

**Programs, Projects, and Operations  
Subcommittee Meeting Minutes  
October 8, 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 154<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, NE, on October 8, 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		Tim McCormick	Nicole Gust
Jim Thompson			Philip Paitz
			Justin Novak
			Martin Cleveland
			Ian Ghanavati
			Eric Williams
			Lori Laster
			Tyler Martin, NDNR
			Dan Lightbody, Olsson
			Josh Atkinson, Olsson
			Tommy Schwab, K2 Construction
			Travis Sondgeroth, K2 Construction
			Jesse Lanz, Valley Corp.
			Other Staff Members

- \* Absent
- \*\* Alternate Voting Member

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

- It was moved by Director Fowler and seconded by Director Tesar 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 October 3, 2024. The proof of publication affidavit is included with the file copy of these minutes.

**1. Update on the Integrated Management Plan – Philip Paitz and Tyler Martin, NDNR:**

Project Manager Philip Paitz and Tyler Martin, NDNR, presented the annual Integrated Management Plan Review and answered Directors questions. No action was taken by the Subcommittee.

**2. Access Agreement with Bellevue Rod and Gun Club for the Platte River Obstruction Removal Project [Executive Session – if needed] – John Winkler:**

General Manager John Winkler briefed the Directors on the District’s work to prepare for the Platte River Obstruction Removal. John told the Directors that the NRD has been awarded Federal Grant which will pay for 90% of the obstruction removal costs, and reminded the Directors that last month the Board approved an ILA to pay for the 10% local match required by the funding agreement. John broke down the proposed easement agreement with Bellevue Rod and Gun Club needed to access the obstruction and answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Thompson and seconded by Director Fowler that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed Access Agreement with the Bellevue Rod and Gun Club to provide the required access to the project area; with any changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and 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

**3. Agreement with Lower Platte North NRD for Platte River Cameras – Amanda Grint:**

Assistant General Manager Amanda Grint briefed the Directors on the USGS installed cameras along the Platte River and the valuable information they provide on ice breakup and movement through the Platte system. Amanda stated that the original agreement was for three years, and a new agreement is proposed for five years to maintain these sites. Amanda broke down the proposed cost share agreement and answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Tesar and seconded by Director Fowler that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed Interlocal Agreement with the Lower Platte North NRD, Dodge County, and the City of Fremont for the continued maintenance of the Platte River Cameras project, 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. Modification to USGS Agreement for Platte River Cameras – Amanda Grint:**

Assistant General Manager Amanda Grint followed up on her previous item stating that a ninth camera is proposed for the Platte River at Louisville, and that the USGS has modified the agreement to include

installation and maintenance of the Louisville site. Amanda broke down the costs that would be added to the original agreement and answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Thompson and seconded by Director Japp that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed Modification to the USGS Agreement for the addition of the Louisville camera to FY25 for the Platte River Camera project, 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

**5. Contract with HDR for Washington County Rural Water Expansion Design – Justin Novak:**

Project Manager Justin Novak reminded the Directors that in July 2023 the Board approved the preliminary study of WCRW #2 and reviewed the results of the study. Justin stated that the proposed contract is for the final design, permitting, funding, applications, and bidding services required for expansion, and that this project is a joint effort between the District and the City of Blair. Since HDR is being used by both parties, staff requests that policy 15.2 Purchasing-Professional Services be waived in Request for Proposals. Justin answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Japp and seconded by Director Fowler that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to waive District Policy 15.2 Purchasing-Professional Services and execute the proposed Final Design and Bidding Services Agreement with HDR for the Washington County Rural Water #2 Expansion Project with a cost not to exceed \$86,700.00, 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

**6. Pigeon Jones Creek Dam 11 Decommissioning Bids – Martin Cleveland:**

Construction Engineer Martin Cleveland briefed the Directors on the history of Pigeon Jones Creek Dam No. 11 and how it was built as a road structure and was not designed to have a submerged principal spillway or partially submerged backslope. Martin informed the Directors that to resolve the submerged PJ11 outlet situation this structure needed to be replaced. Martin reviewed the bid process for the project and stated that the apparent low bid of \$201,607.78 was submitted by Detlefsen Construction. Martin and Dan Lightbody, Olsson Engineering, answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Fowler and seconded by Director Japp that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute a contract with Detlefsen Construction in the amount of \$201,607.78 for the construction of the Pigeon Jones Creek Dam 11 Decommissioning Project, 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

**7. Renewal of USGS Maintenance Agreement for Papio Floodwarning System Gages – Ian Ghanavati:**

Project Manager Ian Ghanavati presented the proposed 2025 Joint Funding Agreement with USGS for the annual renewal of the Papillion Creek Watershed flood warning system maintenance contract. He stated that USGS will cost share \$16,970 through their Cooperative Matching Funds and \$19,990 through the Federal Priority Stream gages Program. The District cost share totals \$142,685 for operation and maintenance of the gages. Ian reviewed the cost breakdown, and the type of data collected from the different gage stations and answered Directors questions.

