

Board of Directors Regular Meeting
March 5, 2024 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 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: Harry Merrihew, Dave Brown, Janice Stroup, CJ Swanson, Brock Stromberger, Tom Schroder, Jay Lee, Jason Kunkel, Dean Large and Tyler Turner.

Board Member Absent: Terry Martin

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

Others Present: Andy Keep (NRCS) and Cody Schroberger.

Information emailed to Directors:

Agenda	Variance information
Regular Board meeting minutes February 6, 2024	Report of District applications, contracts and agreements

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda	Variance information
Regular Board meeting minutes January 9, 2024	Report of District applications/contracts
Financial reports	ACE Camp information
NRCS report	NARD Conservation awards

Vice Chairman Brown called the regular meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

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

Introductions of Board Members, NRD Staff and guests.

DIRECTORS ABSENCES:

Terry Martin is unable to attend today's meeting.

MINUTES:

- Stromberger moved to approve the February 6, 2024 Regular Board meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Merrihew.

Roll call vote: 9-yes, 2-absent. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Financial report was presented to the Board.

- Large moved to accept the Treasurer's report and pay the accounts payable. Seconded by Stromberger.

Roll call vote: 9-yes, 2-absent. Motion carried.

NRCS REPORT:

Andy Keep with NRCS reviewed the Every Successful Farm Starts with a Plan program and how NRCS staff can assist cooperators.

- Swanson moved to approve the NRCS report of planning activity dated March 5, 2024 and to include the conservation plans as signed for Chase, Dundy and Perkins County. Seconded by Lee.

Roll call vote: 9-yes, 2-absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

GROUNDWATER MANGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS: None

Janice Stroup arrived at 9:11 am.

VARIANCE COMMITTEE:

Brock Stromberger presented the Variance reports.

Kevin Schrotberger is requesting to move the well and water rights from the NE ¼ 21-9-39 and transfer those water rights to the NE ¼ 14-10-40 with no restrictions. Both legals are owned by Kevin Schrotberger. The well and pump have gone bad on NE ¼ 21-9-39 so need to transfer to the NE ¼ 14-10-40. The well in 21-9-39 is a nonproductive soil and 14-10-40 is a highly productive soil and can utilize those water rights more efficiently. The NE /¼ 21-9-39 has 116.5 certified acres and the 10-year average historical use is 9.5 inches. The transferable certified acres based on historical use are 88.4, with a reduction of 28.1 certified acres. The NE 21-9-39 is not pooled and has 184.32 inches of carryforward and has an SDF of 1%. The NE ¼ 14-10-40 has an SDF of .08% for a reduction of 0.92%. The distance between the NE ¼ 21-9-39 and NE ¼ 14-10-40 is eight miles.

- Stromberger on behalf of the Variance committees recommends to approve the Variance request of Kevin Schrotberger to move the well and water rights from the NE ¼ 21-9-39 and transfer those water rights to the NE ¼ 14-10-40 for a total of 88.4 certified acres and with the stipulations of reduction of 28.1 certified acres and a reduction of 184.32 inches of carry forward.

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

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

- Stromberger moved to approve the report of District applications, contracts and agreements dated March 5, 2024 to include the NSWCP applications and the pooling contracts. Seconded by Turner.

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

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: None.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Jasper reported that staff will be working on the twelve recorders well sites throughout the District. We are getting bad readings on one well and staff will be removing heads, cleaning out the housing, and cleaning out any debris.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Nate reported that the waiver to federal BABBA rules for the District's WaterSMART grant has been approved and once an environmental review is completed grant funds can be used for the telemetry project.

INFORMATION & EDUCATION:

Tom Schroder reported that they had a committee meeting and reviewed the ACE Camp scholarships and nominations for NARD Conservation awards. If anyone has any ideas of nominations let Danielle or Deb know.

Danielle reviewed the ACE camp scholarships in the past. The cost of the camp is \$235 and the NRD has usually sponsored six scholarships.

➤ Lee made a motion to pay up to ten scholarship awards for ACE Camp. Seconded by Swanson.
Roll call vote: 10-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

LEGISLATION: None

STATE ASSOCIATION:

Jasper will be attending the Managers' meeting tomorrow in Lincoln.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Jasper gave an update on NCORPE.

Vice Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:28 am.

Respectfully submitted.

CJ Swanson
Secretary/Treasurer