. Petersen
Gerald P. Smith
Henry J. Thoene, Secretary

Directors absent

Darwin B. Anderson
Chad Podolak

N. Richard Hadenfeldt

Staff in attendance

Leon "Butch" Koehlmoos, General Manager
Larry D. Schultz, I&E Coordinator
Jason Moudry, Water Programs Specialist
Dell R. Harris, Water Resources Specialist
Tylr Naprstek, Water Modeling Coordinator
Mike Lorenz, Agronomist, Fullerton

Russell G. Callan, Assistant General Manager
Irene F. Kreifels, Financial Secretary
Cheryl K. Hornickel, Programs Assistant
LeeAnn Smith, Water Programs Assistant
V. Anne Freeman, Water Programs Secretary
Rita A. Goldfish, Administrative Secretary

Guests in attendance

Bryce Bauer, LDC, NRCS, Ord
John Engel, HDR, Lincoln
Adam Rupe, JEO, Lincoln
Rick Wilson, JEO, Lincoln
Linda Koehlmoos, Ord

Troy Ingraham, UNL Extension, Central IV
Lalit Jha, JEO, Lincoln
Vivian Novotny, JEO, Lincoln
Terry Slater, Riverdale

NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING LAW POSTING

Chairman Citta referred those in attendance to the open meeting law information posted in the Board room.

VERIFICATION OF MEETING NOTICE AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Citta asked for verification of the meeting notice. General Manager Leon “Butch” Koehlmoos verified that the meeting notices were properly published in all newspapers and that the meeting notice was also posted at the NRD Headquarters office in Ord, the NRD web site, and the eight field office locations. Koehlmoos said a modification had been made to the agenda under Assistant Manager’s Report, adding *Cover Crop Groundwater Impact Study RFP*.

Koehlmoos said that there was no February Board meeting due to inclement weather, so a couple items from February’s Programs/Projects Committee would be handled tonight.

Roll call was taken to verify meeting notice and adopt the modified agenda. Directors present: Adams, Amsberry, Bartak, Bauer, Boesch, Citta, Eschliman, Gellermann, Kauk, Kruse, Loseke, Lukasiewicz, Nelson, Petersen, Rasmussen, Smith, Thede, and Thoene. Directors absent: Anderson, Hadenfeldt, and Podolak.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

General Manager Leon “Butch” Koehlmoos stated that Directors Anderson, Hadenfeldt, and Podolak had requested to be excused from the meeting.

Adams motioned, seconded by Smith, to excuse all absent directors. Motion carried by voice vote, all present voting yes.

MINUTES

Chairman Citta asked for corrections and/or additions to the January 26, 2017, Board meeting minutes. Eschliman noted that Joe Citta should be listed as an excused absence in January.

Eschliman motioned, seconded by Gellermann, that the January 26, 2017, minutes be approved as amended. Motion carried by voice vote, all present voting yes.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Chairman Citta directed the Board’s attention to the Treasurer’s Report as published in the regular and supplemental agendas.

Koehlmoos highlighted bills from Northern Agri-Services for flowmeter maintenance. He said the process went very well. Koehlmoos said staff met with Columbus officials and said the NRD was still holding funds for their levee project. He said they submitted a partial reimbursement

request for \$359,474.48 which is one-third the amount set aside for the project. He said the project would probably be near completion this coming fall.

Rasmussen motioned, seconded by Petersen, to approve the February and March, 2017, Treasurer's Reports and pay all bills. Motion carried by roll call vote. Directors voting yes: Amsberry, Bartak, Bauer, Boesch, Citta, Eschliman, Gellermann, Kauk, Kruse, Loseke, Lukasiewicz, Petersen, Rasmussen, Smith, Thede, and Thoene. Directors abstaining: Adams and Nelson. Directors absent: Anderson, Hadenfeldt, and Podolak.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Troy Ingraham, UNL Extension, introduced himself and said he worked with Central IV in Ord and St. Paul. He said he focused on irrigation and did most of the chemigation training in the Lower Loup NRD. He said 2017 training classes were held in Broken Bow, Albion and two in Ord. He said 97 constituents attended--63 renewed their cards and 34 were new applicants. He encouraged NRD representation at the training meetings, specifically the technicians who would be inspecting the systems.

