

### Nemaha NRD Board Continues Budget Discussion

(KTNC) - The Nemaha NRD Board of Directors spent a large portion of their regular August meeting discussing the proposed budget, which totals nearly \$5 million.

As work continues on the flood control projects in the Buck Creek and Duck Creek watersheds, district officials anticipate a surplus of funds collected in the last few years in anticipation of the project will be exhausted. Future expenses for the project include road improvements near Buck Creek along with land acquisition, dam construction, a road upgrade, and development of the recreation area at the Duck Creek site. It's estimated that local funds required for the project could exceed \$1.5 million, though state resource development funds will be available in the future to offset some of those costs.

Due to the size of the budget and the expected need for additional funds and cash flow, the board voted to increase the cash reserve and subsequent tax collections by \$200,000 this year.

A public hearing on the final budget and tax request will be held on September 12, prior to the board's next regular meeting. The board will act to approve the budget following the hearing.

In other business this month, the NRD Board approved a permit to install a well for wetland flooding near Peru.

The board also approved an application for small dams cost-share funding for Randy Gyhra for a structure west of Pawnee City in the Turkey Creek watershed. The structure will receive 75-percent cost-share assistance.

The board also approved a proposal from Johnson Appraisal of Lincoln, in the amount of \$10,100, to complete the needed appraisal work of property involved in the Duck Creek project. NRD officials say some land purchases combined with easements will be required to complete the project, which combines flood control with public recreation.