

PUBLIC HEARING ON LOWER LOUP NRD FY 2022 BUDGET

August 26, 2021

Ord, Nebraska

The Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District held a Public Hearing on the Lower Loup NRD FY 2022 Budget at the Headquarters Office, 2620 Airport Drive, Ord, Nebraska, on August 26, 2021. Notice of the public hearing was published in The Grand Island Independent, The Columbus Telegram, The Custer County Chief, The Ord Quiz, The Burwell Tribune, Albion News, The Nance County Journal, The Sherman County Times, The Phonograph-Herald, and The Greeley Citizen.

Vice Chairman Eschliman opened the Budget Hearing at 5:01 p.m.

Eschliman asked for comments from the public concerning the proposed budget. None were heard.

Eschliman asked for comments from the Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District. None were heard.

With no comments heard from either the public or Directors, Chairman Eschliman closed the public hearing at 5:02 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING TO SET THE FINAL TAX REQUEST FOR LOWER LOUP NRD FOR FY 2022

August 26, 2021

Ord, Nebraska

The Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District held a Public Hearing to Set the Final Tax Request for the Lower Loup NRD FY 2022 at the Headquarters Office, 2620 Airport Drive, Ord, Nebraska, on August 26, 2021. Notice of the public hearing was published in The Grand Island Independent, The Columbus Telegram, The Custer County Chief, The Ord Quiz, The Burwell Tribune, Albion News, The Nance County Journal, The Sherman County Times, The Phonograph-Herald, and The Greeley Citizen.

Vice Chairman Eschliman opened the Public Hearing to Set the Final Tax Request at 5:03 p.m.

Eschliman asked for comments from the public. None were heard.

Eschliman asked for comments from the Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District. None were heard.

With no comments heard from either the public or Directors, Chairman Eschliman closed the public hearing at 5:04 p.m.

MINUTES

LOWER LOUP NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

August 26, 2021

Ord, Nebraska

The August 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 August 26, 2021. Vice Chairman Eschliman called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Directors in attendance:

James C. Adams
Timothy E. Bartak
Beth Boesch
Jim Eschliman, Vice Chairman
Gary A. Kruse
Larry Mohrman
Alan D. Petersen
Gerald Smith
Henry J. Thoene, Secretary

Darwin B. Anderson
Robert L. Bauer
John Coffey
N. Richard Hadenfeldt
Matt Lukasiewicz
Todd Nitsch
Chad J. Podolak
Dean G. Thede
Rick Vlach

Directors absent:

Rollie D. Amsberry, Treasurer
Randy Kauk

Joseph L. Citta, Chairman

Staff in attendance:

Russell G. Callan, General Manager
Kim A. Lyons, Financial Secretary
Dell R. Harris, Water Resources Specialist
Cameron Conrad, Water Modeling Coord.
V. Anne Freeman, Water Programs Secretary

Irene F. Kreifels, Administrative Assistant
Richard L. Woollen, District Forester
Larry D. Schultz, I&E Coordinator
Lauren Keefe, Forestry Technician

Guest in attendance:

Bryce Bauer, LDC, NRCS, Ord

James Nelson, Cairo

VERIFICATION OF MEETING NOTICE AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Eschliman asked for verification of the meeting notice. General Manager Russell Callan stated that the agenda was current, and that the meeting notices were properly published in all newspapers, posted at the NRD Headquarters office in Ord, on the NRD website, and in the eight field office locations.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call was conducted. Directors present: Adams, Anderson, Bauer, Boesch, Coffey, Eschliman, Hadenfeldt, Kruse, Lukasiewicz, Mohrman, Nitsch, Petersen, Podolak, Smith, Thede, Thoene, and Vlach. Directors absent: Amsberry, Bartak, Citta, Kauk.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Eschliman stated that Directors Citta, Amsberry, and Kauk had asked to be excused and that Bartak would be arriving late.

Boesch motioned, seconded by Smith, to excuse absent Directors Citta, Amsberry, and Kauk. Motion carried by electronic vote. Directors voting yes: Adams, Anderson, Bauer, Boesch, Coffey, Eschliman, Hadenfeldt, Kruse, Lukasiewicz, Mohrman, Nitsch, Petersen, Podolak, Smith, Thede, Thoene, Vlach. Directors absent: Amsberry, Bartak, Citta, Kauk.