Ingraham said that Extension is doing on-farm research and told the Board that if they knew of anyone who might be interested in participating to contact him. He also said that he works with the SENSE project in Area 28.

FORESTER'S REPORT

In the absence of District Forester Richard Woollen, Koehlmoos reported that there were still trees for sale and that tree lifting is scheduled to begin the second week in April. He said the NRD would have two tree planting crews and mentioned that drip irrigation sales were good.

NRCS REPORT

Bryce Bauer, LDC in Ord, reported that CSP had been revamped, so there had been some staff training for that. He said a QAR of the Burwell office went well.

Bauer said that NRCS is still funding EQIP contracts and said there were 40-50 applications in the Lower Loup NRD. He said there were many requests for burning in the Sandhills and 4 or 5 were funded, burning approximately 4,000 acres in northern Garfield/Loup/Wheeler Counties.

Bauer reported that OIG had changed the rules on gully erosion and HEL. He said he would give a presentation on it next month.

PUBLIC HEARING – EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL RULES

CITTA: Good Afternoon.

I am Joe Citta, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District, and I will act as the Hearing Officer for this hearing. Our purpose for the hearing this afternoon is

to hear testimony on the Lower Loup Natural Resources District's proposed changes to the rules and regulations for the Enforcement of the Nebraska Erosion and Sediment Control Act.

Notice of this special hearing was published according to law in the Columbus Telegram and the Grand Island Independent. Additional notice was published in The Albion News, The Burwell Tribune, The Custer County Chief, The Greeley Citizen, The Nance County Journal, The Ord Quiz, The Phonograph-Herald, The Ravenna News, The Sherman County Times. It was also posted on the Lower Loup Natural Resources District's web site.

The time of this meeting is 5:18 p.m. and I will formally open the hearing.

The order of the meeting today will be – First, we will ask for exhibits to be submitted by the Lower Loup NRD. Then I will ask for public testimony. Then I will ask for comments from the Directors of the Lower Loup NRD.

For recording purposes, I ask that no questions or comments be made from the audience and that questions from persons testifying be directed to the hearing officer and not to anyone else in the audience.

I'm asking that anyone testifying today begin by giving their name, address, and who they are representing if it's someone other than themselves.

I will now call for the exhibits from the Lower Loup Natural Resources District and all written testimony that was received by 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 30, 2017, to be entered into the record.

Are you going to be doing that, Russ?

CALLAN: Yes.

CITTA: Please proceed.

CALLAN: Hello, my name is Russell Callan and I'm the Assistant General Manager for the Lower Loup Natural Resources District. I'm here today to present information regarding the Lower Loup Natural Resources District's Proposed Erosion and Sediment Control Act Program.

CALLAN: I would like to enter into record documents that will be pertinent to the hearing here today, and I've left those at the front desk.

CALLAN: The Lower Loup Natural Resources District's Board of Directors developed their Erosion and Sediment Controls in 1987, which were revised in 1995, and there's a copy of that there.

(Goldfish held up Exhibit)

KOEHLMOOS: That would be Exhibit 1.

CALLAN: Following a change in statute, Lower Loup NRD Board of Directors then proposed revisions to Rules and Regulations for the Enforcement of the Erosion and Sediment Control Program, and those drafts....

(Goldfish held up Exhibit)

KOEHLMOOS: That would be Exhibit 2.

CALLAN: I would like to enter into record a letter from the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources approving the Erosion and Sediment Control program draft exhibit from the Director.

(Goldfish held up Exhibit)

KOEHLMOOS: That's Exhibit 3.

CALLAN: I would also like to enter into record the Affidavit of Publications for the following newspapers: Burwell Tribune, Columbus Telegram, Custer County Chief, Grand Island Independent, and Phonograph-Herald. I would also like to enter into record copies of paper clippings from the Phonograph-Herald, Burwell Tribune, Citizens; excuse me, the Greeley Citizen, Nance County Journal, Custer County Chief, Ord Quiz, Columbus Telegram, Grand Island Independent, Albion News, and Sherman County Times.

(Goldfish held up Exhibit)

KOEHLMOOS: We will collectively enter those into the record as Exhibit 4.

CALLAN: And there was no written testimony received.

CITTA: Alright, thank you.

NOTE: The following was not asked at the Public Hearing –
“I will now ask for public testimony. I will first ask for those who oppose the rule changes.”

