

Agenda Item 10. Report of Performance Review Committee

The Performance Review Committee met via Zoom to discuss Performance Review Committee goals on Thursday, January 7, 2021. Minutes are enclosed.

Board Authority:

To establish committees:

Neb Rev Stat 81-15.173 Board: powers and duties. The board shall have and may exercise the following powers and duties: (7)
Establish ad hoc advisory boards and subcommittees.

MINUTES
Nebraska Environmental Trust
Performance Review Committee via Zoom
January 7, 2021
9:30 a.m.

Ferguson Center
700 South 16th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska

The Nebraska Environmental Trust Performance Review Committee met via Zoom on January 7, 2021. Chair Felix Davidson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., and requested roll call.

Members Present: Mr. Kanger, Mr. Christen, Mr. Douglas, and Mr. Davidson. **Members Absent:** None. A quorum was established. **Staff Present:** Mr. Brohman, Ms. Adams and Ms. Deines.

Mr. Brohman reviewed the current Performance Review Committee process. Mr. Brohman described how a grant application, including land, is monitored from beginning to end of the grant. Mr. Brohman reviewed the process of audits and the checklist currently used.

Mr. Douglas added to the idea of having an actual checklist for the properties while doing the audit review, a consistent checklist, and also including a summary. Mr. Christen continued with a question on taxes. Discussion on how taxes are paid. Taxes varies within each county. Mr. Davidson mentioned this conversation pertains to an upcoming agenda item.

Mr. Brohman informed the Performance Review Committee the audits, which NET is contemplating, are not related to this committee's work. The audits discussed at the board meeting are now involved in the pending litigation. The Performance Review Committee is reviewing the projects with land acquisitions and easements. The Performance Audit being contemplated by the board would look at the NET's operation broadly and not just real estate.

Mr. Davidson reviewed some of the ideas from the last meeting to review the process and had the most merit to exert the focus. From the previous discussion, talking points for protocols for land acquisition and transfer were addressed. Develop standards for land acquisition, transfers, and management that will be provided as recommendations to the Grants Committee for incorporation into the grant review process and contract requirements. Mr. Davidson continued on the agenda topic with a summary of last meeting. Mr. Davidson suggested focusing on one at a time rather than overwhelming the committee when we start the process and contract requirements. Discussion. Mr. Kanger summarized what he saw as the bullet points of the discussion: tax concerns, transfer concerns and management concerns. Should we take one of these items to start work on one at a time.

Develop some form of a validation method for completed target projects leveraging the work that was done using Trust grants. Focusing on real estate, start with random sampling, and look into costs so budgeting can occur. Mr. Douglas suggested if working on targeted projects have a format to follow for reviewing that particular area. Develop question sheet for the inspection

project. Discussion. Mr. Davidson thought that was a good step #1 to start the process. Mr. Davidson also presented the question; “What if a board member had to take on a project to participate in the process?” Discussion.

Mr. Davidson noted the Performance Committee will help reform and improve the way the Trust does its work. We have the best opportunities in the way to do that; designing and developing some standards in different categories that can be used to help in the process; boots on a ground to validate project is satisfactory. He would like to tackle the standards first and some ground work on the second. Mr. Kanger summarized his understanding of the suggested starting point as follows: standards first and work on a draft checklist. Forward looking standards rather than looking backward.

Mr. Douglas and Mr. Kanger had to leave the meeting at 10:30 a.m. and Mr. Davidson adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Brohman
Executive Director