



General Manager's Report

MEMORANDUM to the Board

John Winkler, General Manager

March 13, 2025

A. INFORMATION/EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS:

Students from area high schools took part in Envirothon, a competition where teams are tested on their knowledge of various natural resources topics such as soils, wildlife, forestry, environmental policy, range management, and more. The top team from the region will qualify to compete at the state competition in April.

B. PERSONNEL/MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:

1. Since directed by the Board in 2007 to implement steps to reduce overtime, the District has moved from an average of \$85,850 (2000-2007) to \$42,733 (2008-2015) to \$13,902 (2016-2024) per year in employee overtime. Overtime dropped by nearly 83% between 2000-2007 and 2016-2024. Without the 2019 flood's \$50,000 overtime cost, yearly overtime average per year would be \$8,944, a 90% reduction. This is the result of collaboration between Board members, management, and employees in our efforts to improve operational efficiency and effectiveness without sacrificing service to our constituents. Attached is a breakdown of overtime paid by the District over the last 25 years.
2. Daniel Gaskill resigned from the position of District Groundskeeper effective January 24th. The District is currently in the process of filling three vacant positions: two groundskeepers and one medium equipment operator.

C. REPORT ON PURCHASES – CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND PERSONAL PROPERTY: Pursuant to Board direction, the report indicating construction services, professional services, and personal property purchases from the month of February is attached for your review.

D. CURRENT AND ON-GOING PROJECTS – PAPIO NRD LEGAL COUNSEL: A copy of current and on-going projects for District Legal Counsel, Husch Blackwell, as of February 28, is attached for your review.

E. PAPILLION CREEK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP REPORT: The PCWP met on February 27th. Meeting minutes are attached. The next scheduled meeting is March 27th.

F. SOUTHERN SARPY WATERSHEDS PARTNERSHIP REPORT: The SSWP met on February 14th. Meeting minutes are attached. The next scheduled meeting is TBD.



PAPIO
MISSOURI RIVER
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT

FEBRUARY 2025

ENVIROTHON



Students from area high schools took part in Envirothon, a competition where teams are tested on their knowledge of various natural resource topics such as soils, wildlife, forestry, environmental policy, range management, and more. The top team from the region will qualify to compete at the state competition in April.

District Overtime Comparison
2000-2024

2000	96,685.03
2001	101,814.83
2002	66,924.05
2003	79,601.92
2004	103,026.00
2005	82,342.43
2006	86,618.57
2007	69,792.55
2008	58,873.78
2009	54,021.57
2010	55,213.82
2011	63,015.26
2012	40,948.54
2013	16,288.66
2014	28,213.76
2015	25,617.46
2016	13,204.00
2017	20,248.39
2018	10,998.14
2019	57,412.41 (Flood of 2019 = \$50,000)
2020	2,613.80
2021	3,225.94
2022	5,261.20
2023	5,183.87 (Rural Water = 3,611.83- 70%)
2024	6,982.39 (Rural Water = 3,680.34- 53%)

This is a breakdown of the historical overtime paid by the District over the last 25 years. Since directed by the Board upon my appointment as G.M. in 2007 to implement steps to reduce overtime, the District has went from an average experience of \$85,850.00 (2000-2007) to 42,733 (2008-2015) to \$13,902 (2016 to 2024) per year in employee overtime. This is nearly a 83% average reduction in overtime usage from the 2000-2007 versus the 2016 to 2024 time periods. If you excluded the \$50,000 which was paid in overtime during the 2019 flood the average per year would be \$8,944 or a 90% reduction in overtime. Obviously, this is a team effort between Board members, management and employees to focus our efforts to become as operationally efficient and effective as we can without sacrificing service to our constituents. However, as you can see by the high cost of overtime in 2019 the District is only one major ice jam or other flooding event away from consuming a vast amount of staff and material resources.



