

MINUTES

Nebraska Environmental Trust
4th Quarter Board Meeting
Thursday, November 3, 2016
1:30 p.m.

Ferguson House
Lincoln, Nebraska

The Nebraska Environmental Trust Board met at the Ferguson House, Lincoln, Nebraska for the transaction of business. Advanced public notice was given through release to news media and official public notice in the "Lincoln Journal Star" on Tuesday, October 4, 2016.

Chairwoman Lauritzen called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

Chairwoman Lauritzen addressed the absence of the Executive Director, Mark Brohman, due to the passing of his dad and asked to keep Mark and his family in your thoughts and prayers. Also, Chairwoman Lauritzen introduced the new board member Dr. Tom Williams from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health and asked that he tell about himself and then introductions were made around the room.

Roll call was conducted and a quorum was established.

Members present were: Mr. Rick Brandt, Lincoln; Mr. Jim Douglas, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission; Ms. Gloria Erickson, Holdrege; Mr. Jeff Fassett, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources; Mr. Bob Krohn, Omaha; Dr. Tom Williams, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health; Mr. Jim Macy, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality; Mr. Kevin Peterson, Osceola; Ms. Sherry Vinton, Whitman; and Ms. Gerry Lauritzen, Omaha.

Members absent: Mr. Rod Christen, Steinauer; Mr. Paul Dunn, Omaha; Mr. Jim Hellbusch, Columbus; and Mr. Greg Ibach, Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

Staff present were: Ms. Marilyn Tabor, Grants Administrator; Ms. Allison La Duke, Grants Assistant; Ms. Sheila Johnson, Public Information Officer and Ms. Pam Deines, Administrative Secretary. Absent: Mr. Mark Brohman, Executive Director, for a family emergency.

Agenda Item #3: Minutes of the August 8-9, 2016 Board Meeting. Minutes of the August, 8-9, 2016 board as meetings were received.

Motion by Mr. Brandt, seconded by Mr. Macy to approve the minutes as received.

Voting Aye: Mr. Krohn, Ms. Erickson, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Williams, Mr. Brandt, Mr. Macy, Mr. Peterson, Mr. Fassett, Ms. Vinton and Ms. Lauritzen. Motion carried.

*****We skipped Agenda Item 4 because the presenter hadn't arrived.*****

Agenda Item #5: Financial Reports. Ms. Tabor presented the financial reports. Discussion on figures for the quarter and how they compare. Environmental Trust budget statements. No questions. Followed by summary of budget for the Trust since September. Continued with the Disbursement Report for the Trust. Represents all open grants with a zero balance thru October 17. Lottery proceeds for the quarter are in good shape, largest third quarter ever. Ferguson House Fund reports thru September. Discussion on Lottery proceeds. Subject brought up again on when is it a good time to ask for more spending authority since more funds are available. Mr. Brohman has already asked to increase our spending authority as discussed at the last meeting in the upcoming two budget years.

Motion by Mr. Douglas; seconded by Mr. Peterson to approve the financial reports.

Voting Aye: Mr. Douglas, Mr. Brandt, Mr. Macy, Ms. Erickson, Mr. Williams, Ms. Vinton, Mr. Peterson, Mr. Fassett, Mr. Krohn, and Ms. Lauritzen. Motion carried.

To further the study of the financial report and the proceeds, discussion included a recommendation that Mr. Brohman give an updated report on the Revenue Stream Analysis at the next meeting.

Motion by Mr. Douglas ; seconded by Mr. Macy, to receive an updated report on the Analysis for Mr. Brohman at the next meeting.

Voting Aye: Mr Douglas; Mr. Brandt; Mr. Macy; Ms.Erickson; Mr. Williams; Ms. Vinton; Mr. Peterson; Mr. Fassett; Mr. Krohn; and Ms. Lauritzen.

Agenda Item #6: Staff Report. a.) Ferguson House Report. Ms. Tabor presented the Ferguson House report. b.) Grant Administration Report. Ms. Tabor presented the report. She reported that the grantees have been contacted and she has heard back from all of them. Ms. Tabor gave an overview on the budget modifications and the shift of funds within the grant. Ms. Tabor reviewed some grants that had modifications and explain the modification. c.) Appreciation Presentation. Ms. Lauritzen presented Ms. Vinton with a plaque for her service as Board Chairman from 2015-2016. Also, we wished Mr. Fassett happy birthday. d.) Director's Comments. Mr. Tabor gave an update on the memorial for Lori Moore. The parents of Lori Moore, Mr. Brohman and the sculptor are going to get together to go over the sculpture details soon. The Carriage House and Ferguson House status; the Carriage House roof has a bit more to finish in detail work. The windows on the Carriage House are also to be replaced with the next work order. Ms. Tabor also mentioned that the porch on the Ferguson House was in the beginning stages of the repair work. The architect is finishing up his RFP documents on the porch. Staff has been working with UNL Raikes School for the electronic grant applications process. The program is moving ahead and falling into place very well. Chairperson mentioned to everyone to take note of the carriage house and how good it looks.

