

Upper Republican
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1140
511 East 5th St.
Imperial, NE 69033
Phone 888-883-9066

Board of Directors Regular Meeting
January 11, 2023 at 9:00 am
511 East 5th Street, Imperial, NE

Agendas were sent to all Board Members and 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, and posted on the District website. The meeting was announced over KADL-Imperial, KRVN-Lexington and KOGA-Ogallala and published in area newspapers.

Board Members Present: Jason Kunkel, Jay Lee, Harry Merrihew, Terry Martin, Brock Stromberger, Janice Stroup, CJ Swanson and Tyler Turner.

Board Member Absent: Dave Brown, Dean Large and Tom Schroder.

NRD Staff: Jasper Fanning, Nate Jenkins, Julia Strand and Deb Hayes.

Others Present: Jim Schneider, Colby Osborne, Mallory Morton, Kort Kemp, George Seward, James Mandeville and Shane Galles.

Information emailed to Directors:

Agenda

Regular Board Meeting minutes December 20, 2022

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda

Regular Board Meeting minutes December 20, 2022

Financial reports

NRCS report

Draft Rules/Regulations Order 36

Report of District Applications, Contracts
and Agreements

URNRD Committees list

Chairman Martin called the regular meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Jasper reported to the Board concerning Jay Lee's subdistrict and a vacancy. State statutes state that a vacancy only exists under a certain set of circumstances and the circumstance in his subdistrict isn't actually a vacancy. Joel's recommendation to the Board is that Jay continues to serve as a Board member since no one has been elected to replace him and no one has been appointed to replace him so he continues to serve as a vacancy doesn't exist.

Chairman Martin announced that the Open Meetings Act was posted in the NRD Office. Dave Brown, Dean Large and Tom Schroder are excused from the meeting. Introductions of Board Members, Staff and Public.

MINUTES:

- Stromberger moved to approve the December 20, 2022, Regular Board meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Merrihew.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Financial Report was presented to the Board.

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

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

NRCS REPORT:

Andy Keep was unable to attend the meeting today but sent a written NRCS report. The NRCS report was on the Range Judging Contest and that Chase County has been selected to host the 2024 State Range Judging Contest.

- Swanson moved to approve the NRCS Report of Planning Activity dated January 11, 2023, to include the Conservation Plans as signed for Chase County. Seconded by Turner.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

GROUNDWATER MANGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Jasper reviewed the Draft Rules and Regulations Order 36 with the Board. There were several items reviewed and discussed concerning latest changes. The Board will review the Rules and Regulations and discuss them at the February Regular Board meeting.

VARIANCE COMMITTEE: None

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

- Stromberger moved to approve the URNRD Report of District applications, contracts and agreements dated January 11, 2023, to include the NSWCP applications. Seconded by Turner.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: None.

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING/COMPACT REPORT: None.

AUGMENTATION PROJECT: None

OLSSON AND ASSOCIATES:

Jim Schnieder, Colby Osborn and Mallory Morton with Olsson and Associates presented to the Board the URNRD Sub Regional Groundwater Model. They presented information on the model framework, model calibration, transient model and calibration and scenario comparison. Olsson has been working closely with Julia on modeling and she is learning how to run different simulations. They will add some things that were figured out today and get it completed soon.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Nate is working with the State to finalize the contract to receive \$1.2 million to finalize the telemetry project. Nate should know something in February if we receive the Water Smart grant for another \$800,000 to \$900,000.

INFORMATION & EDUCATION: None

LEGISLATION: None.

STATE ASSOCIATION/VOTING DELEGATE:

- Martin moved that Jason Kunkel will be voting delegate and Terry Martin will be the alternate delegate at NARD Legislative Conference. Seconded by Merrihew.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- Kunkel moved to postpone elections until February to have a full Board to be present. Seconded by Lee.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 11:06 am. The January Board meeting will be held Tuesday, February 7, 2023 at 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted.

CJ Swanson
Secretary/Treasurer


2-7-23