CITTA: I will now ask for testimony from those who are proponents of the rule changes. Is there anybody that wants to testify as a proponent?

(None)

CITTA: OK, seeing none, I will now ask for neutral testimony on the proposed rules.

(None)

CITTA: OK, seeing none, I will now ask for comments from the Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District Board. Any comments, please.

(None)

CITTA: Seeing none, is there anyone who has not had a chance to testify that wishes to testify?

(None)

CITTA: OK, seeing none. There being no further testimony, the time is now 5:22 p.m., and I officially close the hearing.

END OF PUBLIC HEARING

Koehlmoos said that an ‘action’ item on the rules failed to get included in the agenda. He said that after speaking with the attorney general’s office, discussing issues with open meetings, and the fact that no action item on the rules was listed on the agenda, Koehlmoos made the recommendation that the public hearing be transcribed, that action on the rules be postpone until the April Board meeting, and then publish the Order of Designation. He said it’s up to the discretion of the Board on what to do. It was the consensus of the Board to wait until the April meeting to take action on the approval of the Erosion and Sediment Control Act rules.

SOUTH LOUP RECHARGE PROJECT REPORT & LPRBC UPDATE – JOHN ENGEL, HDR

South Loup Recharge Project

John Engel of HDR gave a presentation of the joint Lower Loup/Central Platte NRDs South Loup Recharge Project. He discussed the purpose and need of the study, the water budget elements of the study area, the range of alternatives considered to achieve the project purpose, the screened alternatives based on cost and feasibility, and the description of six screened alternatives and what the benefits would be.

Engel said the project area was north of the Platte River and Kearney in LLNRD Water Quantity Area 8 and CPNRD Groundwater Management Area 9 in northern Buffalo County and included stretches of the Wood and South Loup Rivers. He said the area had historic groundwater declines with little or no recovery. He said the study looked at potential sources of water and means to enhance aquifer recharge and/or augment streamflows in the area.

Engel said there was quite a bit of irrigated land in the study area and that well development had been steadily increasing since the 1950s. He said soil infiltration rates play a role in some of the water declines and that the area had low to very low infiltration potential. He said water declines have been occurring since the beginning of predevelopment, prior to 1981. Engel said there has been an average of 4-7 inches of water pumped in the study area with some recharge. He said the deficit amounts ranged from 50-60 acre-feet, and the area is about 5,000 acre-feet short on an annual basis, based on test pumping.

Engel said that 14 alternatives were looked at to evaluate if 10,000 acre-feet per year could be achieved on an annual basis to enhance recharge. Options considered were from local sources,

groundwater, Wood River, South Loup River, Middle Loup River, and Platte River. He said the alternatives were narrowed from 14 to 6 based on the average water budget deficit, and included Wood River Diversion/Recharge, South Loup River Diversion/Recharge, Gothenburg/B1 Delivery and Recharge, Middle Loup River Diversion, South Loup River Reservoir, and On-site Recharge Enhancements. Engel explained details on available flows and infrastructure needs/major cost items for each alternative.

The summary of estimated yields in acre-feet per year were:

Gothenburg/B1	1,500 - 2,000 AF
Wood River Diversion	2,000 - 3,000 AF
South Loup Reservoir	2,000 - 3,000 AF
On-site Runoff Recharge	4,000 - 5,000 AF
Middle Loup Diversion	8,000 - 10,000 AF
South Loup Diversion	8,000 - 10,000 AF

Engel said that the potential projects could cost from \$10 to \$20 million when pump stations and conveyance lines are involved.

Questions and discussion followed estimates on cost per acre-foot and effectiveness, irrigation efficiencies, water budget figures, energy charges based on benefits, declining inflows during irrigation season, pumping caps and funding, and the possibility of installing large volume wells south of the South Loup River.

Koehlmoos said the purpose of the study was to look for alternatives to see if there were outside sources of water that could be brought in to lessen the blow of any regulations that the NRDs would have to incorporate to bring those levels back to sustainable. He said the next phase of the study would be the costs involved to see if it was a reasonable expenditure of funds to bring outside water into the area.

