

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT OF NIOBRARA COUNTY

Minutes of May Meeting

5:00 pm May 15, 2025

Courthouse

Members and Staff Present:

Kitson Boldon, Secretary-Treasurer
Arleen York, Vice President
Shannon Bruegger
Dan Tadewald
Justen Miller
Hayden Wick

Dave Birch
Terry Allbright
Richard Edwards
John Graham, Trapper
Dale Greenough, Trapper

Members and Staff Absent

John Lashmett

Chairman Arleen York called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm. Tadewald made a motion to pay for app that Kitson downloaded on her phone to record the meetings, if it were to cost any money. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Tadewald made a motion to approve the April 17th minutes as read and emailed, to all members of the board, by Kitson. Motion was seconded by Dave Birch. Motion carried unanimously. Kitson presented the May 15th bill list and financial report. She also presented a bill from Cow Creek Aerial, DBA for aerial services from April 10th through May 3rd for the amount of \$8,430.00 as well as Kelly Huseby for April aerial services in the amount of \$1,890.00. Wick made a motion to pay Cow Creek Aerial, DBA in the amount of \$8,430.00 and Kelly Huseby in the amount of \$1,890.00. Allbright seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously with Bruegger abstaining from voting.

It was brought to the boards attention that we needed to see if Kelly was still wanting half of the ammunition we bought and if so to get a reimbursement check from him. If he didn't want it Shannon would like to buy some from us. Boldon reported she would contact Kelly to get further clarification if he wanted the ammunition and if so to send us a reimbursement check for it.

Reports

County Trappers Report: Graham reported he had taken a couple dens but could not get the old ones. He is needing the airplane to come in and help get the old coyotes. Shannon let the board know that he was getting busy with branding and spring chores, so the trappers needed to get Kelly more. Greenough reported for April they flew approximately 30 hours and killed 54 adult coyotes. He trapped and snared 18 adult coyotes, 3 coyote dens, 13 pups, and 35 unborn pups. For May so far him and Shannon had flown 11 hours and taken 20 coyotes. Him and Kelly flew 1 day last week and took 12 coyotes and saw 3 dens from the air. May should be a really good month the grass has greened up and you can really see the dens from the air.

Aerial Services Report: Boldon reported we have contracted 200 hrs and as of today we have flown 197.5 hours and the end of our fiscal year is June 30th. Just so we didn't get in a bind by

going over the 200 hours we contracted for the year it was suggested we increase flying by 50 hours. Edwards made a motion to put another 50 hours on top of the 200 hours we contracted for aerial services. Hayden seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously with Brugger abstaining from voting.

Operations and Personnel Committee: Buttons brought up old business, paying gunners, and that she talked to Jerry and due to Liability, we the board will not contract gunners. We can pay the aerial services an extra amount for them to pay the gunners themselves.

Justen reported that the committee met with contractors John, Dale and Shannon to discuss what was to be expected of them working together.

Edwards moved to go into Executive session. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

At 5:43pm the regular meeting went into executive session to discuss what the operations and personnel committee discussed with each contractor and what they proposed we add to the upcoming contracts we would be offering.

Tadwald moved to come out of executive session at 6:19pm. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Miller moved to go back into regular meeting. Allbright seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman York resumed the regular meeting at 6:28pm.

Old Business

Paying Gunners: This old business was discussed in operations and personnel committee reports.

Commissioners License: We discussed where we would hold the auction for the License. York would call Kit and see if we could have it at the Trail Motel. Wick wanted to do a facebook post to advertise for us more. He used the example of what the FFA did with their commissioner license they just sold. York appointed Wick to get a hold of Jason Hubbard to see how they advertised theirs on Facebook.

Thermal Contractors: On May 1, 2025 the Niobrara County Predator Board had a phone conference call to approve the thermal contractors contract. Chairman York called the meeting to order at 7:03pm. Members on the call were, Arleen York, Danny Tadewald, Justen Miller, Kitson Boldon, Hayden Wick, John Lashmett, and Dave Birch. Lashmett moved to approve and offer the thermal contract to Boe Simmons, AW Manning, Kyle Gruwell, and Dakota Forkner. Miller seconded the motion. Arleen, Tadewald, Miller, Boldon, Wick, Lashmett and Birch all voted yes. Edwards voted no, via text message. Shannon abstained from voting. Tadewald

moved to adjourn the meeting. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Call ended at 7:12pm.

