

**Programs, Projects, and Operations
Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
December 10, 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 December 10, 2024. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Fred Conley at 4:07 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		Phil Davidson	Amanda Grint
Ted Japp		Zachary Irvine	Brent Meyer, Legal Counsel
Rich Tesar		Tim McCormick	Nicole Gust
Jim Thompson			Lori Laster
			Ian Ghanavati
			Eric Williams
			Philip Paitz
			Other Staff Members

- * Absent
- ** Alternate Voting Member

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

- It was moved by Director Japp 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 December 5, 2024. The proof of publication affidavit is included with the file copy of these minutes.

1. Interlocal Agreements between the Papio-Missouri River NRD and Nebraska Game & Parks Commission – Lori Laster and Ian Ghanavati:

Project Manager Lori Laster let the Directors know that the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission has awarded the District money to assist with the construction of fishery enhancements for both the WP-2 and WP-4 Projects. This award provides 75% federal cost share for eligible expenses, with the District providing 25% as the local match. Lori and Project Manager Ian Ghanavati answered Directors questions.

a. **WP-2 Project**

- **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 agreement between the District and Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for 75 percent funding for the WP-2 Project through the Federal Sport Fish Restoration Program in the amount of \$325,000.**

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

b. **WP-4 Project**

- **It was moved by Director Fowler and seconded by Director Tesar that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute the agreement between the District and Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for 75 percent funding for the WP-4 Project through the Federal Sport Fish Restoration Program in the amount of \$350,000.**

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. **Beltline Trail Phase 3A Construction Bids – Eric Williams:**

Project Manager Eric Williams briefed the Directors on the history of the Beltline Trail to date. Eric stated that construction bids for Phase 3A were opened on December 3, 2024 with the low bid coming from Charles Vrana and Son Construction Company in the amount of \$2,075,224.78. Eric provided a letter from EGA recommending the award of the contract to Vrana and 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 construction contract with Charles Vrana and Son Construction Company in the amount of \$2,075,224.78 for the Beltline Trail Phase 3A 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

3. **Lied Bridge Debris Removal Bids – Eric Williams**

Project Manager Eric Williams reminded the Directors of the District’s collaboration with LPSNRD and NGPC to construct the MoPac Trail and the subsequent amendment to this ILA in September 2024 to

remove debris following multiple high-water events. Bids were opened on December 3 for debris removal with the low bid being from Final Grade Construction in the amount of \$83,500. Eric 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 a construction contract with Final Grade Construction & Conservation, LLC in the amount of \$83,500 for Lied Bridge Debris Removal 2024, 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. Amendment to Lower Platte River Drought Consortium Interlocal Agreement – Philip Paitz:

Project Manager Philip Paitz reviewed purpose and funding of the Lower Platte River Consortium formed in August 2016 by the District, the Lower Platte South NRD (LPSNRD), Lower Platte North NRD (LPNNRD), City of Lincoln, Metropolitan Utilities District (MUD), and Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR). The Consortium’s study of the lower Platte sub-basin water supply has led to the development of the Drought Contingency Plan at the end of 2019. Philip stated that the purpose of the proposed amendment was to extend the agreement for an additional five years and to change the name of the group to the “Lower Platte River Drought Consortium.” Philip answered all questions.

- **It was moved by Director Tesar and seconded by Director Thompson that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed Lower Platte River Consortium Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Lower Platte South NRD, Lower Platte North NRD, City of Lincoln, Metropolitan Utilities District, and Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, 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 NB Harty for Ice Jam Explosive Services – Ian Ghanavati:

Project Manager Ian Ghanavati gave the history of the District’s involvement with the Platte River Ice Jam Removal Interlocal Cooperation Agreement and reviewed the proposed agreement between NB Harty and the District for explosive services. Ian went over potential pricing scenarios and along with Assistant General Manager Amanda Grint, answered all 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 waive the purchasing policy 15.1 and execute the proposed contract for explosive services with NB Harty for Platte River Ice Jam Removal, subject to such other terms and conditions as the General Manager determines necessary and 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

ADJOURNMENT: Being no further business, the meeting adjourned by acclamation at 4:38 p.m.