



Perkins Chase and
Dundy Counties
Headquarters in Imperial

Upper Republican NATURAL RESOURCE DISTRICT

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Board of Directors Regular Meeting January 9 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, Jason Kunkel, Dean Large, Terry Martin, Tom Schroder, Tom Terryberry.

Board Members Absent: Brett Bullock, Loren Jessen, and Jeff Wallin.

NRD Staff: Jasper Fanning, Nate Jenkins, Bruce Curtis, Julia Franck and Deb Hayes.

NRD Legal Counsel: Joel Burke.

Others present: Andy Keep (NRCS).

Information mailed to Directors:

Agenda	Report of District applications, contracts, agreements
Minutes of December 5, 2017 Regular meeting	

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda	NRCS report
Minutes of December 5, 2017 Regular meeting	Report of District applications, contracts, agreements
Financial reports	NARD Legislature update

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm.

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

Brett Bullock, Loren Jessen, and Jeff Wallin are excused from today's meeting.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Guests, Board members and NRD staff were introduced.

MINUTES:

- Large moved to approve the November 7, 2017 Regular Board meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 6-yes, 1-abstain, 3-absent. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Jasper presented the Financial Reports to the Board.

- Gaschler moved to pay the Accounts Payable and approve the Treasurer’s Report. Seconded by Terryberry.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NRCS REPORT:

Andy Keep gave the NRCS report and reviewed the Secretary of Agriculture’s goals and actions related to having USDA employees operate as “OneUSDA”. The Secretary strives to make USDA the most effective, efficient, customer focused and the best managed federal department. Andy also discussed that Chase County has been selected by the Nebraska State Range Judging Committee to host the 2018 State Range Judging Contest.

- Terryberry moved to approve the NRCS Report of Planning Activity dated January 5, 2018 and to include the Conservation Plans as signed for Perkins County. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Jasper and the Board discussed the allocation and the Ground Water Committee’s recommendation last month for the allocation.

- Bernhardt moved to leave the allocation at 13” per year, 65” for the next 5 years and the penalty provisions remain the same. Seconded by Gaschler.

Discussion.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

VARIANCE COMMITTEE: None

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

- Terryberry moved to approve the report of District applications, contracts and agreements to include the Corners for Wildlife contract and the pooling contracts and with all pooling contracts starting in 2018. Seconded by Gaschler.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:

Joel Burke had no report this evening.

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING/COMPACT REPORT:

Jasper reported that there was not much news on the Compact. The three states are still working on some issues.

AUGMENTATION PROJECT:

Jasper reported to the Board that Todd is working on cleaning up around the site and HOA is working on the SCADA system and trying to figure out where to put an antennae.

GIS WORKSHOP:

Jasper reported that GIS has the database completed and the next step is to work on is the app for the technicians to use out in the field. They will need to build an app for all 4 programs that the technicians would use. There will be charges for the maintenance on the apps, technical support and a per-user fee.

- Bernhardt moved to approve the GIS contracts subject to managements recommendations. Seconded by Gaschler.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Nate presented the Board with a proposal from Ducks Unlimited for a piece of property they have acquired that has 55 acres, it's a playa lake, and is enrolled in a wetland reserve program so there is a permanent easement on the property. Ducks Unlimited has a policy that when they acquire a property that don't hold that property for 5 years and they offer these to Government agencies as long as they allow public access to the property. There are a few issues with the wetland reserve program as you can't mow or hay it, would have to maintain the fence and cannot build any structures on the property. There is no cost to the NRD and the NRD would not pay taxes. The Board discussed this item but there was no interest in owning this property.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT: None.

LEGISLATION:

Jasper reviewed a few of the legislative bills that have been presented. Senator Hughes introduced a bill to get discussion started about property taxes for Dundy County and Lincoln County. Jasper discussed LB 218 with the Board which is the bill that would force NCORPE to sell ground. Nate put together a draft letter to send to Senators.

- Gaschler moved to have the draft letter updated and send it to Senators. Seconded by Schroder.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

Senator Hughes bill LB 768 will go to hearing next week.

- Terryberry moved to support the concept of Senator Hughes' bill. Seconded by Kunkel.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

STATE ASSOCIATION:

NARD Legislative Conference will be held in Lincoln the week of January 22nd and several staff members and Directors will be attending.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Chairman Martin turned the meeting over to Secretary Terryberry at 2:56 p.m.

Secretary Terryberry asked for nominations for Board Chairman. Tom Gaschler nominated Terry Martin. There were no further nominations for Chairman.

- Gaschler moved that nominations cease and to cast a unanimous vote for Terry Martin as Chairman. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

Terryberry turned meeting back over to Terry Martin at 3:00 p.m.

Chairman Martin asked for nominations for Vice Chairman.

Gaschler nominated Jeff Wallin. There were no other nominations for Vice Chairman.

- Gaschler moved that nominations cease and to cast a unanimous vote for Jeff Wallin as Vice Chairman. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

Chairman Martin asked for nominations for Secretary/Treasurer.

Bernhardt nominated Tom Terryberry. There were no other nominations for Secretary/Treasurer.

- Gaschler moved that nominations cease and to cast a unanimous vote for Tom Terryberry as Secretary/Treasurer. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

Chairman Martin asked for nominations for the NCORPE representative.

Gaschler nominated Terry Martin as NCORPE representative and Dean Large as alternate.

- Gaschler moved to have Terry Martin be the NCORPE representative and Dean Large as alternate. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 6-yes, 1-abstain, 3-absent. Motion carried.

Chairman Martin asked for nominations for the NARD representative. Gaschler nominated Terry Martin as delegate and Tom Gaschler as alternate.

- Terryberry nominated Terry Martin for the NARD representative and Tom Gaschler as alternate. Seconded by Gaschler.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

VOTING DELEGATE:

Chairman Martin asked for a voting delegate and alternate for NARD Legislative Conference.

- Terryberry moved to have Jason Kunkel as voting delegate and Tom Gaschler as alternate for NARD Legislative Conference. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry
Secretary/Treasurer