Updated: February 28, 2025

**Current and On-Going Projects
Legal Counsel**

A = Active Project
B = Next Board Meeting
N = New Assignment

Little Papio: (Cleveland)

Big Papio: (Cleveland)

West Branch: (Cleveland/Grint)

Western Sarpy Dike, Union Dike and No Name Dike: (Cleveland)

Floodway Purchase Program: (Laster/Grint)

- Purchase Agreements for Washington/Douglas Acquisition Projects (A)

Trail Projects: (Williams)

- West Papio Trail, West Maple Underpass Interlocal Agreement (A)
- Applewood Creek Trail Interlocal Agreement (A)
- Elkhorn River Trail Bridge Interlocal Agreement (A)
- Surplus Land Sale Beltline (A)
- Land Acquisition and Hearing for Applewood Trail Connection (N)
- Sorenson to Girard Contract Amendment (B)
- Beltline Phase 4 Construction Contract (B)

Missouri River Corridor Project:

USDA PL 566 Projects, Silver Creek and Pigeon/Jones Watershed: (Schumacher/Cleveland/Grint)

Papio Watershed Dam Sites: (Grint/Laster/Ghanavati)

- DS12 Magnolia Trails Public Access Easement (N)
- DS12 Design Contract (B)
- WP4 Contract Amendment (B)
- DS19 tree disposal agreement
- DS7 Public Hearing and Land Acquisition (A)

- DS19 USACE Agreement (B)

Papio Creek Watershed Partnership (Stormwater): (Laster)

Southern Sarpy Watershed Partnership (Stormwater): (Ghanavati)

Missouri River R-613 and R-616 Levees: (Cleveland/Grint)

- Offutt Ditch O&M Agreement (A)
- Offutt AFB Storm Sewer Outlets O&M Agreement (A)
-

Rural Water Projects: (Novak)

Other:

- E-500 Professional Service Agreement (2000 edition) (Project Managers) (A)
- Cole Creek Interlocal Agreement Amendment (N)
- Summit Carbon Solutions Permanent Easement Dakota County (A)
- 156th Street at Chalco Rec Area (N)
- Private Levee Program Agreement (B)



Partnership Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2025

Attendees: See attached sign in sheet

The meeting began at 10:01 am.

1. Introductions
 - a. Lori Laster (Papio NRD) facilitated introductions.
2. MS4 Permit Updates
 - a. Patrick Ducey and Phillip Halstead from Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) provided updates regarding staffing at NDEE and status of various permits issued by NDEE.
 - b. Jesse Bradely is acting as the interim director for NDEE and Nebraska Department of Natural Resources. There has been discussions about combining the two agencies, but no information about that process is available at this time.
 - c. After the 2020 Census, no new communities were required to join the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program. The new MS4 permits have been drafted and NDEE is working to finalize the drafts. There are no regulatory changes to the new permit.
 - d. Implementation of electronic reporting rules is delaying issuance of the new permit. This is a requirement to use the NET system through EPA. The system is used for other permits and the MS4 permit is supposed to be implemented in the system by December 31, 2025.
 - e. Lori Laster noted that the annual report for the current MS4 permit is due to NDEE by April 1, 2025. Report templates will be available by mid-March.
3. Next Meeting Date
 - a. The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2025
4. Adjourn
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.



	Name/Organization	Email
✓	Lori Laster/Papio NRD	llaster@papionrd.org
	Amanda Grint/Papio NRD	agrint@papionrd.org
IG	Ian Ghanavati/Papio NRD	ighanavati@papionrd.org
✓	Andy Szatko/Omaha	andy.szatko@cityofomaha.org
	Jim Kee/Omaha	james.kee@cityofomaha.org
✓	Selma Kessler/Omaha	selma.kessler@cityofomaha.org
	Chris Anderson/Omaha	christopher.anderson@cityofomaha.org
	Heaven Davis/Omaha	heaven.davis@cityofomaha.org
	Jason Kubicek/Sarpy County	NO LONGER @ COUNTY jkubicek@sarpy.gov
	Kelly Jeck/Sarpy County	kjeck@sarpy.gov
	Zach Hergenrader/Sarpy County	zhergenrader@sarpy.gov
✓	Kevin Balentine/Sarpy County	kbalentine@sarpy.gov
	Greg Perry/Gretna	gregp@eagleengineeringgroup.com
	Kristine Stokes/Gretna	kristine@cityofgretna.com
	Alex Evans/Papillion	aevans@papillion.org
	Travis Gibbons/Papillion	tgibbons@papillion.org

