

**Board of Directors Regular Meeting
February 3, 2026 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 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: Dave Brown, Harry Merrihew, Terry Martin, CJ Swanson, Tom Schroder, Brock Stromberger, Tyler Turner, Jason Kunkel.

Board Members Absent: Jay Lee and Dean Large.

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

Others: Present: Andy Keep (NRCS).

Information emailed to Directors:

Agenda

Regular Board meeting minutes January 6, 2026

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda

Draft Rules & Regulations

Regular Board meeting minutes January 5, 2026

Variance request information

Janice Stroup resignation

Report of District applications, contracts,
agreements

Financial reports

Washington DC conference

NRCS report

Chairman Martin called the regular meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Chairman Martin announced that the Open Meetings Act is posted on the back wall.

DIRECTORS' ABSENCES:

Chairman Martin accepted Janice Stroup's letter of resignation.

MINUTES:

Merrihew moved to approve the January 6, 2026, Regular Board meeting minutes as presented.

Second by Brown.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 2-absent. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Financial report was presented to the Board.

Brown moved to pay the accounts payable and to accept the Treasurer's report. Second by

Stromberger.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 2-absent. Motion carried.

NRCS REPORT:

Andy Keep gave the NRCS report and reported that NRCS recently announced the launch of the Office of Assistant Chiefs. Four regional offices have been established with Lincoln NE selected as the location of the new Central Region office.

- ✚ Stromberger moved to approve the NRCS report of Planning activity dated January 31, 2026 to include the Conservation plans as signed for Dundy and Perkins County. Second by Swanson.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 2-absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

GROUNDWATER MANGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Jasper and the Board reviewed the draft Rules and Regulation changes.

- ✚ Kunkel moved to postpone taking Rules and Regulations, Order 37 to public hearing. The motion failed due to lack of second.

- ✚ Brown moved to take the draft Rules and Regulations, Order #37, to public hearing in March in accordance with publication dates. Second by Stromberger.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 1-no, 2-absent. Motion carried.

Voting yes: Brown, Merrihew, Martin, Schroder, Stromberger, Swanson, Turner. Voting no: Kunkel.

Absent: Lee and Large.

VARIANCE COMMITTEE:

Tyler Turner presented the Variance request of Supreme Investments and Jean Flaherty to decommission the well on NE 30-3-38 and decertify all 129.9 certified acres to us as offset for additional certified acres added to seven other fields. They would like to transfer all 129.9 certified acres with no reduction in certified acres due to historical use or SDF increase. The NW 7-3-38 will get 15 certified acres, NE 7-3-38 will get 15 certified acres, SW 12-4-39 will get 10 certified acres, SW 24-4-39 will get 6 certified acres, NW 25-4-39 will get 35.9 certified acres, NW 30-4-38 will get 10 certified acres and SW 23-4-39 will get 38 certified acres. The reason for this request is instead of drilling a replacement well on NE 30-3-38 to continue watering poor quality ground they would like to use the certified acres for supplemental allocation of fields with better ground. The 10-year historical use of NE 30-3-38 is 12.1 inches would cause a loss of 4.2 certified acres. The SDF increases would cause a loss of 1.1 certified acres, and the farthest transfer distance is 8.6 miles.

This is the first reading and will be an agenda item for the March Regular Board Meeting.

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

- ✚ Stromberger moved to approve the Report of District applications, contracts and agreements dated February 3, 2026 to include the NSWCP applications and the transfer application of John Delay and Brad & Zachary Loker. Second by Turner

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 2-absent. Motion carried.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: None

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Jasper discussed Legislative bills that were discussed at Legislative conference. Longitude 103 is working on new database, and we will be sending usage reports out soon. There was a meeting at Legislative conference with state officials and Republican Basin NRD who discussed different ways of splitting Nebraska's compact compliance obligations. It was agreed to use the final numbers at the end of the year instead of the forecast but still following the same historical percentages. The URNRD share is 4700-acre feet. We will be using Rock Creek off to pump 1500-acre feet and NCORPE will pump 3200-acre feet.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Nate reported on the Nitrogen reduction program, and we had six applications with 3800 acres.

INFORMATION & EDUCATION: None

LEGISLATION: None

STATE ASSOCIATION: None

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: None

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 10:32 am.

Respectfully submitted.

CJ Swanson
Secretary/Treasurer

3-17-26