MINUTES

Chairman Eschliman asked for corrections and/or additions to the July 22, 2021, Board meeting minutes. None were heard.

Kruse motioned, seconded by Bauer, to approve the July 22, 2021, Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried by electronic vote. Motion carried by electronic vote. Directors voting yes: Adams, Anderson, Bauer, Boesch, Coffey, Eschliman, Hadenfeldt, Kruse, Lukasiewicz, Mohrman, Nitsch, Petersen, Podolak, Smith, Thede, Thoene, Vlach. Directors absent: Amsberry, Bartak, Citta, Kauk.

Bartak arrived at 5:08 p.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Russell Callan, General Manager, highlighted expenditures of \$36,907.42 to the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts for FY 2021-22 membership dues; \$15,706.46 to HDR and \$723,758.40 to Rutjens Construction Inc., both for work on the Columbus Project; \$3,624.66 to esri for redistricting software; \$19,500 to Osceola Implement for the new Kubota; \$395 to Thoene Farm Service Inc. for an auger for the post hole digger; \$6,858.22 to JEO for work on the Hazard Mitigation Plan; \$1,845 to JEO for work on the Drought Management Plan;

\$56,166.87 to JEO for work on the Mud Creek WFPO; \$21,280.50 to JEO for work on the Mira Creek WFPO; and \$3,000 to Scotia Fire and Rescue for assistance at Davis Creek.

Podolak asked about the cost-share for Sprunk. Callan stated it was for flowmeter cost-share on his new well. Mohrman asked if the cover crop cost-share payment to Bruce Mueller was a late or early application and wanted to know why the payment wasn't out along with the rest of them. Callan stated he would investigate it.

Boesch motioned, seconded by Vlach, to approve the August 26, 2021, Treasurer's Report.

Anderson asked if the payment to Scotia Fire and Rescue was in lieu of their equipment purchase request. Callan stated that it was.

Motion carried by electronic vote. Directors voting yes: Adams, Anderson, Bartak, Bauer, Boesch, Coffey, Eschliman, Hadenfeldt, Kruse, Lukasiewicz, Mohrman, Nitsch, Petersen, Podolak, Smith, Thede, Vlach. Director abstaining: Thoene. Directors absent: Amsberry, Citta, Kauk.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

LLNRD FY 2022 BUDGET

Action to Adopt the FY 2022 Budget

Eschliman presented Resolution FY2022-002: *Resolution to Adopt the Budget of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District for Fiscal Year 2021-2022*. The resolution follows.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE BUDGET OF THE LOWER LOUP NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

WHEREAS, the Lower Loup Natural Resources District, a political subdivision organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, said Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District has held two (2) Budget Work sessions to hear suggestions as to what reoccurring expenses and new projects the district will incur in the coming Fiscal Year 2021-2022; and

WHEREAS, said Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District has compiled a list of proposed funding sources to help cover those expenses and projects planned for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; and

WHEREAS, said Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District recommends a budget expenditure of \$19,655,782.02 for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; and

WHEREAS, said Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District has held a public hearing in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Sections 13-501 to 13-513, for the purpose to hear support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations from the general public and the Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District relating to their proposed budget and no dissenting comments were heard.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District assembled on this 26th day of August, 2021, adopt Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget as presented.

This Resolution was adopted at a regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District held on August 26, 2021, by electronic vote, on a motion by Director Smith, seconded by Director Kruse.

Electronic Vote: 17-Yes 1-No 3-Absent

Smith motioned, seconded by Kruse, to adopt Resolution FY2022-002: *Resolution to Adopt the Budget of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.* Motion carried by electronic vote. Directors voting yes: Adams, Anderson, Bartak, Bauer, Boesch, Eschliman, Hadenfeldt, Kruse, Lukasiewicz, Mohrman, Nitsch, Petersen, Podolak, Smith, Thede, Thoene, Vlach. Director voting no: Coffey. Directors Absent: Amsberry, Citta, Kauk.

FINAL TAX REQUEST FOR FY 2022

Action to Adopt Resolution to Approve Additional One Percent Increase

Eschliman presented Resolution FY2022-003: *Resolution to Approve Additional One Percent Increase.* The resolution follows.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL ONE PERCENT INCREASE

WHEREAS, the Lower Loup Natural Resources District has completed and approved their FY-2022 Budget; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held on August 26, 2021, as required by law, to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 13-519 provides a governmental unit may exceed the limit provided in subsection (1) of this section for a fiscal year by up to an additional one percent upon the affirmative vote of at least seventy-five percent of the members of the governing body constituting a quorum authorized to conduct business; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District has determined the one percent allowable increase is necessary for the financing of proposed District programs and projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District approves the adoption of the additional one percent increase allowed to their FY-2022 budget.

