

**Upper Republican Natural Resources District  
Board of Directors Regular Meeting  
January 6, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.  
511 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Imperial, NE**

Agendas were sent to all Board Members and all others requesting agendas. Agendas were posted in the NRD Office in Imperial, the NRCS Offices in Grant and Imperial, and the FSA Office in Benkelman. The meeting was announced over KADL-Imperial, KRVN-Lexington and KOGA-Ogallala and published in area newspapers.

**Board Members Present:** Kerry Bernhardt, Tom Gaschler, Donn Gengenbach, Dean Large, Terry Martin, Greg Pelster, Tim Schilke, Mick Strand, Tom Terryberry and Jeff Wallin.

**Board Members Absent:** Mike Mosel.

**NRD Staff:** Jasper Fanning, Dirk Dinnel and Deb Hayes.

**NRD Legal Counsel:** Joel Burke.

**Others present:** Nadine Bishop (NRCS), Traci Witthuhn(RR Basin Coordinator), Myron Kunnemann, Marlon Kunnemann, Wayne Lutz, Delbert Bussell, Tom Schroder, Brad Edgerton and Gerald Coates.

**Information mailed to Directors:**

Agenda	Delbert Bussell, variance request
Minutes of December 2, 2008 Board meeting	Report of District applications,
George Seward transfer request	contracts & agreements
Delbert Bussell transfer request	

**Information distributed at Board meeting:**

Agenda	Draft Transfer guidelines
Minutes of December 2, 2008 Board meeting	Report of District applications, contracts,
Financial reports	& agreements
NRCS report	Republican River Basin Coalition report
Transfer requests	Personnel policy change

Chairman Pelster called the meeting to order at 10:10 am.

Chairman Pelster announced that the Open Meetings Act is posted if anyone would like to review it.

**OPEN FORUMS:**

Guests, NRCS staff, Board members and NRD staff were introduced.

**MINUTES:**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the December 2, 2008 Regular Board meeting.

- Terryberry moved to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2008 Regular Board meeting as mailed. Seconded by Large.

Roll call vote: 9-yes, 1-abstain, 1-absent. Motion carried.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The Manager presented the Financial Reports to the Board.

- Martin moved to pay the Accounts Payable and to approve the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 10-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the FY 07-08 audit report that was done by McChesney, Martin and Sagehorn.

- Gengenbach moved to approve the audit report that was provided by McChesney, Martin and Sagehorn and dated June 30, 2008. Seconded by Gaschler.

Roll call vote: 10-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

Jasper discussed with the Board that the money that was in our NPAIT accounts has been moved into a CDAR program at Pinnacle Bank due to a better interest rate.

### **NRCS REPORT:**

Nadine Bishop gave the NRCS report this month. Nadine reported that they finished the audits that were being done last month. Nadine reported on the January activities for NRCS. TSP Wildlife Biologist, Travis Runia, started working at the NRCS on January 5, 2009. Travis will be working on several Corners for Wildlife projects, Wild Nebraska projects and some CRP, EQIP and WHIP projects.

- Terryberry moved to approve the NRCS report of planning activity dated January 2, 2009 and to include the Conservation Plan as signed for Chase County. Seconded by Strand.

Roll call vote: 10-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

### **GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS:**

The Board reviewed George Seward's transfer request. Jasper and the Groundwater Control Committee discussed the draft transfer guidelines that were given to the Board.

- Large moved to postpone action the George Seward's transfer application until the February 3, 2009 Regular Board meeting. Seconded by Martin.

Discussion.

Roll call vote: 10-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

- Large moved to postpone action on the Delbert Bussell/John McGrath transfer application until the February 3, 2009 Regular Board meeting. Seconded by Schilke.

Roll call vote: 10-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

- Bernhardt moved to have a Special Board meeting on January 20, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the transfer guidelines. Seconded by Martin.

Roll call vote: 10-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

### **VARIANCE COMMITTEE:**

Terry Martin gave the Variance Committee report. Delbert Bussell is requesting a variance to cap a well on the NW ¼ 28-2-36 and to drill a new well on the NW ¼ 24-7-40. This request is contingent upon the transfer request by Delbert.

- Martin moved to postpone action on the Delbert Bussell Variance request until the February 3, 2009 Regular Board meeting. Seconded by Strand.

Roll call vote: 10-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

## **REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:**

The Board reviewed the District applications, contracts and agreements.

- Large moved to approve the District applications, contracts and agreements dated January 6, 2009. Seconded by Gaschler.

Jasper reported to the Board that Wayne Lutz expedited transfer application should be considered a transfer application of more than 6 miles and should not be included in this report.

- Large moved to amend the main motion to exclude the expedited transfer application of Wayne Lutz. Seconded by Gaschler.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-abstain, 1-absent. Amended motion carried.

- The main motion now reads: moved to approve the District applications, contracts and agreements dated January 6, 2009 and to exclude the expedited transfer application of Wayne Lutz.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-abstain, 1-absent. Amendment carried.

The Board reviewed the transfer application of Wayne Lutz.

- Martin moved to postpone action on the Wayne Lutz transfer application until the February 3, 2009 Regular Board meeting. Seconded by Gaschler.

Roll call vote: 10-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

## **LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:**

None.

## **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

### **A. Republican River Basin meeting/Compact report:**

Jasper reported that at the last Basin meeting there was good attendance and DNR gave their preliminary forecast report for the water supply.

### **B. Republican River Basin Coalition:**

Traci gave the Republican River Basin Coalition report to the Board. The next NRRMDA meeting will be held on January 9, 2009 in McCook with the Natural Resource Commission caucus meeting and the Republican River Basin Coalition meeting to follow.

### **C. Building Project:**

Jasper reviewed the building with the Board. There was a Pella window Representative here today to look at the windows and there are some drywall issues also.

### **D. Employee Policy:**

Jasper discussed the changes to the personnel policy #25 concerning the Field Office holidays.

- Terryberry moved to add the amendment to personnel policy #25 on field office holidays. Seconded by Martin.

Roll call vote: 10-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

**E. District Irrigation Retirement Program.**

Jasper discussed a few draft guidelines for a District Irrigation retirement program with the Board.

Chairman Pelster called a 5 minute recess at 11:30 am.

Chairman Pelster called the meeting back in session at 11:35 am.

Brad Edgerton is with Frenchman Cambridge Irrigation District and he gave a presentation on their District retirement program.

**ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Dirk let the Board know that he has filled out all the paperwork for Perkins County and has sent it in. Chase County will be having a meeting on January 20, 2009 at the library for Hazard Mitigation. After this meeting there will be ranking paperwork to be filled out. Dundy County has not contacted Dirk concerning any Hazard Mitigation meetings yet.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

The Board discussed the three meetings that are being held in McCook at the end of this week. Dirk reviewed the preliminary water usage for this year with the Board. The District used approximately 427,800 acre feet with the average water use for the District is 11.8 inches. The estimated usage for Chase County was 11.4 inches, Dundy County was 12.8 inches and Perkins County was 11.4 inches.

Chairman Pelster adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m. The next Regular Board meeting will be Tuesday, February 3, 2009 at the NRD Office in Imperial starting at 7: 30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry  
Secretary/Treasurer