- **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 proposed Joint Funding Agreement with the USGS in the amount of \$142,685 in District funds for the operation of the District’s floodwarning system for 2025, subject to such other terms and conditions as the General Manager deems necessary and District Legal Counsel approves as to form.**

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

**8. WP-1 Construction Bids – Ian Ghanavati:**

Project Manager Ian Ghanavati provided the history of WP-1 and reviewed the bid process for construction of the proposed project. Ian stated that by completing a due diligence investigation and upon Olsson Engineering’s recommendation, Staff is recommending to award to the second lowest bidder, Valley Corporation. Travis Sondgeroth and Tommy Schwab, K2 Construction, addressed the Board and stated that K2 Construction is capable of completing the project within the proposed schedule and budget, has a Bid Bond for this project, and will provide a Performance Bond as well. Travis and Tommy provided the Directors with recommendations and stated that Tommy would be assigned as the project’s manager. They addressed all Directors questions. There was further discussion between Directors and Staff.

- **It was moved by Director Tesar and seconded by Director Fowler that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute a construction contract with Valley Corporation for the West Papillion Regional Basin 1 (WP-1) project in an amount not to exceed \$11,609,856.87, subject to such other terms and conditions as the General Manager deems necessary and District Legal Counsel approves as to form.**
- **It was moved by Director Fowler and seconded by Director Tesar that the Subcommittee go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the possible litigation of the WP-1 Construction Bids.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-yea. The Subcommittee went into Executive Session at 5:23 p.m.

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

- **It was moved by Director Fowler and seconded by Director Tesar that the Subcommittee come out of Executive Session.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-yea. The Subcommittee came out of Executive Session at 5:40 p.m.

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

An amended motion was discussed to execute a construction contract with the lowest bidder, K2 Construction.

- **It was moved by Director Japp and seconded by Director Fowler that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute a construction contract with the lowest bidder K2 Construction for the West Papillion Regional Basin 1 (WP-1) project in an amount not to exceed \$11,392,223.16, subject to such other terms and conditions as the General Manager deems necessary and District Legal Counsel approves as to form.**

Roll call was taken on the amended motion. The amended motion carried on a vote of 4-yea and 1-nay.

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

Roll call was taken on the original motion as amended. The amended motion carried on a vote of 4-yea and 1-nay.

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

#### **9. FY 2025 Long Range Implementation Plan (LRIP) – Eric Williams:**

Project Manager Eric Williams presented the proposed FY 2025 Long Range Implementation Plan (LRIP) and explained that the LRIP is required by state statute for the District to be eligible for certain state cost share programs. He reviewed the various planned programs and projects in FY 2025 and projections for the next five fiscal years. Eric answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Thompson and seconded by Director Fowler that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the proposed Fiscal Year 2025 Long Range Implementation Plan be approved.**

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

**10. Memorandum of Understanding with Omaha Public Works for 120th Street Bridge Remapping – Lori Laster:**

Project Manager Lori Laster briefed the Directors on the history of the 120<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge and JEO's contract with the District to prepare an application for a Letter of Map Revision due to a new bridge that was constructed after FEMA finished modeling the Big Papillion Creek, but before the preliminary flood maps were issued. Lori stated that after discussing concerns about the original model, and the additional data from the May 2024 flood event, Staff, JEO, and Omaha Public Works staff all agreed that a 2-dimensional model would be the best fit for this area. The original contract amount was \$51,340. To update the model and complete the application, JEO has requested an additional \$24,870 bringing the total contract amount to \$76,210. Lori told the Directors that the proposed Memorandum of Understanding outlines the amendment tasks and the cost share from Omaha Public Works in the amount of \$12,870. Lori answered Directors questions.

- **It was moved by Director Fowler and seconded by Director Tesar that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the General Manager be authorized to execute the Memorandum of Understanding with Omaha Public Works to cost share on the 120th Street Remapping project. 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

**ADJOURNMENT:** Being no further business, the meeting adjourned by acclamation at 5:53 p.m.