



Five Rivers RC&D  
140 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, P O Box 626  
Tecumseh NE 68450  
402-335-3347  
FAX 402-335-3450  
Website: [www.nercd.com](http://www.nercd.com)

## Five Rivers RC&D Council Meeting Minutes – July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011

President Alan Richard called the regular meeting of the Five Rivers Resource Conservation & Development Council to order at 9:39 a.m. at the Five Rivers RC&D office location.

**Members Present:**

Lower Big Blue NRD –Bob Lorenz	Nemaha County – Mary Kruger
Johnson County – Tom Hamer	Pawnee County – Alan Richard
Gage County – Myron Dorn	Richardson County- Jim Davidson
Nemaha NRD – Scott Kudrna	At-Large – Dale Haverty
At-Large – Jessica Jones	Nemaha County Alternate – Marvin Bohling
Saline County – Willis Luedke	Jefferson County - Jim Frager

**Members Absent:** Otoe County - Alfred Gigstad; At-Large – Wilmer Schlake; At-Large – Paul Rohrbaugh

**Staff and Volunteers:** Bobbie Meints, Executive Director

**Introductions of Guest and New Member(s):** Nemaha County Representative and Treasurer, Mary Kruger, introduced Marvin Bohling, Five Rivers’ newest member and Nemaha County Alternate. President Richard welcomed Bohling and guest presenters – James Roubal of DLR Group, James Riskowski of Signa Development Services, and Bob Engles of Engles Agency in Auburn, NE.

**Presentation:** James Roubal and James Riskowski began the presentation highlighting their individual and firm’s grant writing experience as well as the overall reputation of their firms. It was reported that Southeast Nebraska has very few landfills resulting in the inability to cover the entire area’s sanitation needs. Riskowski reported that by developing a regional solid waste disposal grant, each community would have increased access while generating jobs and revenue. Riskowski also pointed out that this would be a regional cooperative and a public/private partnership, which would allow access to grant funds on both sides. Pointing out the benefits of widespread sanitation efforts, Riskowski also reported that recycling can lead to methane fuels as well as decrease carbon emissions by 60%, which would result in creating jobs in the “green” industry as well. Riskowski provided the council with several handouts, including numerous possibilities of grant resources both on the private and public side, including information on tax credits and tax abatements for the public entity. President Richard appointed Jim Davidson, Jim Frager, and Dale Haverty to serve on the “Regional Waste Disposal Committee” and to arrange a meeting to discuss the project in more detail.

**Additions to Agenda:** Meints suggested that the council reimburse Melissa Bolt, of the “Spare Room”, for her time and storage space while the office was cleared and cleaned. The council suggested purchasing a gift certificate and/or Chamber Bucks in the amount of \$50.00. A motion was made by Dorn to purchase \$50 in gift certificates and was seconded by Davidson. Motion approved.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Davidson and seconded by Haverty to approve the June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011 minutes as previously mailed. Motion carried.

**Bills and Financial Report:** Haverty made the motion to accept the financial report as presented with Frager seconding the motion. Motion passed. Haverty also made the motion to pay the bills as presented. Lorenz seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Staff Report:** Meints gave an update on current and upcoming projects.

**Update of Volunteer Hours:** A volunteer hours reporting form was circulated.

### Unfinished Business:

#### **RC&D Contingency Plan:**

**Develop Project Committees:** President Richard stated that the project committee has not yet met. Vice-President, Jessica Jones, reported that she would be willing to serve on the committee. It was determined that a FY Business Plan must be developed before moving further. Therefore, Meints will print the 5 year plan as well as annual plan to be

reviewed at the next meeting. President Richard appointed Jones, McNiff, and Meints to serve on the “Annual Plan of Work” Committee.

**Membership Dues-Per Capita:** President Richard reported that himself along with several other council members have been busy traveling and representing Five Rivers RC&D as they request 2011-2012 Membership Dues on a per capita basis. It was reported that the overall response from Commissioners/Supervisors and the NRD Directors has been supportive. Letters will be developed and sent to each county with a formal request.