Lower Platte River Basin Coalition

Engel gave an update on the Lower Platte River Basin Coalition and said that a plan had been drafted in looking at supplies and demands and available water throughout the lower Platte, using DNR's INSIGHT database. He said when DNR looked at the Loup River, they included everything below Genoa into the "lower Platte basin." He said that when issues would have to be managed from an NRD level, it would be problematic. He said DNR offered to break out the different areas in an effort to solve problems before they occurred. He said the report is being reviewed and Lower Loup NRD should have a copy to look at next week.

Lillian Creek

Engel reported that the project was moving along. He said that five borings were done along the centerline of the dam. He said suitable borrow material was being sought. He said permeability tests were being done to see if the area can hold water. He said surveying would be done the week of the 10th.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT

Hazard Mitigation Plan

Information and Education Coordinator Larry Schultz reported that the comment period for the plan ended on the February 17th, and that any modifications the participants had would need to be submitted to JEO. Lalit Jha said the plan will be submitted to NEMA next week and they will have 45 days to review it. After NEMA approves the plan, it will be sent to FEMA for final approval. The plan will then be good for five years.

Central Region Envirothon

Schultz said the Lower Loup and Central Platte NRDs hosted the Central Region Envirothon at Central Community College-Platte Campus the end of February. He said the top winners were St. Paul Team #1-first, qualifying for the state contest; Ord Team #1-second, qualifying for the state contest as a wild card; Aurora-third; and Shickley-fourth. He said the event was part of the District II and VII Ag Ed Contests. Schultz said that Burwell also qualified for the state contest as a wild card after competing in another region. He said the State Envirothon would be held at Wildcat Hills Recreation Area near Gering the end of April. He said the NRD would donate \$100 to the three teams which covers the cost of their entry fee. Schultz said the state contest winner would represent Nebraska at the North American competition at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland, the last week of July.

Schultz reported that Nebraska will be hosting the national contest in 2020 in Lincoln. He said it would be a big project which will include hosting about 53 teams of 4-5 students each, plus sponsors, teachers and volunteers. He said Nebraska will need to house, feed and transport everyone involved for 7 days. He said NARD has requested funds from NRDs. Gellermann said that many volunteers and funds are needed. Citta suggested that it would be helpful to know what type of volunteer help is needed. Koehlmoos said help would be needed to shuttle the individuals from place to place, and not so much out on the site.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

Variance Committee

Thoene reported that the Variance Committee met before the meeting to discuss for a second time the request by Larry and Nancy Johnson. He said the Johnsons had met the NRD requirements needed to transfer some irrigated acres from the Mud-Clear Creek Watershed to South Loup.

Thoene motioned, seconded by Smith, to approve the Johnson variance request to sell and transfer 20 groundwater irrigated acres and follow transfer rules already in place. Motion carried by roll call vote, all present voting yes.

Water Resources Committee*South Loup River Basin Plan*

Callan said that data collection and research continues in the South Loup River Basin. He said that locations have been sited for monitoring wells which have been budgeted for.

Adams motioned, seconded by Gellermann, to approve the Downey Well Service bid of \$71,105.25 to drill 5 new monitoring wells in the South Loup River Basin. Motion carried by roll call vote, all present voting yes.

E. coli Sampling

Callan reported that the South Loup River was impaired because of E. coli, so the Lower Loup NRD will be obtaining additional samples in the South Loup River basin once a week and after high-rain events. He said DEQ asked if Lower Loup would be interested in doing DNA sampling on the E. coli taken from the stream to see from what source the DNA came. He said DEQ offered to include it as part of their contribution to the project. Callan said the DNA portion would cost about \$8,000 and NRD's contribution would be 40%.

Smith motioned, seconded by Thoene, to approve E. coli sampling and the additional DNA analyses of the E. coli samples in the South Loup River Basin. Motion carried by roll call vote, all present voting yes.

Streamflow Analysis

Callan said that the streamflow analysis is also a part of the South Loup River Basin project. He said staff had talked to DNR and they agreed to obtain the streamflow quantities using Doppler technology. Callan said the NRD would purchase the equipment, DNR would operate the equipment and assemble the data. He said it would involve six measurements to establish a curve, install staff gages, and any time there was a high or low flow event, DNR would get readings. Callan said DNR would own the equipment and would be used for other projects.

Smith motioned, seconded by Eschliman, to approve the purchase of new monitoring equipment for approximately \$10,000 and enter into an interlocal agreement with DNR to carry out the agreement. Motion carried by roll call vote, all present voting yes.

