

**Upper Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
May 4, 2010 at 7:30 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, Greg Pelster, Tom Schroder, Jeff Wallin and Mick Strand.

Board Members Absent: Mike Mosel, Tim Schilke and Tom Terryberry.

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 (SW RC & D), Jesse Bradley (DNR), Jim Schneider (DNR) and Loren Jessen.

Information mailed to Directors:

Agenda
Minutes of April 5, 2010 Regular meeting
Report of District applications, contracts and agreements

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda	Brian Dunnigan letter - Lower Republican
Minutes of April 5, 2010 Regular Board meeting	Draft IMP
Financial reports	IPA statutes
NRCS reports	Supreme Court article
Report of Applications, contract agreements	RR Basin Coalition report

Chairman Pelster called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

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

OPEN FORUMS:

Guests, Board members and NRD staff were introduced.

MINUTES:

- Gaschler moved to approve the April 5, 2010 Regular Board meeting minutes as mailed. Seconded by Martin.

Roll call vote: 6-yes, 1-abstain, 4-absent. Motion carried.

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 Strand.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 4-absent. Motion carried.

NRCS REPORT:

Nadine Bishop gave the NRCS report this month. NRCS celebrated 75 years of conservation last week. Nadine reviewed the prescribed burns for vegetation improvement project that was done.

- Large moved to approve the approve the NRCS report dated May 3, 2010 to include the Conservation Plans as signed for Chase, Dundy and Perkins County. Seconded by Martin.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 4-absent. Motion carried.

Roger Stockton reported on the Swanson Reservoir clean up that was April 27th. Roger also handed out a DVD on the Republican River cleanup over the past few years. Traci and Roger planted shrubs on the UNL research land.

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS:

The Board started reviewing the draft IMP and there were still some changes needed. Chairman Pelster continued on with the agenda and will come back to the draft IMP when the corrections are all made on the document.

Chairman Pelster read the letter from Brian Dunnigan (DNR) concerning the Lower Republican NRD contract with Frenchman Cambridge Irrigation District.

- Large moved to reply to DNR regarding Lower Republican NRD's contract and letter stating our position as no reduction in CBCU resulted from the lease. Seconded by Gaschler.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 4-absent. Motion carried.

- Martin moved to take the draft IMP revision at 8:10 pm to public hearing at the June Regular Board meeting and have legal counsel and manager prepare the proper notices. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Discussion.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 4-absent. Motion carried.

Chairman Pelster called a 5 minute recess at 8:35 pm.

Chairman Pelster called the meeting back to order at 8:42 pm.

Wallin arrived at 8:44 p.m.

Jasper discussed with the Board how to initially start an IPA. The Board could decide an IPA is in order and will make a resolution to move forward or a group of landowners can petition the Board to investigate an IPA. Jasper presented a resolution to the Board to enable the Board to present information on IPA's to the public.

- Martin moved to adopt resolution #05042010-1 and to set up an Information program at the June Regular Board meeting. Seconded by Strand.

Motion was withdrawn with approval of second.

- Martin moved to adopt resolution #05042010-2. Seconded by Bernhardt. Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

- Large moved to accept the URNRD Report of District applications, contracts and agreements to include the dissolve pooling contracts, pooling contracts and transfer application. Seconded by Strand.

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

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:

Joel would like to attend the Nebraska Water Laws and Regulations seminar in Lincoln on May 25, 2010.

- Martin moved to sponsor Joel Burke to attend the Nebraska Water Laws and Regulations seminar in Lincoln on May 25th. Seconded by Gaschler.

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

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING/COMPACT REPORT:

Jasper reported to the Board that Kansas has filed a petition for leave to take action before the US Supreme Court and asking the court to force Nebraska to comply with the settlement agreement.

The Supreme Court took the occupation tax case without going through the Court of Appeals.

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN COALITION REPORT:

Traci gave the Coalition report. Traci reviewed the financial report and all accounts have been transferred to Imperial. Traci also presented a draft budget in her report. The RRBC and NRRMDA will hold their next quarterly meeting on July 26th at Tri Basin. There will be a Riparian Management Field Day on May 26th beginning in Cambridge.

TECH SUPPORT:

Jasper is working with Papio Missouri NRD on an interlocal agreement for technical support with their IT people. This may be a pilot project so they can provide computer support remotely.

NE RANCH PRACTICUM SCHOLARSHIP:

Jasper reported he had been contacted by UNL about scholarships for their Ranch Practicum. There is a mother/son from our District that has applied for the program and any scholarships would be appreciated.

- Martin moved to help sponsor scholarships not to exceed \$700 per operation for the Ranch Practicum. Seconded by Strand.

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

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Dirk reported that he had been getting bids for a concrete parking pad around the office. Dirk reported to the Board that Chase County Hazard Mitigation plan is back and finalized.

LEGISLATION:

Jasper reported that LB862 was passed and is effective at the end of June.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The Board reviewed the date for the June Board meeting.

- Martin moved to schedule the June Regular Board meeting on June 10, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.
Seconded by Gaschler.

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

Chairman Pelster adjourned the meeting at 9:44 p.m. The next Regular Board meeting will be Thursday, June 10, 2010 at the NRD Office in Imperial starting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry
Secretary/Treasurer