

**Board of Directors Regular Meeting
March 18, 2025 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, Jason Kunkel, Dean Large, Jay Lee, Harry Merrihew, Terry Martin, Tom Schroder, Brock Stromberger, Janice Stroup, CJ Swanson, Tyler Turner.

Board Member Absent: None.

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

Others Present: Andy Keep (NRCS), Joel Burke (Attorney), Brandon Kuenning, and Ian Stevens.

Information emailed to Directors:

Agenda	Report of District applications, contracts, and agreements
Regular Board meeting minutes February 18, 2025	
Variance information	

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda	Variance information
Regular Board meeting minutes February 18, 2025	Report of District applications, contracts, and agreements
Financial reports	
NRCS report	

Chairman Martin called the regular meeting to order at 9:42 a.m.

Chairman Martin announced that the Open Meetings Act was posted in the NRD Office.

Introductions of Board Members, Staff and guests.

DIRECTORS' ABSENCES: None

MINUTES:

- Stromberger moved to approve the February 18, 2025 Regular Board meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Turner.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 4-abstain. 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. Seconded by Lee.

Roll call vote: 11-yes. Motion carried.

NRCS REPORT:

Andy Keep gave the NRCS report dated March 2025 and reviewed the paper, Every Successful Farms Starts with a Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

GROUNDWATER MANGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS: No report.

VARIANCE COMMITTEE:

Brock Stromberger gave the Variance Committee report.

#1 Kuenning and Son is requesting a Variance to add SE ¼ 32-10-38 to poll P-23 F1 starting the 2025 irrigation season. They are also requesting to waive the 30-day waiting period. The reason for the request is the SE ¼ 32-10-38 was purchased March 6, 2025 which was after the pooling deadline. They would like to be able to manage the water use on this pivot with the other fields they own. The SE ¼ 32-10-38 has a satellite pivot making it hard to manage when not pooled. The SE ¼ 32-10-38 was previously in pool P-49 F1. The Variance Committee recommended to deny waiving the 30-day waiting period. The Board discussed this request, and it will be on the April 1, 2025 agenda.

#2 Ian Stevens met with the Variance Committee before the meeting. Stromberger turned the discussion over to Jasper on this request. Mr. Stevens owned property that had previously certified acres, and it was in a situation that had one well and watered three quarters. The quarter he owns does not have a well on it. When it was coming out of CRP, changes were made and the quarter he owned was no longer part of the property that the well was on. In this process the staff removed the certified acres from the quarter. Mr. Stevens would like to irrigate grass on his quarter. His variance request that will be coming to the Board would be to drill a new irrigation well to irrigate his quarter. The Variance committee will meet again after this meeting to discuss this request.

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

- Stromberger moved to approve the report of District applications, contracts and agreements dated March 18, 2025, to include the NSWCP applications, Transfer application and Recertification of acres. Seconded by Brown.

Roll call vote: 11-yes. Motion carried.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: None.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Jasper reported that the Solar Company NCORPE was working with asked NCORPE not to approve the contract.

Jasper let the Board know that Wilma Zimbelman retired after almost 46 years with the NRD. We will start working on filling this position.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Nate reported that the federal grant that was frozen has been released.

Julia reported that the usage reports have been sent out.

INFORMATION & EDUCATION: None

LEGISLATION: None

STATE ASSOCIATION: None.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The URNRD Committee list was reviewed. Chairman Martin appointed Jason Kunkel to the Variance Committee.

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 10:16 am.

Respectfully submitted.

CJ Swanson
Secretary/Treasurer

4-1-25