Duncan East Update

Callan reported that the sheet piling had been removed from Ruby's Slough and the crossing has been taken out. He said that when the ground dries out, some grading work would be done to remove silt that had collected behind the sheet piling. He said that about 60 feet of dirt needs to be taken out of the bottom of the channel at the other end of the project.

ELM Update

Water Modeling Coordinator Tylr Naprstek said that the Phase III report of the ELM Study has passed through internal review with the USGS and will be sent to the constituents for review, including the involved NRDs, DNR and Conservation & Survey Division. He said this would bring closure to a study that began in 2005. Citta said it has been a useful project.

Cover Crop Groundwater Impact Study RFP

Callan said staff would like to put together an RFP for a study on the effects of cover crops and how they impact groundwater quantity and water quality. He gave a powerpoint presentation outlining some of the aspects of the 3-year study.

Callan said the study would replicate and analyze the effects to groundwater recharge, crop irrigation requirement, soil moisture-holding capacity, nutrient leaching, soil health, infiltration rates, soil type variations, and producer management programs. He said the study would also address the effect to groundwater modeling efforts.

Callan said that the study was planned to start in FY 2018 and that the primary focus area of the study would center on the South Loup/Central Platte Basin, with the secondary focus area being throughout the Lower Loup and Central Platte Basin. He said the Lower Loup and Central Platte NRDs would partner on the project.

Callan said the NRD would like to apply for a Sustainability Fund grant and the deadline is July. He said an RFP would determine how much the project would cost, and he thought it would be under \$250,000.

Citta said he had been hearing a lot about the effects of cover crops and felt that the NRD should pursue the study. Adams said more and more acres are being planted to cover crops. Gellermann said there is more than one possible benefit in planting cover crops and said a cover crop study would help determine which benefits may be the most efficient to work with.

Smith motioned, seconded by Boesch, to approve sending out Requests for Proposals (RFP) for a Cover Crop Groundwater Impact Study. Motion carried by roll call vote, all present voting yes.

PROGRAMS/PROJECTS COMMITTEEDavis Creek Phase II Bid Letting

Koehlmoos reported that six bids were received for Phase II of the Davis Creek Recreation Area project and the low bid was submitted by Rutjens Construction of Tilden for \$694,407.20. He said the contracts have been received by the NRD for signatures. He said a field tour has been conducted and Rutjens is ready to get started.

Kruse motioned, seconded by Loseke, to approve the bid of \$694,407.20 from Rutjens Construction of Tilden for construction of Phase II of the Davis Creek Recreation Area Project and authorize the General Manager's signature on the contract. Motion carried by roll call vote, all present voting yes.

Davis Creek Picnic Shelter Rental Fee

Koehlmoos said the Committee discussed a rental fee of \$45 per day for the picnic shelters at Davis Creek Recreation Area. He said the rental fee could be handled online by Reserve America. He said this would be a way to ensure that the shelters are reserved for large functions such as reunions, meetings, picnics and other gatherings. Callan said the rental fee wouldn't be for day-to-day use; just when large groups want to be sure the shelters are available for their function.

Eschliman motioned, seconded by Boesch, to approve the \$45 per day rental fee for the five picnic shelters at Davis Creek Recreation Area. Motion carried by roll call vote, all present voting yes.

North Loup River PP&I District – Hardenbrook Dam

Koehlmoos reported that during the flooding of 2010, the Hardenbrook Diversion Dam had some damages, and the North Loup River PP&I District sought financial assistance from the NRD for repairs. He said that one of the conditions the NRD added to its funding was that the irrigation district start the process of remapping all of their acres within the project. Koehlmoos said Harris had been helping them with that. Koehlmoos said the Committee felt that the progress was sufficient to make the payment to the irrigation district.

Rasmussen motioned, seconded by Thoene, to approve the payment of \$53,787 to the North Loup River Public Power and Irrigation District for LLNRD financial participation in the Hardenbrook Dam project. Motion carried by roll call vote, all present voting yes.

ENWRA Interlocal Agreement – Nebraska GeoCloud and AEM Data Integration Project

Koehlmoos reported that the GeoCloud/AEM mapping work, involving ten participating NRDs, had been completed in the Columbus area and the money had been received from the Sustainability Fund. He said that an interlocal agreement had been drawn up to work through the ENWRA group in making payments for the 40% that the NRDs owe toward the project.

