

Upper Republican NATURAL RESOURCE DISTRICT

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Board of Directors Regular Meeting September 1, 2015 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, 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 and Deb Hayes.

NRD Legal Counsel: Joel Burke.

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

Information mailed to Directors:

Agenda Report of District applications, contracts, agreements

Minutes of 8-4-15 meeting

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda Budget

Minutes of 8-4-15 Regular meeting NRCS report

Financial reports Report of District applications, contracts, agreements

Surplus item list

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm.

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

Chairman Martin opened the FY 15-16 Budget Hearing and FY 15-16 Mill levy hearing at 7:34 pm.

Joel Burke was appointed the Hearing Officer. Joel accepted exhibits 1 through 7 into the record which are the notice of hearing, budget, and the resolutions for property tax and occupation tax. Mr. Burke asked for any testimony from anyone. There was no testimony from guests present or Board members. Chairman Martin will leave Budget Hearing open until we get to the Budget agenda item.

MINUTES:

o Terryberry moved to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2015 Regular Board meeting as presented. Seconded by Schroder.

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

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Manager presented the Financial Reports to the Board.

O Gaschler moved to approve the Accounts Receivable and to pay the Accounts Payable. Seconded by Kunkel.

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

o <u>Terryberry moved to declare the items listed as surplus property. Seconded by Gaschler.</u> Roll call vote: 9-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

Tom Gaschler gave the Budget Committee report and reviewed the FY 15-16 Proposed Budget and Mill Levy. The total personal and real property tax required is \$2,055,350.00, the mill levy is 0.055216 and the occupation tax will be \$10 this year. Jasper reviewed the valuation increase with the Board.

Chairman Martin asked for any testimony on the Budget and there was none.

Chairman Martin closed the FY 15-16 Budget Hearing and the FY 15-16 Mill Levy Hearing at 7:45 p.m.

o Gaschler moved to adopt the FY 15-16 Property Tax request and Levy Resolution and set the property tax request at \$2,055,350 and the corresponding levy at \$0.055216 per on hundred dollars of valuation. Seconded by Bernhardt.

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

o Gaschler moved to approve the FY 15-16 Occupation Tax Resolution and set the occupation tax at \$10.00 per irrigated acre. Seconded by Bernhardt.

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

O Gaschler moved to adopt the FY 15-16 Budget as presented. Seconded by Bernhardt. Roll call vote: 9-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NRCS REPORT:

Andy Keep gave the NRCS and reported on the CRP re-enrollment. The USDA is accepting new offers to participate in CRP under a general sign up from December 1, 2015 through

February 26, 2016. Existing program participants with contracts expiring September 30, 2015 will be granted an option for a one year extension.

 Terryberry moved to approve the NRCS Report of Planning Activity dated September 1, 2015 to include the Conservation plans as signed for Chase and Perkins County. Seconded by

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

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS: None

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

o <u>Terryberry moved to approve the URNRD Report of District applications, contracts and agreements date September 1, 2015 to include the NSWCP and well plugging applications. Seconded by Large.</u>

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

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: No report.

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING/COMPACT REPORT:

Jasper reported on the RRCA meeting that he attended. They have agreed to a one more year agreement. They are working together on a long term agreement on augmentation crediting but decided about a month ago that this would take time with the processes that the Bureau of Reclamation and Nebraska and Kansas Bostwick would have to go through.

AUGMENTATION PROJECTS:

Jasper discussed the transfer of Platte water and the interest it has brought. Jasper will prepare a scope of work for consultants, history of transferring and information and permitting requirements.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Nate reported a grant with UNL for probes and this year it would be \$20,000 and would raise \$20,000 each year.

Nate reminded the Board members that the Legislative Hearing with Senator Groene is September 21^{st} from 1:00 - 4:00 CT at the Community College. There will also be a tour after the hearing.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT: No report.

STATE ASSOCIATION:

NARD annual conference will be held September 28th and 29th in Kearney.

o <u>Large moved to appoint Tom Gaschler as voting delegate and Terry Martin as alternate</u> voting delegate. Seconded by Terryberry.

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

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry
Secretary/Treasurer