This Resolution was adopted at a regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District held on August 26, 2021, by electronic vote, on a motion by Director Vlach and seconded by Director Mohrman.

Electronic Vote 18-Yes 0-No 3-Absent

Vlach motioned, seconded by Mohrman, to adopt Resolution FY2022-003: *Resolution to Approve Additional One Percent Increase*. Motion carried by electronic vote, all present voting yes.

Action to Adopt Resolution to Set the Property Tax Request

Eschliman presented Resolution FY2022-004: *Resolution to Set the Property Tax Request*. The resolution follows.

**RESOLUTION
TO
SET THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST**

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1601.02 provides that the property tax request for the prior year shall be the property tax request for the current year for purposes of the levy set by the County Board of Equalization unless the Governing Body of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District passes by a majority vote a resolution setting the tax request at a different amount; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District that the property tax request for the current year be a different amount than the property tax request for the prior year;

WHEREAS, the total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 1 percent;

WHEREAS, the tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property, would be \$0.029010 per \$100 of assessed value;

WHEREAS, the Lower Loup Natural Resources District proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be \$0.030786 per \$100 of assessed value;

WHEREAS, based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of Lower Loup Natural Resources District will exceed last year's by 7 percent;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Governing Body of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District, by a majority vote, resolves that:

1. The 2021-2022 property tax request be set at \$5,026,444.61.
2. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the Platte County Clerk on or before October 13, 2021.
3. Any levy which is not in compliance with this section and section 77-1601 shall be construed as an unauthorized levy under section 77-1606.

This Resolution was adopted at a regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District held on August 26, 2021, by electronic vote, on a motion by Director Petersen, seconded by Director Thede.

Electronic Vote 17-Yes 1-No 3-Absent

Peterson motioned, seconded by Thede, to Adopt Resolution FY2022-004: *Resolution to Set the Property Tax Request.*

Coffey asked about the increase in tax asking and why valuations went up and the NRD is still asking for more levy. He asked if the NRD spent all of what they received last year or if it was in the bank. Callan stated that the budget still reflects projects on the books that have carried over from last fiscal year. He explained that nothing was taken out this year. Boesch expressed

concern and stated that the Board needs to have a better idea of the total budget numbers. Coffey stated that if just the NRD goes up 6% it is minor, but if everyone else goes up 6% also, that would be a large increase on taxes for everyone. Podolak stated that if the NRD is participating in proper projects, he thinks it would be fine or else maybe the Board should look closer at what they are saying yes to if they don't want to increase the budget.

Callan discussed the tax asking numbers from the last five years. Bauer asked why the tax asking is lower than the budget increase percentage. Callan stated that some of it has to do with grants. He explained that all potential grants are included as budgeted income for the year. The budgeted grant income is not added to the tax asking. Callan stated that the Columbus project was still in the budget numbers but should be finished up and off the budget by next year.

Bauer asked if the Board wanted to cut the budget if they would have to cut out some projects. Callan stated that the budget can be cut down; however, if something comes up that the Board wants to do, the Board will have to do a revised budget later. He stated that right now the NRD was putting aside money for all the flooding and other projects that were being reviewed.

Boesch asked what was included in the total resources numbers. Callan stated that the number reflects all cash assets and all projected income, including the grants the NRD receives. Eschliman stated that it was important for the Board members to review the numbers during the budget meetings and see where cuts could be made.

Bartak asked that if, in the future, a summary could be presented in July to see what the total numbers are projected to be. Callan stated that next year he would have something put together. Coffey stated it was hard to know what the final numbers and valuations would be and asked about the deadline for valuations. Callan stated the county treasurers must have valuations out by August 20th so that puts the NRD in a time crunch for advertisement requirements.

Motion carried by electronic vote. Directors voting yes: Adams, Anderson, Bartak, Bauer, Coffey, Eschliman, Hadenfeldt, Kruse, Lukasiewicz, Mohrman, Nitsch, Petersen, Podolak, Smith, Thede, Thoene, Vlach. Director voting no: Boesch. Directors absent: Amsberry, Citta, Kauk.

