



Perkins Chase and
Dundy Counties
Headquarters in Imperial

Upper Republican NATURAL RESOURCE DISTRICT

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Board of Directors Regular Meeting December 2, 2014 at 10:00 am 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, Brett Bullock, Tom Gaschler, Loren Jessen, Jason Kunkel, Dean Large, Terry Martin, Tom Schroder, and Tom Terryberry.

Board Members Absent: Jeff Wallin

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

NRD Legal Counsel: Joel Burke.

Others present: Andy Keep (NRCS), Brad Johnson and Chelsea Erickson.

Information mailed to Directors:

Agenda

Minutes of the November 13th Regular meeting

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda

NRCS report

Minutes of

USGS Joint Funding agreement

Financial reports

SCORE funding request

Audit report

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 10:06 am.

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

Jeff Wallin is excused from this month's meeting.

OPEN FORUMS:

Guests, Board members and NRD staff were introduced.

MINUTES:

- Large moved to approve the November 13, 2014 Regular Board meeting minutes as mailed. Second by Bullock.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 2-abstain, 1-absent. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Manager presented the Financial Reports to the Board.

- Gaschler moved to approve the Treasurers report and to pay the Accounts Payable. Second by Jessen.

Roll call vote: 9-yes, 1-absent.

Jasper and the Board reviewed the FY 13-14 audit report.

- Gaschler moved to approve the FY 13-14 audit report. Second by Terryberry.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NRCS REPORT:

Andy Keep gave the NRCS report this month. Andy reported on the new Client Gateway for NRCS clients. The Client Gateway provides NRCS clients with a new way to communicate and do business with NRCS. The Receipt for Service is now a requirement for NRCS and FSA to provide a receipt for service to customers.

- Terryberry moved to approve the NRCS report dated December 1, 2014 and to approve the conservation plans as signed for Chase, Perkins and Dundy Counties. Second by Jessen.

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

Tim Smith with South West Weed Management Association gave a report to the Board on the projects they have been working on. Mr. Smith also discussed expenses and grants they receive for their Association. Mr. Smith asked if the Board was interested in donating SWWMA \$7500.00 to help with the month to month expenses. They are also requesting this amount from Middle and Lower Republican NRD.

This will be an agenda item for the January 6, 2015 Regular Board meeting.

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS:

The Groundwater Committee will start meeting after the first of the year to start reviewing Rules and Regulations.

Jasper discussed the USGS Joint Funding agreement for recorder wells with the Board. There may be some other options for data collection. This will be an agenda item for the January 6, 2015 Regular Board meeting.

The Groundwater Committee met with County Commissioner Don Weiss and Charlie Beard concerning the water supply at Champion Lake. They were requesting an open well to pump what they could during the summer months. They have done some improvements to eliminate seepage and improvements haven't been tested so it was decided to see if improvements help them with allocation. They will monitor improvements and keep in contact with the Board.

VARIANCE COMMITTEE: Jerry Kuenning postponed until January 6, 2015 Regular Board meeting.

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS: No report.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:

Joel reported on the suit with TERC and they are asking us to show just cause why appeal should be dismissed. They are comparing this with a Nebraska Supreme Court case and are wondering why the appeals would be different. There will be a telephone conference call with TERC on December 16th.

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING/COMPACT REPORT:

Additional progress is being made with Kansas in working together to allow augmentation projects and allow Kansas to store water and use it out of Harlan. Discussions will continue next month.

AUGMENTATION PROJECTS:

NCORPE will be offering the management position to an individual later today. They also discussed another position due to the difficulty of trying to find help. Game and Parks discussed with NCORPE Board the possibility of sharing an employee instead of paying for an open hunting access on the property.

Jasper discussed with the Board the pivots and pumps on Wilder property and declaring them surplus proper and possibly selling them with Big Iron and then turning wells into monitoring wells.

- Gaschler moved to have the Board declare the pivots on the Wilder property as surplus and to have management sell the equipment. Second by Bernhardt.

Roll call 9-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

Jasper discussed an employee for Rock Creek work and the possibility of talking to Game and Parks about an arrangement with sharing an employee also.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Nate reported that there will be a Basin wide planning group at the NRD office on December 18th to educate this group and get them some information before they start having meetings with the State. The State has hired a facilitator but not sure when they will start meeting.

Dirk reported that all the meters have been read and technicians are waiting for energy use reports to come back to have all readings figured. The technicians have the fall well measurements finished and all meters needing repaired have been picked up.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT:

Tom Gaschler discussed donating to SCORE camp. This was discussed at last month's meeting also.

- Gaschler moved to sponsor SCORE Camp in 2015 in the amount of \$7000.00. Second by Terryberry.

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

Tom Gaschler reported that we are working on getting the website updated and more user friendly. We will need to get pictures of some of the Board members and staff for this.

LEGISLATION: No report

STATE ASSOCIATION: No report

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: No report

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 11:12 pm. The next Regular Board meeting will be January 6, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the NRD Office.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry
Secretary/Treasurer