

NWLEPG BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 4, 2020 @ Noon
Thomas County Emergency Management
1255 S. County Club Drive
Colby, Kansas 67701

Board Approved on September 3, 2020

County / Board Member	1/3	3/7	6/6	9/12	12/4	3/12	6/4
(CN) Derek J. Barnhart, Vice President			X	X	X	X	X
(GL) Alena Ballinger				X		X	
(GO) Duane Vollbracht, President	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
(LE) Diana Paris	X				X	X	
(LG) Rhonda Sperber	X	X		X	X	X	X
(RA) Louis Sabatka, Treasurer		X	X	X	X	X	X
(SC) Monica Beeson	X		X	X		X	
(SD) Joe Bainter	X	X	X	X		X	
(SH) Jennifer Cure	X	X	X		X	X	X
(TH) Brad Flipse	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
(TR) Wesley Hobbs	X	X		X	X		X
(WA) Bruce Bolen	X		X		X	X	X

LEPG Staff: Tim Hansen & Connie Albers

Guest(s): Leisa Hansen, Brian Haug, Nik Johansen, & Larry Heier

1. Determination of a quorum

The meeting was called to order at 12:08 PM by Duane with a quorum of seven voting members present. Derek Barnhart arrived shortly after the meeting began making a total of eight voting members.

2. Additions/approval of Agenda

Brad moved to approve the agenda as is. Wesley seconded. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Bruce moved to approve last meetings minutes as is. Louis seconded. Motion carried.

4. Open Forum

- Duane asked if anyone wanted to discuss anything in open forum. Nothing for open forum.

5. Financial Report

Wesley moved to approve the financial report as is. Rhonda seconded. Motion carried.

6. Water Testing Program & Retest Charges

Rhonda moved to charge the homeowners \$10 to retest their water well after the initial test. Jennifer seconded. Motion carried.

7. Budget for Fiscal Year 2021

- Incorporated into the FY21 budget is a new computer for Tim's office. Current computer is a 2004.

Brad moved to approve the budget as is. Bruce seconded.

8. Car Lease

- To lease a car from Harries Motors in WaKeeney will cost \$4452.82. Tim feels the same way now that he did a year ago, it's cheaper for operation to have a car over a pickup. Bruce thinks we would be better served by a work pickup. Would it be probable to buy a pickup out right and keep it for several years?

Jennifer moved to approve the cost to lease a car from Harrie's Motors in WaKeeney again. Derek seconded. Motion carried.

9. Troy Sporer – General Discussion (10 minutes)

- Not present.

10. Nik Johanson – District Manager of US Bureau of Reclamation

- Spoke about the project of renewing a 50-year management agreement at several areas in North Central and Northwest Kansas between the Bureau of Reclamation and KDWPT that expired in 2017 and how this process has gone.

11. Brian Haug – Cedar Bluff State Park

- Cabin owners were upset about the raise in the cost of their leases and upset they were going to have an additional cost to inspect or replace their septic systems. The NWLEPG did not allow noncompliance.
- At Cedar Bluff Reservoir, 64 septic systems were not in compliance with the county environmental sanitary code or had open discharge to the surface of the ground.
- Only one system left that needs remediation.
- Wesley Hobbs said they also had a lot of push back. Wanted the Trego County Commissioners to grant variances, but they didn't feel it was their place to do so. Left that decision with the NWLEPG.

12. Tim's Report

- Within the last three months we have received 28 Letters of Intent and written 78 Letters of Approval of septic system operation.
- Situation in Atwood at the airport. Atwood airport is partly owned by Rawlins County and City of Atwood. Met with Atwood City Council a week ago Thursday night. Had a Memorandum of Understanding submitted to the City of Atwood. We will formally regulate all septic systems within the city of Atwood.
- Had a conversation with the city attorney of Leoti. They have had environmental issues within the city of Leoti. KDHE replied to them that they left the LEPG that used to take care of these issues for them, so they are on their own.
- State almost has their model county code ready to release. Ellsworth County Code was presented to look over and maybe start to think about revising the County Environmental/Sanitary Codes to add Loan/Mortgage Inspections when a property transfer occurs.

13. Connie's Report

- Thanked the board for the new water testing equipment. Ran eleven tests in less than an hour on Tuesday. That would have taken us almost two hours with the old equipment.
- Our Facebook page is up and running. Have not done much else with it besides "like" all of the NWLEPG area Health Departments.

14. Election of Officers

- Derek stepped down as NWLEPG Vice President.

Rhonda motioned Duane stay on as President. Brad seconded. Motion carried.

- President: Duane Vollbracht

Wes motioned Brad for Vice President. Louis seconded. Motion carried.

- Vice President: Brad Flipse

Derek motioned Louis stay on as Treasurer. Bruce seconded. Motion carried.

- Treasurer: Louis Sabatka


15. Adjournment

- The next meeting tentatively scheduled on Thursday, September 3, 2020 @ noon.
- Bruce may have someone fill in for him for a few meetings in the future.

With no other business before the board Wesley made a motion to adjourn, Jennifer seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 1:19 PM.

Respectfully Submitted


Connie Albers, NWLEPG Secretary


NWLEPG President


NWLEPG Treasurer