Action to Adopt Resolution to Set the Levy for FY 2022

Eschliman presented Resolution FY2022-005: *Resolution to Set the Levy for the Lower Loup Natural Resources District for Fiscal Year 2022*. The resolution follows.

**RESOLUTION
TO
SET LEVY FOR THE LOWER LOUP NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2022**

WHEREAS, the Lower Loup Natural Resources District has completed work on and published their Budget for Fiscal Year 2022; and

WHEREAS, said Budget calls for a property tax \$5,026,444.61; and

WHEREAS, the valuation reported to the Lower Loup Natural Resources District by sixteen (16) County Assessors within the District, shows a total valuation of \$16,326,977,392.00; and

WHEREAS, the District has by public notice stated that it will set its own levy at a figure different from what the Platte County Clerk established;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the levy for Fiscal Year 2022 be established by the District at \$0.030786 per \$100.00 of valuation as is calculated by dividing the property tax requirement by the total valuation.

This Resolution was adopted at a regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District held on August 26, 2021, by electronic vote, on a motion by Director Nitsch, seconded by Director Anderson.

Electronic Vote 17-Yes 1-No 3-Absent

Nitsch motioned, seconded by Anderson, to adopt Resolution FY2022-005: *Resolution to Set the Levy for the Lower Loup Natural Resources District for Fiscal Year 2022. Motion carried by electronic vote. Directors voting yes: Adams, Anderson, Bartak, Bauer, Coffey, Eschliman, Hadenfeldt, Kruse, Lukasiewicz, Mohrman, Nitsch, Petersen, Podolak, Smith, Thede, Thoene, Vlach. Director voting no: Boesch. Directors absent: Amsberry, Citta, Kauk.*

FORESTER'S REPORT

Richard Woollen, District Forester, reported that Bessey Client's Day would be coming up and tours would be given of the facility to show what conservation tree planting looked like. He invited the directors to attend. He stated that Bessey had completed a new greenhouse that would be ready for viewing.

Woollen also reported that the Nebraska Forest Service held a virtual windbreak short course and hoped that they would be able to hold a field session later this year. He stated that, currently, UNL regulation states that outdoor gatherings of 50 or less participants can be held without masks required. Woollen stated that he and Keefe had been looking at windbreak renovations for next year and that Keefe had been assisting with getting the plans done.

Boesch asked about the emerald ash borer and what he recommended be done. Woollen stated that if directors find any to contact him and he would see what the options are on a case-

by-case basis. Adams stated he had gotten a lot of reports of blue spruce dying. Woollen stated there had been several spruce dying due to weather and other environmental conditions.

NRCS REPORT

Bryce Bauer, NRCS, Ord, reported that Trent Findley is the new soil conservationist in the St. Paul office. He said staff has been reviewing CSP payments for 2021. He also reported that Kraig Beck is retiring from the Spalding office so staff from Burwell will be assisting there as needed.

Bauer reported that all employees of USDA and NRCS must certify their vaccination status as well as any partners that work in the office or may have to undergo regular testing. He stated they are still operating at 50% staff in the offices with no visitors.

INFORMATION & EDUCATION REPORT

2021 NCF Envirothon

Larry Schultz, I&E Coordinator, reported that Nebraska hosted the virtual NCF Envirothon and that Dave Ference, Ord High Ag Instructor, and Brody Darnell, student, were present to give a report on the Envirothon.

Ference stated he felt that the Envirothon was the best competition ever produced and included forestry, water, soil, wildlife and basically everything else the NRD was involved with. He expressed great appreciation to the NRD for support and training for the competition. He reported that there were teams from 35 states, 4 from China, and 3 from Canada, that participated virtually. Ference stated that participation virtually was harder than in person; however, his team did a great job.

Darnell added that virtual competition was not what they were looking forward to but thought that it was a great experience and was great opportunity for all students to get involved. Ference stated that Schultz acted as the proctor for Ord's team as he, being the instructor, was not allowed in the room when the presentation was given. Ference again expressed gratitude for the support of the NRD.

Nebraska State Fair

Schultz reported that the Nebraska State Fair started tomorrow and would run through next week and that he would be in the NRD booth on September 2nd doing an activity on "Crumpled Watersheds".

Husker Harvest Days

Schultz reported that Husker Harvest Days would be held September 14-16 and that some directors had signed up to help.

