

**Upper Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
March 1, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.
511 East 5th 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, Dean Large, Terry Martin, Tim Schilke, Tom Schroder, Mick Strand, Tom Terryberry and Jeff Wallin.

Board Members Absent: Greg Pelster and 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), Stan Loeffler, Janelle Myotte and Gerald Coates.

Information mailed to Directors:

Agenda

Minutes of the February 9, 2010 Regular Board meeting

Report of District Applications, Contracts and Agreements

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda

NRCS report

Minutes of February 9, 2010

Report of District Applications, Contracts & Agreements

Financial reports

Draft Integrated Management Plan

Vice Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

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

Greg Pelster and Mike Mosel are excused from today's meeting.

OPEN FORUMS:

Guests, Board members and NRD staff were introduced.

MINUTES:

- Terryberry moved to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2010 Regular Board meeting as mailed. Seconded by Strand.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Manager presented the Financial Reports to the Board.

- Terryberry moved to pay the Accounts Payable and to accept the Treasurers' report. Seconded by Schilke.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

Jasper and Tom Terryberry discussed with the Board the District applying for a purchasing card.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

NRCS REPORT:

Nadine gave the NRCS report to the Board. NRCS received their EQIP allocation and it was just over \$370,000 for the initial allocation. They are looking at CREP fields and are developing modifications for these fields. Work is being done on the CCP/EQIP contract for removal of Russian Olives, Eastern Red Cedar, and Salt Cedar on the Republican River.

- Terryberry moved to approve the NRCS report dated March 1, 2010 and to include the Conservation Plans as signed for Dundy and Perkins County. Seconded by Gaschler.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

Wallin arrived at 1:45 p.m.

Vice Chairman Martin moved the Integrated Management Plan down to the end of the agenda.

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

- Large moved to approve the report of District applications, contracts and agreements dated March 1, 2010 to include the NSWCP applications, pooling contracts and WILD NE contracts. Seconded by Gaschler.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 2-absent, 1-abstain. Motion carried.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:

Joel reported that he is still waiting to hear on the LB 701 property tax case. Joel has been working with the attorneys in Lincoln on the process of reviewing IPA projects. (Improvement Project Area) The Board would have the authority to create a benefit area for a particular project; the benefits would be transferred into assessments; and cooperators would pay these assessments. The IPA statute would give the District the authority to create sinking funds or sell bonds and other financing alternatives for compliance projects.

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN COALITION REPORT:

Traci gave the Coalition report to the Board. Traci reported that the SW Nebraska Water Conference will be held March 4th at Red Willow County fairgrounds. Traci reviewed the IWMPP funds projects and the budget for these projects. The Twin Valley and Southwest Weed Management areas have both received funds through the Nebraska Environmental Trust. The NRRMDA and the RRBC will hold meetings on Thursday, April 1st in Alma.

Jasper reported that Kris Polly is setting up meetings for next week during that NARD conference in Washington DC.

DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY:

The NRD purchase 2 new 12' drills and now has 2-12' drills that are surplus property.

- Terryberry moved to declare the 2-12' drills surplus property and advertise these drills to the highest bid and if no bid is received then the drills may be disposed of properly.
Seconded by Strand.

Roll call vote: 9-yes, 2-absent. Motion carried.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Dirk reported that the sign has stucco on it and he is getting the letters ordered.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT:

Jasper reported that the Water meetings that were held throughout the District were very well attended by cooperators.

LEGISLATION:

Jasper reported on LB 862 and reviewed the work that is going on with this bill.

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS:

The Board reviewed the draft IMP and the changes that have been made. Discussion was held to possibly have a conference call or a meeting with DNR. The Board decided to have a Special Board meeting with DNR on March 23rd at 1:30 pm if that date works with DNR.

Vice Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 2:45 pm. The next Regular Board meeting will be Monday, April 5, 2010 at the NRD Office in Imperial starting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry
Secretary/Treasurer