



Perkins Chase and
Dundy Counties
Headquarters in Imperial

Upper Republican NATURAL RESOURCE DISTRICT

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Board of Directors Regular Meeting March 1, 2016 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, NRCS, Imperial Post Office and Chase County Courthouse in Imperial, the NRCS Office, Perkins County Courthouse, Grant Post Office in Grant, and the FSA Office in Benkelman. The meeting was announced over KADL-Imperial, KRVN-Lexington and KOGA-Ogallala.

Board Members Present: Kerry Bernhardt, Brett Bullock, Dean Large, Tom Gaschler, Jason Kunkel, Terry Martin, Tom Schroder, Tom Terryberry and Jeff Wallin.

Board Members Absent: Loren Jessen.

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

NRD Legal Counsel: Joel Burke.

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

Information mailed to Directors:

Agenda	Variance request
Minutes of 2-4-16 meeting	Report of District applications, contracts, agreements

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda	Variance request
Minutes of February 4, 2016 meeting	Report of District applications, contracts, agreements
Financial reports	Long Range Plan
NRCS report	Progressive Safety day funding request

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 1:44 p.m.

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

Loren Jessen is excused from today's meeting.

OPEN FORUMS:

Guests, Board members and NRD staff were introduced.

MINUTES:

- Terryberry moved to approve the February 4, 2016 Regular Board meeting minutes. Seconded by Wallin.

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

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Manager presented the Financial Reports to the Board.

- Gaschler moved to pay the Accounts Payable and to accept the Treasurer’s report. Seconded by Wallin.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no public comments.

NRCS REPORT:

Andy Keep gave the NRCS report and reviewed the Republican Basin Conservation Partnership application. The RCPP includes Lower, Middle and Upper Republican NRDS and the program will focus mainly on addressing water quantity resource concerns.

- Terryberry moved to approve the NRCS report of planning activity dated March 1, 2016 to include the Conservation Plans as signed for Chase and Dundy County. Seconded by Gaschler.

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

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Jasper reported to the Board about Champion Lake. Last summer they pumped about 200 acre feet to try and keep the lake full and they are requesting to increase the allocation. Dean Large reported that the Groundwater Committee had met and discussed this request. The Committee had some concerns and questions about the well and how this effects our reporting. Jasper reported that half is reported as an industrial allocation and half reported in allocation report. Some of the water is put right back in the lake since the well is there.

VARIANCE COMMITTEE:

Jeff Wallin gave the Variance Committee report.

Clint McCallum met with the Variance Committee and has withdrawn his variance application.

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

- Tom Terryberry moved to approve the URNRD Report of District applications, contracts and agreements dated March 1, 2016 to include NSWCP applications, pooling contracts, transfer application and well decommissioning. Seconded by Wallin.

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

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: No report.

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING/COMPACT REPORT:

Jasper reported that the States had a meeting in Colorado last week and are still working on a long term agreement for compact accounting.

AUGMENTATION PROJECTS:

Dirk and technicians are working on new building at Rock Creek and getting things together for the SCADA system and computer.

Jasper discussed the recorder wells with Board and they have been discussing with USGS about upgrading the recorder wells in the District and also the possibility of putting equipment in the wells that are being measured monthly by the augmentation site. Jasper has been talking to McCrometer and the possibility of real time communication equipment. Jasper reviewed the cost of the USGS contract and upgrades and pricing for different options for the NRD. There is a Water Smart grant that allows entities to monitor water better.

- Large moved to direct management to look into the Water Smart grant to allow entities to monitor water better. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Discussion.

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

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Nate presented the Board the Long Range Plan for the Board to review and approve.

- Terryberry moved to approve the Long Range Implementation Plan. Seconded by Gaschler.

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

Nate reviewed the agenda for the URNRD 1st annual State of the Basin Water Conference that will be held Friday, March 25th at the fairgrounds.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT:

Nate presented the funding request for the Progressive Agriculture Safety day being sponsored by the Chase County All-Starts 4-H club.

- Gaschler moved to sponsor half of the safety speaker at \$750 for the Progressive Agriculture Safety Days. Seconded by Wallin.

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

LEGISLATION:

Jasper discussed the request to sponsor an amendment for LB 344 and to get it advanced.

STATE ASSOCIATION:

Terry Martin reported that the NARD Board of Directors will be meeting March 6th and 7th and the NARD Washington DC trip is also coming up in March.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 3:14 p.m. The next Regular Board meeting will be April 5, 2016 at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry
Secretary/Treasurer