NARD Annual Conference

Schultz reported that the NARD Annual Conference would be held September 26-28 and that a sign-up sheet would be passed around for those wishing to attend. He also reported that the Ag Instructor from St. Paul would be receiving an award this year and that Leon Koehlmoos would be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Schultz also reported that the new issues of the *In The Loup* newsletter had been mailed out.

Kruse asked if there was an agenda available for the conference yet and Schultz stated that there was not but that he would send it out once he received it.

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Callan stated that Tylr Naprstek, Assistant General Manager, was not present for the meeting and that the Board could read through his report.

Discussion was held on the high algae count in Calamus Lake and who controlled the water levels of the lakes.

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Smith stated the Committee discussed Nebraska groundwater quality, NDEE livestock agronomic rates, the Nature Conservancy BMP, the Columbus Recharge Project, and infrared photography. He reported that the Committee didn't make any recommendations for action this month.

Callan stated that nitrate presentations were sent out and that he had met with Senator Bosselman and had a good discussion with him.

Callan also reported that pipe installation was mostly complete for the Columbus project, and they were starting work on the inlet structure on the canal. He stated that Sargent Drilling should be drilling the well within the next few weeks.

PROGRAMS/PROJECTS COMMITTEE

Loup Public Power Fishing Pier Participation

Kruse reported that the Loup Public Power District had requested participation in putting in two fishing piers.

Kruse motioned, seconded by Boesch, to approve participation in the Loup Public Power Fishing Piers for 20% not to exceed \$70,400.

Lukasiewicz asked if Loup Public Power would be going after other grants and if there was a chance of the NRD contribution being smaller. Kruse stated it was a possibility but unlikely. Coffey stated he thought \$70,400 was a lot and he didn't think it was right that some trails get smaller percentages. Kruse stated they followed the participation policy. Mohrman stated that they started with one pier and decided on two. Callan stated that the piers are the same design as those installed at Pibel Lake. It was discussed that Loup Public Power had approached the City, County and several others for assistance.

Motion carried by electronic vote. Directors voting yes: Anderson, Boesch, Eschliman, Hadenfeldt, Kruse, Mohrman, Nitsch, Petersen, Podolak, Smith, Thede, Thoene, Vlach. Directors Voting No: Bartak, Bauer, Coffey, Lukasiewicz. Director abstaining: Adams. Directors absent: Amsberry, Citta, Kauk.

Scotia Fire & Rescue – Davis Creek UTV

Kruse reported that Scotia Fire and Rescue has requested assistance with a UTV purchase. Kruse stated that there were many fire departments that help out in a lot of ways and the Committee was reluctant to assist because it may cause several others to come with similar requests. Adams asked if there was a UTV available for use at Davis Creek. Callan stated the rescue team had been leaving theirs there through the summer and taking it back during the off season and that the camp host had a golf cart to utilize. Kruse reported that the recommendation was to deny the UTV request and donate to the department in lieu of participation.

Kruse motioned, seconded by Adams, to deny the request from the Scotia Fire and Rescue for participation in the purchase of a UTV. Motion carried by electronic vote. Directors voting yes: Adams, Anderson, Bartak, Bauer, Boesch, Coffey, Eschliman, Hadenfeldt, Kruse, Lukasiewicz, Mohrman, Nitsch, Petersen, Podolak, Thede, Thoene, Vlach. Director abstaining: Smith. Directors absent: Amsberry, Citta, Kauk.

Cornhusker Public Power – Pibel Easement

Kruse reported that Cornhusker Public Power was requesting power line easements at Pibel Lake. Callan would work out the details with them and have more information later.

Sargent Flood Project

Kruse reported that the FEMA BRIC grant application had been denied, and Sargent was seeking other funding sources. Boesch asked if there was a reason for denial. Callan stated it was eligible; however, the fund ran out of money before getting to their project. Callan stated they plan on applying again and were looking at any other possible options. He said Olsson was looking to see if the project could be broken into several smaller projects.

North Loup Flood Mitigation

Callan stated that there was a public meeting on the WFPO process. JEO was present and discussed the proposals. He stated there was a lot of discussion on the proposed dam and high groundwater levels. There would be further discussion and meetings in the future.

FEMA Buyout Project

It was reported that the buyout was moving forward and there would be a meeting coming up sometime in September. Callan stated that the county has approached with a water trail idea.