**General Liability/D&O Insurance:** President Richard reported that Beehive has quoted a price for general liability and D&O insurance that is lower than that of Community Insurance Group, at a price of \$1150 per year. Kudrna reported that general liability is an unnecessary cost for Five Rivers, as members can still be held individually responsible for accidents. A motion was made by Davidson to purchase General Liability insurance and D&O insurance through Beehive. Motion was seconded by Lorenz. Motion passed 10-1.

**Copier/printer and printing services:** President Richard reported that the office has a new HP color inkjet all-in-one printer/copier/fax purchased from Office Depot as well as a used Lanier black and white printer/copier purchased from the Nebraska State Auction. Meints reported that both machines have increased the ability to make quality copies. The council will continue to seek printing services for mass production, including the Annual Report.

**Cleaning-Maria Arellanos-**Meints reported that Maria Arellanos was hired to conduct bi-monthly cleanings at the rate of \$100 per month, with the cost including all cleaning supplies to be supplied by Maria. Meints also reported that Maria had polished the conference room floor after completion of the painting and prior to moving in furniture.

**Quarterly Council Rotation: Jefferson County in August/Nemaha NRD in October (tentatively scheduled) to get back on schedule:** Frager reported that the next meeting will be held in Fairbury at Wally’s restaurant (the old Wal-Mart building along HWY 50). Meints reported that she will be contacting the Nemaha NRD to arrange a meeting in October.

**Fundraising Opportunities/Brainstorming:** Meints reported that Connie Baum of Tecumseh had contacted the RC&D about the possibility of Five Rivers hosting a “Cooking with Commodities” cooking class. Baum’s service is free; therefore the fundraising event would be to benefit the RC&D while providing a low cost service to the public. The council discussed the offer, however ultimately determined that it would be best to refer Connie to another entity that would have more available resources.

**Bylaws-Acceptance of Proposed Changes:** President Richard called the council’s attention to the more recent proposed changes to the bylaws. Frager made the motion to accept all changes as proposed. Lorenz seconded the motion. Motion approved.

#### **New Business:**

**Nebraska RC&D Association Awards Program-Nominations:** President Richard informed the council that it was time to submit nominations to the Nebraska RC&D Association with the categories as follows: Outstanding Performance by a Coordinator, Outstanding Performance by a Council, Outstanding Sponsor Achievement, Outstanding Performance by a Council Member, Outstanding Performance by a Program Support Assistant, Outstanding Youth Involvement Award, and Top Project Award. Kudrna nominated Tammy as Coordinator.

**Nominate Financial Review Committee:** President Richard nominated Kudrna and Hamer to the “Financial Review Committee”. The Committee will determine a date, time, and location to conduct the review.

**Nominate Budget Committee-** President Richard asked that Mary Kruger, Treasurer, name the “Budget Committee”. Kruger reported that the committee shall consist of Jones, Hamer, and herself.

**Develop FY Business Plan:** Please see “Develop Project Committees” in the *Unfinished Business* section for more information.

**Conflict of Interest Check:** A Conflict of Interest form was circulated.

**Key Contracts:** Due to the recent changes, Meints reported that all members/employees/contractors with a key will be asked to sign a key contract in order to accurately keep track of where all the office keys are located.

**Projects to close:** Luedke made the motion to close the following projects: 11-293 Cooperative Agreement Proj; 11-294 2011 Pawnee County Scrap Tire Collections; and 11-295 2011 Richardson County Scrap Tire Collections. Frager seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Other Business:**

**Council of 12 Report:** Kudrna and Jones reported that the state convention will be held in McCook this year and each council is asked to donate an item for the silent auction. President Richard asked if any council member would like to attend the state conference this year. Bob Lorenz reported that he would like to attend; Kudrna stated that he and Jessica would be there to represent the State Association as well, and Richard reported that he and Meints would attend.

**Nebraska State Fair Booth:** Kudrna informed the council that during the Council of 12 meeting, Nebraska State RC&D President, Gary Bergman, reported that the state fair exhibit/staff day will be announced shortly and will then ask for volunteers to help man the booth.

**\*\*Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the RC&D Council will be held at **Wally's - Prairie Pointe Plaza - 1501 K Street - Fairbury at 10:00 a.m. on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011.\*\***

Meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.



Al Gigstad, Secretary