Ms. Tabor mentioned that Mr. Brohman also wanted to visit about Senator Tyson Larson and Chairperson Lauritzen would continue with the conversation. Everyone has been personally contacted by Mr. Brohman or Chairperson Lauritzen on the initial conversation about Senator

Larson's ideas about the Trust. A Senator's staff person called Mr. Brohman earlier this week, confirming that Senator Larson was proceeding with plans to restructure the Trust from top to bottom. From current conversations and previous conversations Mr. Brohman needs direction from board on how to proceed and to be able to find out what is going on and basically being over visiting with Senators. In summary, Senator Tyson wants to divide Trust funds into three categories, urban, rural and conservation. He feels that the money doesn't get out to be used by the people quick enough. He is working to get this accomplished. Ms. Lauritzen invited him today's meeting. Ultimately he wants to put the changes into legislation. Mr. Peterson recommended that Mr. Brohman get together with legislative committee and stay aware of what is being discussed. Mr. Macy has had his staff breakdown the record of where their funds have been spent by senatorial district to show where funds have been used and that could be useful for the Trust. Chairperson Lauritzen mentioned the map showing where we have spent funds. Mr. Macy and Mr. Fassett both talked about showing information geographically and categorically for the breakdown. Discussion of the conversation from the climate bill from Senator Haar. Chairperson Lauritzen wants to see that we are starting to gather information so we are prepared when it does need to be directly addressed. Chairperson Lauritzen assigned the Legislative Committee to meet with Mr. Brohman to discuss and come back to the board with the recommendations.

Agenda Item #7: Report of Grants Committee and schedule. Mr. Peterson made mention that they had the first grant committee meeting this morning. Had an unusual start as Mr. Brohman was called away but regrouped and continued with the meeting. The final meeting will be held on January 3, 2017, where the committee will finalize their recommendations. The committee members include: Ms. Peterson, Chair, Mr. Brandt, Mr. Krohn, Ms. Erickson, Mr. Douglas and Mr. Fassett.

Agenda Item #4: Mr. Lauritzen introduced Mr. Dirac Twidwell, Assistant Professor, Rangeland Ecologist, Department of Agronomy and Horticulture, University of Nebraska, he gave a presentation and update on the eastern redcedar epidemic: its threat to Nebraska and finding a cure.

A short break after the presentation

Agenda Item #8: Post Completion Reports Update. Ms. Tabor presented the following post completion report for project closeout. The ballot was handed out and talked about the final report for the legacy program with Game and Parks Commission. The projects included:

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These are all completed project. The vote will act as the motion for the post completion reports update.

Sponsor Name	App Id	Project Name	Associated Projects Being Closed
Big Ox Energy Siouxland	15-192	Converting Biogas from Industrial Waste into Renewable Natural Gas	
BOR-UNL	11-150	Conserving Water Through Informed Irrigation	11-150-2, 11-150-3
BOR-UNL	12-190	integrated Anarobic Digestion With Algae Bioenergy and Green Aquaculture	12-190-2
BOR-UNL	13-142	Composites and Regenerated Protein Fibers and Discarded Household Textiles	13-142-2
BOR-UNO	12-122	Glacier Creek Watershed Initiative	12-122-2, 12-122-3
Boy Scouts - Long Peak	15-104R	Chadron State Park Tree Plant	
Central Platte NRD	13-122	Groundwater Recharge, Central Platte River Basin	13-122-2, 13-122-3
Chadron State College	10-183	Chadron State College LEED Certification of the Rangeland Center	
Cornhusker Council, Boy Scouts	12-184	Camp Cornhusker Environmental and Conservation Education Center	12-184-2, 12-184-3
Crane Trust	13-171	REACH - Research Experience to Achieve Conservation of Habitat	13-171-2
Ducks Unlimited	11-185	South Platte River Protection	11-185-2
Ducks Unlimited	11-201	Rainwater Basin WPA Restoration	11-201-2
Ducks Unlimited	12-169	Darr Strip Habitat Complex	12-169
Ducks Unlimited	12-181	Spring Creek Conservation Partnership	
Edgar	12-132	Reducing Nitrates in Community Drinking Water	
Farwell Irrigation	15-105	Project Improvement 2015	
Five Rivers RCD	13-192	Native Grassland Protection Against Invasive Weeds II	13-192-2, 13-192-3
Friends of Heron Haven	13-175	Educational Program/Wetland Facility Enhancement	13-175-2, 13-175-3
Gracie Creek	11-188	Restoring Habitat for Priority Species	
Gretna Sanitation	14-115	Cass County Project Harvest Cooperative	
Groundwater Foundation, The	12-164	LEAP into Groundwater	12-164--2, 12-164-3
Groundwater Foundation, The	13-150	Growing Groundwater Awareness in NE Phase II	13-150-2, 13-150-3
Groundwater Foundation, The	13-151	Hydrogeology: Water for the World	13-151-2, 13-151-3

