

**Upper Republican Natural Resources District  
Board of Directors Regular Meeting  
April 5, 2010 at 7:30 p.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, Dean Large, Terry Martin, Mike Mosel, Greg Pelster, Tim Schilke, Tom Schroder, Tom Terryberry, Jeff Wallin.

**Board Members Absent:** Mick Strand

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

**NRD Legal Counsel:** Joel Burke.

**Others present:** Nadine Bishop (NRCS), Traci Witthuhn (RR Basin Coordinator), Roger Stockton, Lisa Nichols, Ted Tietjen.

**Information mailed to Directors:**

Agenda

Minutes of March 1, 2010 Regular Board meeting

Minutes of March 25, 2010 Special Board meeting

Report of District Applications, Contracts and Agreements

**Information distributed at Board meeting:**

Agenda

Minutes of March 1, 2010 Regular Board meeting

Minutes of March 25, 2010 Special Board meeting

Financial reports

NRCS report

Report of Applications, Contracts

Draft IMP

Republican River Coalition report

Chairman Pelster called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm.

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

Mick Strand was excused from tonight's meeting.

**OPEN FORUMS:**

Guests, Board members and NRD staff were introduced.

Greg Pelster presented Jasper Fanning a desk set for serving as URNRD Manager for 5 years.

**MINUTES:**

✚ Gaschler moved to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2010 Regular Board meeting as mailed. Seconded by Terryberry.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 2-abstain, 2-absent. Motion carried.

- ✚ Terryberry moved to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2010 Special Board meeting as corrected. Seconded by Martin

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 2-abstain, 2-absent. Motion carried.

The correction is: The time of the meeting should read 1:30 p.m. not 1:30 a.m.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The Manager presented the Financial Reports to the Board.

- ✚ Martin moved to pay the Accounts Payable and to accept the Treasurers report. Seconded by Gaschler.

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

### **NRCS REPORT:**

Nadine gave the NRCS report this evening. Nadine reviewed with the Board the policy for signing conservation plans and contracts for NRCS.

- ✚ Martin moved to authorize all Board Members, Management and NRD staff to sign Conservation Plans. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Discussion.

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

- ✚ Martin moved to adopt the policy that Board Members sign the Plan of Operations for Conservation Reserve Program Contracts. Seconded by Gaschler.

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

Wallin arrived at 8:00 p.m.

Nadine reviewed with the Board the Mutual Agreement and Cooperative Working Agreement which included the civil right responsibilities. The Board reviewed the handout that covered EQIP.

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

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

Roger Stockton discussed the Lakeview Lodge at Swanson Reservoir to remind everyone that it can be rented for activities. The work on the beach area at Swanson Reservoir will possibly start in June and then possibly Enders Lake. Roger also reported that they have received another Environmental Trust Grant for the weed management area.

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

Jasper and the Board reviewed the draft IMP. There are still some changes in the draft IMP. The Board will consider setting a public hearing date at the May Board meeting for the IMP.

### **IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AREA:**

The Board and Jasper discussed IPA's and how they work and if the Board would like to continue investigating them.

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

- + Terryberry moved to approve the report of District applications, contracts and applications dated April 5, 2010 to include the NSWCP applications, pooling contracts and the well decommissioning application. Seconded by Bernhardt.

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

**LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:**

Joel reviewed the property tax refund and the Judge's ruling in the case. Joel and Jasper discussed what to do with the property tax funds.

**REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING/COMPACT REPORT:**

Jasper and Dirk attended the RRMDA meeting in Alma on April 1, 2010. The main discussion at the meeting was whether to allow Pioneer Ditch join the RRMDA. Jasper reported that he and Dan Smith had met with representatives from the Pioneer Ditch and discussion was held on the possibility of leasing their water.

**REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN COALITION REPORT:**

Traci gave the Republican River Basin Coalition report. Traci reviewed the financial report, NRRMDA and RRBC meetings, and the IWMPPF projects.

**REPUBLICAN RIVER TASK FORCE:**

Jasper reported that LB 1057 was passed which creates the Republican River Task Force. The Board will need to appoint 2 representatives from the NRD to be on the task force.

- + Martin moved to authorize Tom Terryberry and Jasper Fanning to be the representatives on the Republican River Task Force and authorize Dirk Dinnel to attend the meetings. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Discussion.

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

**INTERNSHIP:**

Jasper discussed hiring a college student for an internship over the summer to GPS all of the NRD irrigation well locations.

- + Terryberry moved to direct management to advertise for an intern to GPS the wells in the summer starting at \$11.00 per hour. Seconded by Gaschler.

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

**ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Dirk reported that the Perkins County Hazard Mitigation Plan has received final approval from FEMA. The sign is finished and we will be putting rock on the south side of the building.

**INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT:**

Mike Mosel presented the Information and Education report this evening.

There are 4 students from Chase County Schools interested in attending the Nebraska Range Youth Camp that will be held in Halsey in June. They are asking if the NRD would assist with the tuition.

- + Mosel moved to approve funding up to \$550 for Nebraska Range Camp Scholarships. Seconded by Gaschler.

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

Ted Tietjen met with the Information & Education Committee and discussed funding for research on terrace recharge. Ted will do more research on this project and bring more information on the project to the Board.

Robert Tigner, Chase County Extension Agent, also met with the Information & Education Committee and discussed an irrigation research project. He would like the NRD, UNL and the Extension office to work together on announcement or flyers for tours, or field days for this project.

**STATE ASSOCIATION:**

Terry Martin will be attending a NARD Board meeting on April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

Jasper and Tom Gaschler reported on the NARD Washington DC trip.

Chairman Pelster adjourned the meeting at 10:01 p.m. The next Regular Board meeting will be Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at the NRD Office in Imperial starting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry  
Secretary/Treasurer