

**Board of Directors Regular Meeting
February 14, 2017 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, Jason Kunkel, Dean Large, Terry Martin, Tom Schroder and Jeff Wallin.

Board Members Absent: Brett Bullock, Tom Gaschler, Loren Jessen and Tom Terryberry.

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

NRD Legal Counsel: Joel Burke.

Others present: Andy Keep (NRCS), Brad Johnson, Jerry Kuenning, Brandon Kuenning, Chod Briggs and Russ Pankonin.

Information mailed to Directors:

Agenda	Variance information
Minutes of 2-14-17 Regular meeting	Report of District applications, contracts, agreements

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda	Variance information
Minutes of 2-14-2017 Regular Board meeting	Report of District applications, contracts, agreements
Financial reports	
NRCS report	URNRD Resolution – WaterSMART grant

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

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

Chairman Martin excused Brett Bullock, Tom Gaschler, Loren Jessen and Tom Terryberry from today's meeting.

OPEN FORUMS:

Guests, Board members and NRD staff were introduced.

MINUTES:

- Large moved to approve the December 13, 2016 Regular Board minutes as presented. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 5-yes, 1-abstain, 4-absent. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Manager presented the Financial Reports to the Board.

- Wallin moved to pay the Accounts Payable and to accept the Treasurer's report for January and February. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote 6-yes, 4-absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comments.

NRCS REPORT:

- Large moved to approve the NRCS report dated February 3, 2017 to include the Conservation Plans as signed to include Chase, Dundy and Perkins County. Seconded by Wallin.

Roll call vote: 6-yes, 4-absent. Motion carried.

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Jasper reviewed the information on Board of Educational Lands and Funds with the Board. They are asking for clarification on how many acres they have on 36-8-40. The SW ¼ of the SW ¼ of this tract was sold several years ago from Schools Lands and there was a small pivot put on the 36.4 acres that watered 20.4 certified acres on the privately owned land and 15.8 acres on the school land and the well sits south of the small pivot. Jasper and the Board agreed that School Lands has a history of 15.8 certified irrigated acres and 26 acres of satellite acres and are certified to be irrigated by well not owned by them. The landowner no longer has the lease with school lands so they currently have 20.4 certified acres to be irrigated and can no longer irrigated the school land acres.

VARIANCE COMMITTEE:

Jeff Wallin gave the Variance Committee report.

George Seward is requesting a variance to transfer 60.4 allocated acres from the NE ¼ of Section 22-1-40 to the E ½ of Section 8-2-41 along with the remaining allocation of 65 inches. There will be no new acres irrigated and no carryforward is requested.

- Jeff Wallin gave the Variance Committee recommendation to approve the Variance request of George Seward to transfer 60.4 allocated acres from the NE ¼ of Section 22-1-40 to the E ½ of Section 8-2-41 along with the remaining allocation of 65 inches with the stipulation that acres will not be irrigated with surface water rights.

Roll call vote: 6-yes, 4-absent. Motion carried.

Jeff reported on the request of Jerry Kuenning and stated that this is not a true variance request so does not need the 30 day waiting period. Mr. Kuenning explained to the Board that on Section 12-8-39 has 311.3 certified acres and 2 irrigation wells that are commingled, and on Section 7-8-38 the smaller pivots, there is one well and 2 pivots there and that well is pumping gravel. Mr.

Kuenning is asking to drill a replacement well on Section 7 and commingle the wells on Section 7-8-38.

- Jeff Wallin gave the Variance committee recommendation and approve the request of Jerry Kuenning to approve the replacement well permit for Section 7-8-38 and to commingle wells with the stipulation that the commingled wells on Section 12-8-39 be disconnected.

Roll call vote: 6-yes, 4-absent. Motion carried.

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

- Large moved to approve the URNRD Report of District applications, contracts and agreements for January 5, 2017 and February 14, 2017 to include the NSWCP applications, pooling contract and Board of Educational Lands and Funds agreements. Seconded by Wallin.

Roll call vote: 6-yes, 4-absent. Motion carried.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: No report.

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING/COMPACT REPORT: Nothing new to report.

AUGMENTATION PROJECTS:

Jasper reported that the wells on Rock Creek are pumping and there are some problems with the fans and they are needing replaced and Sargent Irrigation was called to fix the problems with well #7.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Nate reported on the WaterSMART grant to the Board. The grant has been submitted and the resolution needs to be submitted.

- Kunkel moved to approve Resolution No. UR21417 for the WaterSMART grant. Seconded by Wallin.

Roll call vote: 6-yes, 4-absent. Motion carried.

Nate requested that the UNL Event donation be moved under I & E report.

Nate discussed with the Board the Range management agreement for the 250 acres at Rock Creek that is leased out. Last year the NRD done a competitive bid process and only had 2 bids. The current tenant asked if he could have it again this year and Nate discussed with other possible bidders and no one was interested in renting property.

- Bernhardt moved to extend the Range Management agreement for 2017 to the current tenant. Seconded by Wallin.

Roll call vote: 6-yes, 4-absent. Motion carried.

Nate reported that the NRD will be hosting the 2nd annual URNRD Water Conference on March 27th in Imperial.

Bruce Curtis and Becca Monteith gave an updated presentation of the proposed Groundwater Sampling program.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT:

Jason Kunkel gave the I & E committee report and reported on the UNL Farm Management Competition that UNL is putting together. The competition is for managing corn under center pivot irrigation for the 2017 growing season at the West Central Research and Extension Center in North Platte. The cost of the sponsorship is \$500.

- Wallin moved to sponsor the Farm Management Competition for \$500. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 5-yes, 1-no, 4-absent. Motion carried.

Voting yes: Bernhardt, Large, Martin, Schroder and Wallin. Voting no: Kunkel. Absent: Bullock, Gaschler, Jessen and Terryberry.

LEGISLATION:

Jasper reviewed Senator Groene's legislative bills with the Board.

STATE ASSOCIATION:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Election of Officers-

Terry Martin turned the meeting over to Jeff Wallin at 3:37 p.m.

Wallin asked for nominations for Board Chairman. Kerry Bernhardt nominated Terry Martin. There were no other nominations for Chairman.

- Large moved to cast a unanimous vote for Terry Martin as Chairman. Seconded by Kunkel.

Roll call vote: 5-yes, 1-abstain and 4-absent. Motion carried.

Wallin turned the meeting back over to Terry Martin at 3:40 p.m.

Chairman Martin asked for nominations for Vice Chairman.

- Bernhardt moved to cast a unanimous vote for Jeff Wallin as Vice Chairman. Seconded by Kunkel.

Roll call vote: 5-yes, 1-abstain, 1-absent. Motion carried.

Chairman Martin asked for nominations for Secretary/Treasurer.

- Wallin moved to cast a unanimous vote for Tom Terryberry as Secretary/Treasurer. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 6-yes, 4-absent. Motion carried.

Chairman Martin asked for nominations for the NCORPE representative.

- Wallin moved to have Terry Martin be the NCORPE representative. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 6-yes, 4-absent. Motion carried.

Chairman Martin asked for nominations for the NARD representative.

▪ Wallin nominated Terry Martin for the NARD representative. Seconded by Bernhardt. Roll call vote: 6-yes, 4-absent. Motion carried.

Chairman Martin appointed Dean Large as the NCORPE alternate representative and appointed Tom Gaschler as the NARD alternate representative.

Chairman Martin reviewed the URNRD Committee's and will leave this list open until the March Regular Board meeting.

Jasper reported to the Board that Becca and Nate are working on the redistricting for the District.

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry
Secretary/Treasurer