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Habitat for Humanity of Omaha Restore	13-155	ReStore II	
Hastings Museum	15-185	The Nature Nook: Interactive Environmental Education	
High Plains WMA	09-125	North Platte River Invasive Species Follow-Up Project	09-125-2
Joslyn Castle Institute for Sustainable Communities	13-139	Strategic Communications Design for Sustainable Development	13-139-2
Kearney	15-196	Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility	
Keep Alliance Beautiful	13-183	Recycling Education and Center Support	13-183-2, 13-183-3
LaVista	13-110	Thompson Creek Watershed Restoration	13-110-2, 13-110-3
Lincoln Children's Zoo	14-217	Lincoln Children's Zoo Watershed Quality	
Lincoln City of	12-173	Haymarket Arena Recycling and Composting Program: Equipment and Education	
Lincoln Parks Foundation	11-143	Revitalizing Nebraska's Centennial Mall	11-143-2, 11-143-3
Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Depart	13-199	Nebraska MEDS Disposal Program - Protecting Nebraska's Water & People	13-199-2
Little Blue NRD	13-119	Watershed Restoration to Enhance Rainwater Basin Wetlands	13-119-2, 13-119-3
Little Blue NRD	14-112	Little Blue Basin Water Management Plan	14-112-2
Lower Big Blue NRD	13-157	Groundwater Quality & Quantity Project	13-157-2, 13-157-3
Lower Elkhorn NRD	12-188	Understanding Cyanobacteria Blooms in Willow Creek Reservoir	12-188-2, 12-188-3
Lower Loup	13-194	Pibel Lake Renovation Project	13-194-2, 13-194-3
Lower Platte North NRD	08-116	Lower Platte River Modeling Study	08-116-2, 08-116-3
Lower Platte NRD	14-162	Wahoo Watershed Phase II - Stream Restoration Plan for Priority Basins	
Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance	13-104	Removal of Abandoned Bridge Piers in the Platte River near Two Rivers State Recreation Area	
Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance	13-136	Spatial and Temporal Dynamics of Sandbars in the Lower Platte River	13-136-2, 13-136-3
Lower Republican NRD	13-102	Water Conservation Using Soil Moisture Sensor Technology	
Mid-Nebraska Disposal - WITHDRAWN	16-155	Regional Solid Waste Recyclables Sorting Hub	
NE Association of Resources Districts	13-197	Rainwater Basin Wetland Reserve Enhancement Program Special Initiative	13-197-2, 13-197-3

