



Perkins, Chase and
Dundy Counties
Headquarters in Imperial
www.urnrd.org

Upper Republican
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

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**Board of Directors Regular Meeting
November 5, 2019 at 9:00 a.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 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: Kerry Bernhardt, Jason Kunkel, Dean Large, Jay Lee, Terry Martin, Harry Merrihew, Tom Schroder, Brock Stromberger, Janice Stroup, Tom Terryberry and Tyler Turner.

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

Others Present: Andy Keep, Jeff Bubak, Jim Haarberg and Wayne Haarberg.

Information mailed to Directors:

Agenda	Report of District contracts, agreements and applications
Minutes of October 8 th Regular Board Meeting	
Variance request information	

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda	Variance request information
Minutes of October 8 th Regular Board Meeting	Report of District contracts, agreements and applications
Financial reports	
NRCS report	URNRD Long Range Plan

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

MINUTES:

- Stromberger moved to approve the October 8, 2019 Regular Board meeting minutes as corrected. Seconded by Merrihew.

Roll call vote: 10-yes, 1-abstain. Motion carried.

The correction was on the motion to approve the NRCS report. It was seconded by Stroup, not Lee.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Financial report was presented to the Board.

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

Roll call vote: 11-yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments.

NRCS REPORT:

Andy Keep gave the NRCS report and discussed the upcoming Farm Bill meetings. These meetings will be November 25th at 1:30 pm at the 4-H Building in Benkelman and on November 26th at 1:30 pm at the 4-H Building in Imperial and are being hosted by Farm Service Agency. Nebraska Extension and USDA Farm Service Agency will be hosting a series of Farm Bill education meeting over the next two months to assist producers with farm-bill related program decisions. NRCS will be present to hand out information and to answer questions that may come up. NRCS will have a booth at the McCook Farm and Ranch Expo November 20th and 21st.

- Terryberry moved to approve the NRCS Report of Planning Activity dated November 5, 2019 and to include the Conservation Plans as signed for Chase and Perkins County. Seconded by Turner.

Roll call vote: 10-yes, 1-abstain. Motion carried.

UPPER REPUBLICAN NRD RULES AND REGULATIONS: None.

VARIANCE COMMITTEE:

Kerry Bernhardt gave the Variance Committee report. 323 Enterprises LLC is requesting a variance to transfer 130.6 certified acres out of the rapid response area from NE 4-5-39, Chase County to the SE ¼ 4-4-38, Dundy County. They are requesting to transfer all 130.6 certified acres instead of the 108.56 allowed based on historical use and to drill a new well on the SE 4-4-38, which is a dryland quarter and convert the well in NE 4-5-39 to a livestock well.

Bernhardt reported that the Variance Committee has no recommendation and asks that the variance request be postponed for one month due to some possible changes and conflicts on the variance. Neighbors had raised concerns on groundwater availability and the staff will be doing some research on this.

Wayne Haarberg was present and expressed concerns about the variance request.

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

- Terryberry moved to approve the URNRD Report of District Applications, Contracts, and Agreements dated November 5, 2019 to include the NSWCP applications and expediated transfer. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 11-yes. Motion carried.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: None

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING AND COMPACT MEETING REPORT:

Jasper reported on a three states conference call that was last week. Nebraska identified issues with flood flows.

AUGMENTATION PROJECTS:

Jasper reported on items from the NCORPE meeting that was held yesterday.

ASSISTANT MANAGER’S REPORT:

Nate reviewed the URNRD Long Range Implementation Plan 2020-2024 with the Board.

- Terryberry moved to approve the URNRD Long Range Implementation Plan 2020-2024 as presented. Seconded by Stromberger.

Roll call vote: 11-yes. Motion carried

INFORMATION & EDUCATION:

Nate reviewed the Farming Evolution 2020 request with the Board.

- Terryberry moved to contribute \$500 to the Farming Evolution 2020. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 11-yes. Motion carried.

LEGISLATION: No report.

STATE ASSOCIATION: No report.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: None.

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 10:20 am. The next Regular Board meeting will be Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry
Secretary/Treasurer