

**Upper Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
June 2, 2009 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, Mike Mosel, Tim Schilke, Tom Schroder, Mick Strand, Tom Terryberry and Jeff Wallin.

Board Members Absent: Greg Pelster.

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

NRD Legal Counsel: Joel Burke.

Others present: Nadine Bishop (NRCS), Traci Witthuhn(RR Basin Coordinator), James Williams (DNR), Jason Kepler (DNR), Gerald Coates, Stan Loeffler, Brad Edgerton, James Uerling, John T. Paisley, Mark Christensen, Russ Pankonin, and Brett Bullock.

Information mailed to Directors:

Agenda
Minutes of the May 5, 2009 Board meeting
Report of District applications, contracts and agreements
Information on Platte River Basin Tour

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda	NRCS report
Minutes of May 5, 2009 Board meeting	Report of District applications, contract, agreements
Financial reports	Republican River Basin Coalition report

Vice Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 7:49 pm.

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

Greg Pelster is excused from tonight's meeting.

OPEN FORUMS:

Guests, Board members and NRD staff were introduced.

MINUTES:

- Mosel moved to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2009 Regular Board meeting as mailed. Seconded by Schroder.

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

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Manager presented the Financial Reports to the Board.

- Large moved to pay the Accounts Payable and to accept the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Schilke.

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

NRCS REPORT:

Nadine Bishop gave the NRCS report. NRCS is done with the field office appraisal. NRCS is waiting to receive funding appropriation for EQIP funding. There has been no information on AWEF funding. NRCS staff is trying to work on livestock pipelines and will be looking at CREP seedings and evaluating how well they are established.

- Terryberry moved to approve the NRCS report of planning activity dated June 1, 2009 to include the Conservation Plans as signed for Chase, Dundy and Perkins County. Seconded by Strand.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS:

There was no written testimony submitted on amendment to the Rules and Regulations.

- Large moved to adopt amended Rules and Regulations and have the Manager and Legal Counsel prepare the order. Seconded by Terryberry.

Roll call vote: 9-yes, 1-no, 1-absent. Motion carried.

Voting yes: Bernhardt, Gaschler, Large, Martin, Mosel, Schilke, Schroder, Strand and Terryberry. Voting no: Wallin. Absent: Pelster.

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

- Terryberry moved to approve the report of District applications to include the NSWCP applications and the well decommissioning application. Seconded by Strand.

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

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:

None.

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING/COMPACT REPORT:

Vice Chairman moved this item to the end of the meeting as it will be in executive session.

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN COALITION REPORT:

Traci Witthuhn gave the Republican River Basin Coalition report. Traci reported on a proposed FY 2009-2010 budget, minutes of the RRBC meeting that was held in Curtis, the IWMPPF grants and other meetings she has attended the past month. Jasper reported that the Coalition members reviewed the staffing of the Coordinator and felt there was no need for any changes. Jasper is still negotiating with the Water Strategies contract.

BUILDING PROJECT:

The staff is working on the sign and flag pole for the front of the building and also working on the drainage on the east side of the building.

UNL WATER CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP:

Jim Goeke asked if URNRD would be interested in being a sponsor for the UNL Water Conference that will be held in September. The NRD could choose the sponsorship level they want. This will be an agenda item for July.

ASSISTANT MANAGER’S REPORT:

Dirk reported that the Dundy County kick off meeting for Hazard Mitigation is set for next week. Also Dirk gave a report on the Republican River Riparian and Restoration Partners Conference.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT:

The Committee still needs names for the Conservation award.

LEGISLATION:

Senator Mark Christensen reported on the property tax refund. Senator Christensen reported that the Governor had spoke yesterday on the McCook radio and stated it is in the NRD hands and they could either write a check or do a levy offset. Senator Christensen will be attending a meeting on Thursday to get more information on refunding the property tax.

STATE ASSOCIATION:

Jasper reported that the Risk Loss Committee has met and discussed the health insurance for the next year. There possibly will be an increase of 1.5% for this insurance.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Deb reminded all Board Members that June 22nd would be the last pay period for this fiscal year if anyone had any expenses that have not been paid.

- Terryberry moved to go into executive session for approximately one hour to discuss the Republican River Compact potential lawsuit with the Board, Management, DNR staff and legal counsel present. Seconded by Gaschler.

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

The Board went into executive session at 8:58 pm.

- Terryberry moved to come out of executive session at 10:03 p.m. Seconded by Strand.
Roll call vote: 10-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 10:04 p.m. The next Regular Board meeting will be Tuesday, July 7, 2009 at the NRD Office in Imperial starting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry
Secretary/Treasurer