Kruse motioned, seconded by Amsberry, to approve the General Manager's signature on the ENWRA Interlocal Agreement with Nebraska GeoCloud and Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) Data Integration involving Lower Loup NRD's portion of the costs of \$2,500 annually for three years. Motion carried by roll call vote. Directors voting yes: Adams, Amsberry, Bartak, Bauer, Boesch, Citta, Eschliman, Gellermann, Kauk, Kruse, Loseke, Lukaszewicz, Nelson, Petersen, Rasmussen, Smith, and Thede. Director not present during vote: Thoene. Directors absent: Anderson, Hadenfeldt, and Podolak.

Lillian Creek

Koehlmoos said that John Engel had discussed the progress being made on the Lillian Creek project earlier in the meeting.

Pibel Lake Playground Equipment

Koehlmoos reported that Naprstek was working on assembling cost estimates for the playground equipment at Pibel Lake. It was reported that the Lower Loup NRD had received a \$50,000 contribution to the project from Hope Peterson of Lincoln. A grant application to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission had been denied.

MANAGER'S REPORTNew Hires

Koehlmoos said there were no new hires.

Columbus Area Water Resources Assessment

Callan reported that staff had met with HDR, Flatwater, and Columbus officials regarding the potential ADM project. He said Pat Engelbert gave a presentation of the recharge project and that the information was well-received. He said that ADM has requested further information on the project.

NARD REPORTDirector's Report

Gellermann reported that the 2020 National Envirothon to be held in Nebraska will be a big undertaking and that money and many volunteers will be needed.

Koehlmoos said that NARD will be sending out for review by the NRDs the projected share of funding for the National Envirothon. Gellermann said the funds suggested by NARD are \$23,000 from each NRD over a 3-year period. He said NARD would like the NRDs to be present at the Envirothon to show what they're doing in the whole state. He said NARD would be contacting industries to help with funding.

Schultz said that NARD had sent out a list of people they wanted to be involved in the planning, and he said his name was on the list as a regional coordinator. He said he would possibly be gone a couple weeks or more during that time getting things organized.

Koehlmoos mentioned that he thought the funds from NRDs would be based on valuations.

Gellermann said that NARD would like to know if the NRDs are interested in participating or not. He said the budget showed that Lower Loup's contribution would be 5.9% of valuations.

Eschliman motioned, seconded by Smith, to support the 2020 National Envirothon project with a dollar amount to be determined at a later date. Motion carried by roll call vote. Directors voting yes: Adams, Amsberry, Bartak, Bauer, Boesch, Citta, Eschliman, Gellermann, Kauk, Kruse, Loseke, Lukasiewicz, Petersen, Rasmussen, Smith, Thede, and Thoene. Director not present during vote: Nelson. Directors absent: Anderson, Hadenfeldt, and Podolak.

Gellermann reported that the Risk Pool was on good ground.

Legislation

Koehlmoos reported that LB-98, a bill introduced to extend certain levy authority for natural resources districts, will probably have a second reading.

Eschliman said that an Emerald Ash Borer conference would be held in Omaha April 6-7, and the NARD Basin Tour would be in northeast Nebraska June 12-13.

Washington, DC, Conference

Lukasiewicz was interested in seeing how things were moving along in Washington since the new administration took office. Koehlmoos said the conference was good.

NRC REPORT

Commissioner's Report

Due to the absence of Hadenfeldt, there was no report.

RC&D REPORTS

Loup Basin RC&D

Rasmussen reported that the Cedar River and the upcoming tire collection were discussed at a meeting in Burwell. Thoene said he attended one of the recent meetings and said different projects were discussed.

PrairieLand RC&D

Gellermann said there was no report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, Citta declared the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Roster for attendance of this meeting and tally of votes cast on motions at this meeting are being filed with the official minutes of this meeting at the Lower Loup Natural Resources District's Headquarters Office, 2620 Airport Drive, Ord, Nebraska. Publication notification of this meeting was made via a newspaper in each county within the District. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held April 27, 2017, at 5:00 p.m., at the Headquarters Office in Ord, Nebraska.

Henry J. Thoene
Secretary