Since the conference call Boldon sent the contracts to all contractors to be signed. She had received Kyle Gruwells signed contract. Miller moved to approve Kyle's contract. Tadewald seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Hangar Rent: Boldon reported that Travis Bruegger signed the hangar lease agreement for 8 months. Miller moved to approve the contract. Wick seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

ADMB Grant Interview and Special Project Interview and Results: Arleen reported to the board that her, Boldon and Justen represented the county by attending both the ADMB and Special Project grant interview in person. She reported that Niobrara PMD had been awarded \$150,000.00 ADMB grant and \$10,000.00 Special Project for the coming year. Tadewald made a motion to accept that \$150,000.00 and the \$10,000.00 grant money. Birch seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Contract Renewals: Renewal of the trappers' contracts were discussed. Tadewald moved to add under Miscellaneous as K. Contractor agrees there will be no pictures of any kind, on social media, of results relating to the activities of contracted duties and services. L. Contractors are required to within reason and to the best of their ability cooperate, communicate and work together with other contractors on trouble calls and preventative work for the board. Contractors should be prepared to prove that contact was made. If not, you will receive 10 days notice for termination of this contract and to offer both Greenough and Graham a contract for the 2025-2026 year at the same rate as last year. Wick seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Bruegger abstained from voting.

Miller said he had been in contact with Shay Cruciet with Reno Air Services, from Kaycee, WY who would come fly his helicopter for us for \$700/hour using Dale as his gunner and our ammo and \$750 using his own gunner and ammo and since Shannon's helicopter was still getting an engine, he would like to see us use Shay to fly the Lance Creek mule deer area special contract as soon as possible to take advantage of controlling the coyotes right before fawning season. Miller moved we offer Shay a contract to fly a maximum of 30 hours for us to June 30, 2025. Tadewald seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Shannon abstained from voting.

Miller made a motion to offer a contract to Cow Creek DBA for aerial hunting for the 2025-2026 year at \$230/coyote with an allotted 120 coyote take. Tadewald seconded the motion. The motion was voted down with a unanimous no vote. The Part-Time Trapper Aerial Hunting contract was tabled to the next meeting. Bruegger abstained from voting.

Miller made a motion to add to all the aerial services contract that Contractor agrees there will be no pictures of any kind, on social media, of results relating to the activities of contracted

duties and services and that contractors are required to within reason and to the best of their ability cooperate, communicate and work together with other contractors on trouble calls and preventative work for the board. Contractors should be prepared to prove that contact was made. If not, you will receive 10 days notice for termination of this contract. Tadewald seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Brugger abstaining from voting. Miller moved to offer a contract to Kelly Huseby for aerial services for the 2025-2026 year with the same terms as last year. Tadewald seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Bruegger abstaining from voting. Wick moved to amend Kelly's aerial services contract to be \$300/hour using Dale as gunner and \$350/hour using an outside gunner of his own. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Brugger abstaining from voting. Wick moved to offer Cow Creek Aerial DBA for aerial services contract for the 2025-2026 year to be \$300/hour using Dale as gunner and \$350/hour using an outside gunner of his own with the allotted 200 hours maximum for both him and Kelly to fly. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Brugger abstained from voting.

With Boldon abstaining from her contract renewal discussion and voting. Bruegger made a motion to offer Boldon a contract for the 2025-2026 year the same as last year. Wick seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Hangar Lease Renewal: Boldon informed the Board that the annual hangar lease renewal would be coming due, May 31, for \$100.00. Miller made a motion to renew the annual hangar lease for \$100.00. Danny seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Budget: Boldon informed the board that the proposed budget for the next fiscal year is due to the County Commissioners and State Audit by June 1st. She will turn in what she submitted for the ADMB grant. Tadewald moved the budget hearing date be scheduled for Thursday, July 17, 2025, 4:45pm at the courthouse. The regular meeting will follow, convening at 5:00 pm. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

During Executive Session Edwards verbally resigned from the board. It was decided until we get a written letter of resignation he is still considered to be on the board.

There being no further business to discuss Chairman York entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tadewald so moved to adjourn the meeting. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. York adjourned the meeting at 7:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kitson Boldon, Secretary-Treasurer

Accepted by:



Arleen York, President

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT OF NIOBRARA COUNTY
Executive session of May 15, 2025, Meeting
Courthouse

Members and Staff Present:

Arleen Jackson, President
Kitson Boldon, Secretary-Treasurer
Dan Tadewald
Shannon Bruegger
Justen Miller
Hayden Wick
Terry Allbright
Richard Edwards (for ½ of the session)
Dave Birch

Executive session began at 5:43 pm.

Discussion was held concerning all contractors communicating and working together. It was also discussed what needed to be added to the upcoming contracts that would be offered again to all contractors.

Executive session ended at 6:19 pm.

Predator Management District of Niobrara county

6/19/25

Bill List

Bills Paid, To be approved

5/31/25 Dale Greenough	May Contract	\$7,000.00
5/31/25 John Graham	May Contract	\$7,000.00

Bills Payable

Cash on hand less bills outstanding

WYO STAR Account	\$309,891.29
Lusk State Bank Account	\$35,758.71
Funds set aside	-\$250,000.00
Less outstanding bills	\$0.00

Funds to operate on \$37,287.33

Submitted by:


Secretary-Treasurer

Accepted by:


President