	Name/Organization	Email
	Mike Kleffner/Papillion	mkleffner@papillion.org
PMP	Pat Dowse/La Vista	pdowse@cityoflavista.org
	Garrett Delgado/La Vista	gdelgado@cityoflavista.org
	Matt Knight/Bellevue	matt.knight@bellevue.net
RMW	Robert Laroco/Omaha	robert.laroco@cityofomaha.org
	Lisa Smith/Omaha	elisabeth.smith@cityofomaha.org
	John Krager/Bellevue	john.krager@bellevue.net
✓	Shanee Adekunle/Bellevue	shanee.adekunle@bellevue.net
	Reggie Wortman	reggie@cityofgretna.com
	Casey Black/Omaha	Casey.Black@CityofOmaha.org
	Chris Solberg LaVista	csolberg@cityoflavista.org
	GRIG R. DITTMER/RALSIN	GDITTMER@CITYOF RALSIN
	Jack Cheloha/Ralston	jcheloha@cityofralston.com
	DON SIMON/SARPY CO.	dsimon@sarpy.gov
	Josh Nelson Corp	
	LISA FERRIN-OFFUTT	lisa.ferrin@us.af.mil

PHILLIP HALSTED-WAIF phillip.halsted@nebraska.gov



Agenda

Partnership Coordination Meeting February 14, 2025 | 1:00 pm

1. Partnership Led Projects Updates

- a. Papio NRD updated the Partnership on the updated scope & fee for Oakleaf. Per the previous meeting discussion the number of grade control structures to be implemented has decreased with platting changes in the area and the number of road crossings in the Oakleaf development. Based on the revised estimate, the fee will still be high enough that the project will need to be awarded through a request for proposal and interview process following the Papio NRD's procedure. The Partnership will be updated on this process as it occurs. A rough timeline was reviewed.
- b. The Papio NRD will aim to submit a small WSF grant this year on behalf of the Partnership for conceptual design of the Springfield Creek project. More updates to come.

2. General Discussion

- a. No items were raised.

3. Next Meeting: **April 2025 (Exact Date TBD)**



- a. Papio NRD will be sending out a poll to determine the next meeting date; will schedule to give an opportunity for the Partners to review proposals.

SSWP Meeting – Sign In Sheet
 February 14, 2025 – 1 pm
 Papio-Missouri River NRD



	NAME & EMPLOYER	EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE
	Lori Laster Papio NRD	llaster@papionrd.org	(402) 444-6222
	Amanda Grint Papio NRD	agrint@papionrd.org	(402) 444-6222
	Eric Williams Papio NRD	ewilliams@papionrd.org	(402) 444-6222
x	Ian Ghanavati Papio NRD	ighanavati@papionrd.org	(402) 315-1716
	Jeff Thompson Wastewater Agency	jthompson@wastewateragency.org	(402) 415-6734
	Alex Evans City of Papillion	aevans@papillion.org	(402) 597-2044
	Matt Knight City of Bellevue	matt.knight@bellevue.net	(402) 293-3028
x	Kathleen Gottsch City of Springfield	kathleen@springfieldne.org	(402) 253-2204
	Mike Sotak Houston Engineering	msotak@houstoneng.com	(402) 407-1099
x	Sara Mechtenberg Houston Engineering	smechtenberg@houstoneng.com	(402) 407-1099
	David Goedeken City of Bellevue	david.goedeken@bellevue.net	(402) 293-3144
x	Kristine Stokes City of Gretna	kristine@cityofgretna.com	(402) 332-3336
x	Zach Hergenrader Sarpy County	zhergenrader@sarpy.gov	(402) 537-6917
x	Kelly Jeck Sarpy County Planning	kjeck@sarpy.gov	(402) 593-2315
x	Greg Perry City of Gretna	gregp@eagleengineeringgroup.com	(402) 964-2430
	Kevin Balentine Sarpy County Admin	kbalentine@sarpy.gov	(402) 964-2430
x	Joshua Nelson Sarpy County	jnelson@sarpy.gov	