Thalheim Property

Callan stated the attorney was working on an agreement for the property transfer.

St. Edward Channel Cleanout

Callan would contact St. Edward and explain some of the options for channel cleanout.

Ravenna Hike/Bike Trail

Kruse reported that Ravenna was present to discuss the Hike/Bike Trail they were building. It was explained that the trail would be rock and, in the past, the Board had only participated with concrete trails. It was reported that management had talked with other NRDs, and those districts provided participation in rock trails in the past. Kruse stated that the Committee voted to participate. Mohrman stated that they had a good maintenance plan and other funding available to assist with the project.

Kruse motioned, seconded by Mohrman, to participate in the Ravenna Hike/Bike Trail at 5% not to exceed \$15,000.

Podolak asked if the Board was comfortable with 5% on a trail and 20% on the docks and if the formula was good to follow in this situation. Kruse stated he was confident in the percentages used and added that other trails get 10% but this was reduced to 5% because it was an eight-foot-wide trail with rock instead of concrete. Thede added that their presentation was good and they had a lot of financial participation, so there was an increase in what was being done.

Motion carried by electronic vote. Directors voting yes: Anderson, Bartak, Boesch, Coffey, Eschliman, Hadenfeldt, Kruse, Lukasiewicz, Mohrman, Nitsch, Petersen, Podolak, Smith, Thede, Thoene, Vlach. Directors voting no: Adams, Bauer. Directors absent: Amsberry, Citta, Kauk.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Potential Change in NRD Board Meeting Start Time

Callan stated there was discussion last month about moving the Board meeting start time for future meetings.

Boesch motioned to start all future meetings at 4:00 p.m. Motion died for lack of second.

Kruse asked how it would affect other Board members. Mohrman stated that winter months would be better than all year. Podolak suggested starting in November then going back to 5:00 p.m. in the spring. Mohrman stated that November through March would be best.

Kruse motioned, seconded by Mohrman, to change the Board meeting start time to 4:00 p.m. during November through March and to start at 5:00 p.m. during April through October. Motion carried by electronic vote. Directors voting yes: Adams, Anderson, Bauer, Boesch, Coffey, Hadenfeldt, Kruse, Lukasiewicz, Mohrman, Nitsch, Petersen, Podolak, Smith, Thede, Thoene, Vlach. Director voting no: Bauer. Director abstaining: Eschliman. Directors Absent: Amsberry, Citta, Kauk.

Lukasiewicz asked about the figuring of the years of service for the awards. Callan stated that it can be reviewed.

Participation in Joint Grant with CPNRD for Burn Crew

Callan stated that he had been approached to participate in a joint grant with Central Platte NRD for a burn crew. He stated that they were asking for \$20,000 participation from Lower Loup NRD.

Smith motioned, seconded by Adams, to approve participation in a joint grant with Central Platte NRD for a burn crew. Motion carried by electronic vote, all present voting yes.

Litigation Update

Callan stated that the instream flow application was being reviewed by Game and Parks and that Baird Holm was working on the Platte Republican diversion.

New Hires

Callan reported that Alan Bartels was hired as Information Specialist and would be starting on September 13th.

Non-action Reports

Waters of the U.S. was discussed. Callan stated that the NRD normally participated through other organizations that we work with including NWRA, GMDA, and NARD.

NARD REPORT

Eschliman reported that he went to the Envirothon and judged the final three teams. He said that Butch Koehlmoos would be receiving an award this year and stated that Schultz had

sent out information on the golf and shooting events for those who wanted to participate at the upcoming conference.

NRC REPORT

Hadenfeldt reported that there was a meeting last week and that 17 projects had been submitted, but they had not been evaluated by DNR yet. He stated the next meeting would be November 10th. He reported that there has been discussion regarding the Resource Development Fund money being redistributed for use on a public education area. He also reported that Citta had been appointed to the scoring committee.

RC&D REPORT

Adams reported that the RC&D was still not having meetings. He stated that the restrooms in the Burwell park were completed, and that work was being done on the new Vets building in Burwell.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

Podolak asked about the September 9th drought tournament. Callan stated that there was a list of stakeholders who were invited, and they would be going through different scenarios on how to deal with drought.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, Chairman Eschliman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:15 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 September 23, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., at the Headquarters Office in Ord, Nebraska.

Henry J. Thoene
Secretary