

**Programs, Projects, and Operations
Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2024**

A meeting of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District’s Programs, Projects, and Operations Subcommittee was held at the Natural Resources Center, 8901 South 154th Street, Omaha, NE, on July 9, 2024. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Fred Conley at 4:00 p.m.

QUORUM CALL: Quorum call was taken. The following subcommittee members were in attendance.

Subcommittee Members Present	Subcommittee Members Absent	Other Directors Present	Others Present
Fred Conley, Chairman		Patrick Bonnett	John Winkler
Tim Fowler, Vice-Chairman		Larry Bradley	Amanda Grint
Ted Japp		Phil Davidson	Brent Meyer, Legal Counsel
Rich Tesar		Josh Henningsen	Nicole Gust
Jim Thompson		Tim McCormick	Ian Ghanavati
		Kevyn Sopinski	Mike Sotak, Houston Engineering
			Matt Pillard, HDR
			Other Staff Members

- * Absent
- ** Alternate Voting Member

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

- **It was moved by Director Tesar and seconded by Director Thompson that the agenda be adopted.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-yea.

Voting Yea: Fowler, Japp, Tesar, Thompson, Conley
 Voting Nay: None
 Abstaining: None
 Absent: None

PROOF OF PUBLICATION: Public notice of the meeting was posted at all District offices and published in the Omaha World-Herald on July 3, 2024. The proof of publication affidavit is included with the file copy of these minutes.

1. Amendment No. 1 with Houston Engineering for Platte River Obstruction Removal – John Winkler and Mike Sotak, Houston Engineering:

General Manager John Winkler reminded the Directors that in October 2023, the Board approved a professional services agreement with Houston Engineering, and reviewed the project. John stated that the proposed contract amendment for additional design and permitting costs will be covered by the CDBG-DR grant and Papio NRD’s contribution remains set at \$249,238. John and Mike Sotak, Houston Engineering, answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Fowler and seconded by Director Thompson that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed Amendment No. 1 with Houston Engineering, Inc. for the Platte River Obstruction Removal Project in an amount not to exceed \$381,916.00, bringing the total contract not to exceed amount to \$631,154.00, subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approval as to form by District Legal Counsel.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-yea.

Voting Yea: Fowler, Japp, Tesar, Thompson, Conley
 Voting Nay: None
 Abstaining: None
 Absent: None

2. Adoption of District Program 17.34 – In-Lieu Fee Program – Ian Ghanavati:

Project Manager Ian Ghanavati briefed the Directors on the In-Lieu Fee Program stating it provided additional mitigation options for Section 404 permitting, allow the District to sell advance credits at a price set by the Board, and fund the design, construction, operation and maintenance of larger mitigation bank sites. Ian provided further program information and answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Thompson and seconded by Director Fowler that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the District adopt District Program 17.34, In-Lieu Fee Program, in accordance with the proposed criteria and program guidelines and incorporate District Program 17.34 into the Papio NRD Directors Policy Manual.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-yea.

Voting Yea: Fowler, Japp, Tesar, Thompson, Conley
 Voting Nay: None
 Abstaining: None
 Absent: None

3. Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance Joint Funding Agreement for the USGS Streamgage Trend Analysis – Ian Ghanavati:

Project Manager Ian Ghanavati reviewed the proposed USGS Streamgage Trend Analysis with the Directors and stated it would be completed over a period of two years. Ian let the Directors know that the District’s \$9,980 cost share will be billed in two parts, \$5,843 in FY25 and \$4,137 in FY26. All questions were addressed.

- **It was moved by Director Tesar and seconded by Director Fowler that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the General Manager be authorized to execute the attached Joint Funding Agreement for the USGS Streamgage Trend Analysis with the Partners defined in the Agreement for the total amount of \$9,980, subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approval as to form by District Legal Counsel.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-yea.

Voting Yea: Fowler, Japp, Tesar, Thompson, Conley
 Voting Nay: None
 Abstaining: None
 Absent: None

4. Papio NRD Policy Manual Appendix K Revisions – Amanda Grint:

Assistant General Manager Amanda Grint let the Directors know that District staff have consulted with USGS to confirm the degradation and increased flows at river stages for the Elkhorn River. Amanda stated that closure at stage height of four feet is safer than the policy's current closure stage height of five feet. Amanda, John Winkler, General Manager and Bill Warren, O&M/Park Superintendent, answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Tesar and seconded by Director Thompson that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the proposed revisions to the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District Directors Policy Manual, Appendix K, be adopted and be incorporated into the District Policy Manual.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-yea.

Voting Yea: Fowler, Japp, Tesar, Thompson, Conley
Voting Nay: None
Abstaining: None
Absent: None

ADJOURNMENT: Being no further business, the meeting adjourned by acclamation at 4:28 p.m.