



Perkins Chase and
Dundy Counties
Headquarters in Imperial

Upper Republican NATURAL RESOURCE DISTRICT

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Board of Directors Regular Meeting September 6, 2011 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, Jason Kunkel, Dean Large, Terry Martin, Tom Schroder, Mick Strand, Tom Terryberry and Jeff Wallin.

Board Members Absent: Brett Bullock and Loren Jessen.

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

Others present: Nadine Bishop (NRCS), Brad Johnson, Stuart Bartels, Josh Wendell, and Russ Pankonin.

Information mailed to Directors:

Agenda	Variance requests
Minutes of August 2, 2011 Regular meeting	District contracts and agreements

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda	NRCS Report
Minutes of August 2, 2011 Meeting	Variance requests
Financial reports	Report of District contracts and agreements
Budget information	

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

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

Brett Bullock and Loren Jessen are excused from tonight's meeting.

Chairman Martin opened the FY 2011-2012 Budget hearing and the FY 2011-2012 Levy hearing at 7:36 p.m. Chairman Martin asked for any comments on the budget or mill levy and there were none at this time.

OPEN FORUMS:

Guests, Board members and NRD staff were introduced.

Jeff Wallin arrived at 7:37 p.m.

MINUTES:

- Terryberry moved to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2011 Regular Board meeting as mailed. Seconded by Strand.

Roll call vote: 6-yes, 2-abstain and 3-absent. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Manager presented the Financial Reports to the Board.

Dean Large arrived at 7:40 p.m.

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

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

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

Tom Gaschler gave the Budget Committee report. Jasper reported that there are 5 exhibits that are part of the record. These exhibits are the publisher affidavits from the Imperial Republican, Wauneta Breeze, Benkelman Post and Grant Tribune Sentinel and a copy of the proposed budget. Chairman Martin asked for any comments on the budget hearing or the levy hearing. Russ Pankonin asked questions on the budget and occupation tax. There were no further comments on the budget from the Board or the Public.

Chairman Martin closed the FY 2011-2012 Budget Hearing and the FY 2011-2012 Levy Hearing at 7:50 p.m.

- Gaschler moved to adopt Resolution UR-2011-09-09-01 for the FY 2011-2012 Property Tax request and Levy Resolution. Seconded by Strand.

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

- Gaschler moved to adopt Resolution UR 2011-09-06-02 for FY 2011-2012 Occupation Tax. Seconded by Strand.

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

- Gaschler moved to approve the proposed FY 2011-2012 Budget and Levy as presented. Seconded by Bernhardt.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

NRCS REPORT:

Nadine Bishop gave the NRCS report this evening. Nadine gave an update on all the programs they are working on now. NRCS has several Information and Education and Training activities during September. Nadine also announced that it is official and they will be moving to a new location sometime in the spring.

- Terryberry moved to approve the NRCS report of planning activity dated September 2, 2011 to include the Conservation Plans as signed for Chase, Dundy and Perkins County. Seconded by Bernhardt.

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

VARIANCE COMMITTEE:

George Seward has requested his variance request be put on hold for a few months.

DL Cattle Trading LLC is requesting to connect two wells to water three quarters in the SW ¼ Section 34-3-39, NW ¼ Section 3-2-39 and the NE ¼ Section 4-2-39 to conserve energy and water.

- Strand moved to deny the variance request of DL Cattle Trading LLC. Seconded by Large.

Roll call vote: 9-yes, 1-abstain, 2-absent. Motion carried.

Stuart Bartels is requesting to decommission the well on the SE ¼ Section 10-4-36 and drill a well on the NW ¼ 26-5-36 and transfer the certified acres from SE 10-4-36 to the NW 26-5-36. The reason for this request is precipitation runoff frequently floods the well and crop and would be more efficient use of groundwater irrigation as the crop wouldn't be flooded and for groundwater quality by properly abandoning the well on SE 10-4-36.

This request will be an agenda item for the October 4, 2011 Regular Board meeting.

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

- Terryberry moved to approve the URNRD Report of District applications, contracts and agreements dated September 6, 2011 to include the NSWCP applications and the well decommissioning applications. Seconded by Strand.

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

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:

Joel was not present tonight. Nate reported that the easement paperwork for the AWEP contracts was sent out.

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING/COMPACT REPORT:

Nate attended the Compact meeting at Burlington and there is not much to report from this meeting. The staff is working with the State on a 3rd party subpoena from Kansas and the Attorney General's office is assisting in putting the documentation together.

Jasper sent a copy of a Cooperative Agreement to the other NRD's concerning augmentation projects. It was received well by the Managers and they are reviewing the agreement and will send their comments and after a final draft is done it should be signed.

Nate has put together a Nebraska Environmental Trust grant for a million dollars for the augmentation project.

AUGMENTATION PROJECT:

Jasper reported that Miller and Associates are working on which wells to use and have mapped the pipeline.

ASSISTANT MANAGER’S REPORT:

No report from Dirk or Nate.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT:

Tom Gaschler reported that the Benkelman Tree Board received the Outstanding Community Conservationist award and will be presented this award at NARD conference at the end of this month.

LEGISLATION:

Jasper reported on the progress of LR314 which is a process to inventory all the different funding resources and projects that involve water. Then identify the needs that aren’t being met and systematically build a case for funding that is lacking across the state for water projects of all kinds.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The Board needs to elect a voting delegate for NARD Conference.

- Bernhardt moved to appoint Tom Gaschler as voting delegate and Terry Martin as the alternate delegate. Seconded by Terryberry.

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

Jasper reviewed the resolutions that will be discussed at Legislative Conference.

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m. The next Regular Board meeting will be Tuesday, October 4, 2011 at the NRD Office in Imperial starting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry
Secretary/Treasurer