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Nebraska Big Game	13-206	Wildlife Water Developments	13-206-2
NE City-County Management Assoc	14-149	Connecting Nebraska Communities Driving America's Fuel!	
Nebraska Farmers Union	15-161	Food Waste Reduction through Vermicomposting and Composting	
Nebraska Game & Parks	12-140	Statewide Grassland Enhancement Project	12-140-2, 12-140-3
Nebraska Game & Parks	13-203	Nebraska Natural Legacy Plan - Restoring Nebraska's Unique Biological Diversity	13-203-2, 13-203-3
Nebraska Game & Parks	14-222	Bobwhite Quail and Pollinators Conservation Initiative	
Nebraska One Box Foundation	13-123	Nebraska One Box Habitat Regeneration	13-123-2
Nebraska Statewide Arboretum	11-132	Trees for Nebraska Towns (TNT)	11-132-2, 11-132-3
Nebraska WMAC	13-195	Early Detection and Rapid Response on Invasive Vegetation within Nebraska	
Northeast Nebraska RCD	12-189	Integrated Management of Noxious Weeds in Biologically Sensitive Areas by the Northeast Nebraska Weed Management Area	12-189-2, 12-189-3
Northern Prairies Land Trust	12-107	Tallgrass Prairie Conservation on Private Lands IV	12-107-2, 12-107-3
Omaha Children's Museum	15-122	Environmental Exhibit Featuring A Water Table	
Omaha City of	13-118	Hell Creek	
Omaha City of	14-141	Spring Lake Park Pond Restoration Phase 5	14-141-2
Papio Missouri River NRD	14-177	Papio Missouri River NRD	
Pheasants Forever - Antelope Valley	14-124	No-Till Grass Drill	
Pheasants Forever - Boone	14-123	No-Till Grass Drill	
Pheasants Forever - Dakota/Thurston	14-122	No-Till Grass Drill	
Pheasants Forever - Oregon Trail Chapter	14-121	No-Till Grass Drill	
Prairie Plains Resource Institute	13-132	Sherman Land Acquisition, Hamilton County	13-132-2, 13-132-3
PrairieLand RC&D/Lower Platte North NRD	10-161	Shell Creek Watershed Improvement Project, Phase 3	10-161-2, 10-161-3
PrairieLand RC&D Council	13-179	Continuous No-till and Soil Health Education	13-179-2, 13-179-3
Prescribed Burn Task Force	13-131	Central Nebraska Fire Partnership Program	
Quail Forever	14-139	Mobile Prescribed Burn Unit & Education Outreach	
Quail Forever	15-174	Mobile Prescribed Burn Unit & Education Outreach	

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Quail Forever - Central Nebraska Chapter	14-154	Weed Wiper Equipment	
Rainwater Basin Joint Venture	12-166	Development of Grazing Infrastructure to Support the RWB Working Lands Initiative	12-166-2, 12-166-3
Rainwater Basin Joint Venture	13-120	Improved Migratory Bird Habitat	13-120-2, 13-120-3
Rainwater Basin Joint Venture	14-144	Western Rainwater Basin WPA	
Sandhills Task Force	12-134	Sandhills Native Ecosystem Project	12-134-2, 12-134-3
Sargent Irrigation	13-103	Erosion Management and Recovery	13-103-2, 13-103-3
Southwest Weed Management Area	14-167	Republican River Herbicide Restoration	
The Nebraska Conservancy	13-176	Learning from the 2012 Niobrara Fire	13-176-2, 13-176-3
The Nebraska Land Trust	11-178	Pine Ridge Bighorn Preservation Project	
The Nebraska Land Trust	13-112	Schramm Bluffs/Patterson Farm Preservation	13-112-2
Upper Republican NRD	13-111	URNRD Moisture Monitoring Program	
Upper Republican NRD	15-222	URNRD Moisture Monitoring Program	
WasteCap	13-172	Zero Water Community Planning	13-172-2

Motion by Mr. Krohn and seconded by Mr. Brandt to accept the staff’s post complete report.

Voting Aye: Mr. Brandt, Mr. Douglas, Ms. Erickson, Mr. Fassett, Mr. Krohn, Ms. Lauritzen, Mr. Macy, Mr. Williams, Mr. Peterson and Ms. Vinton. Motion carried

Agenda Item #9: Grant Modification Requests. Ms. Tabor explained that there was a possible items to discuss but in fact it was not presented in time so no topic was available for this agenda item.

Agenda Item #10: Communication Plan 2017-2018. Ms. Johnson presented the report. Nothing had really changed from the last report on the Communication Plan. A review of the overall plan was talked about again

The committee recommends approval of the 2017-2018 Communications Plan.

Voting Aye: Mr. Vinton, Mr. Macy, Mr. Williams, Ms. Erickson, Mr. Peterson, Mr. Krohn, Mr. Fassett, Mr. Brandt and Ms. Lauritzen. Motion carried. (Mr. Douglas absent at prescheduled meeting)

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Agenda Item #11: Public Comment and Good of the Order. Discussion on the memorial or acknowledgment for Mark Brohman's loss of his father. Chairman Lauritzen made mention about hosting the August meeting in Omaha.

Agenda Item #12: Date and Location of Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. at the Ferguson House.

Agenda Item #13: Adjourn. Ms. Lauritzen adjourned the meeting at 3:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark A. Brohman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark A. Brohman
Executive Director