

### **WP-1**

Director Thompson and Director Bradley recommend to the Subcommittee that it recommends that the West Papillion Regional Basin Number 1 be named Marlin Petermann Recreation Area per District Policy 16.7—District Property and that the NRD Management also seeks recommendations from the City of Omaha and the general public for NRD Board consideration prior to the next regular scheduled Board Meeting. "In conjunction with the Nebraska State Historical Society, the PMRNRD will provide an appropriate marker recognizing the accomplishments of Marlin Petermann.

### **WP-2**

Director Thompson and Director Bradley recommend to the Subcommittee that it recommends that the West Papillion Regional Basin Number 2 be named Sergeant Mad Bear Recreation Area per District Policy 16.7—District Property and that the NRD Management also seeks recommendations from the City of Gretna and the general public for NRD Board consideration prior to the next regular Board Meeting. "In conjunction with the Nebraska State Historical Society, the PMRNRD will provide an appropriate marker recognizing the accomplishments of Sergeant Mad Bear.

### **WP-4**

Director Thompson and Director Bradley recommend to the Subcommittee that it recommends that the West Papillion Regional Basin Number 4 be named Pitarisaru Recreation Area per District Policy 16.7—District Property and that the NRD Management also seeks recommendations from the City of Gretna, Sarpy County and the general public for NRD Board consideration prior to the next regular Board Meeting. "In conjunction with the Nebraska State Historical Society, the PMRNRD will provide an appropriate marker recognizing the accomplishments of Pitarisaru.

### **DS-19**

Director Thompson and Director Bradley recommend to the Subcommittee that it recommends that the Dam Site Number 19 be named Dr. Susan LaFlesche Picotte Recreation Area per District Policy 16.7—District Property—Donation Recognition and Naming of the NRD Reservoirs, Recreation Areas and Other Property. "In conjunction with the Nebraska State Historical Society, the PMRNRD will provide an appropriate marker recognizing the accomplishments of Dr. Susan LaFlesche Picotte.



**Jim Pillen**  
Governor

## STATE OF NEBRASKA

COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS  
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February 6, 2025

Dear Papio -Missouri River NRD Board,

As the Executive Director of the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs, I am writing to express our full support for the naming of three new Papio-Missouri NRD lakes in honor of significant Native Americans. These individuals as listed below, are all highly deserving of this recognition, and their inclusion would be a fitting addition to existing NRD lakes honoring Native Americans, such as Standing Bear Lake (1977) and Big Elk Lake (2020). We also wholeheartedly support the naming of a fourth lake after longtime NRD employee Marlin Peterman, who worked for the district for 47 years.

- **Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte** was a pioneering member of the Omaha Tribe and, notably, the first Native American physician in the United States.
- **Pitaresaru (Chief of Men)** was the leader of the Chaui band of the Pawnee, served as Head Chief of the tribe, and led a delegation to Washington, D.C.
- **Sergeant Mad Bear** was also a member of the Pawnee Tribe and the first Native American to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

We commend the Papio-Missouri NRD for this opportunity to educate Nebraskans about the history and lasting contributions of these remarkable Native Americans. As a state agency tasked with educating the public about the diverse ways Native people have shaped Nebraska's history, we wholeheartedly support the naming of these lakes in their honor.

Our agency stands ready to assist with historical interpretation, publicity or other support as needed for the final naming and dedication of these lakes. Thank you for considering our letter of support. I look forward to collaborating with you to make this recognition a reality.

Best Regards,

Judi M. gaiashkibos  
Executive Director  
Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs