

Upper Republican Natural Resources District

P.O. Box 1140 511 East 5th St. Imperial, NE 69033 Phone 888-883-9066

Board of Directors Regular Meeting April 6, 2021 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: Dave Brown, Terry Martin, Jason Kunkel, Janice Stroup, Harry Merrihew, Tom Schroder, Tyler Turner, Brock Stromberger.
Board Members Absent: Dean Large, Jay Lee and CJ Swanson.
NRD Staff: Jasper Fanning, Nate Jenkins, Bruce Curtis, Julia Strand, and Deb Hayes.
Others Present: Chance Thayer.

Information emailed to Directors:

Agenda Minutes of March 2nd Regular Board Meeting Well and allocation requests Long Range Plan

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda	Well and allocation requests
Minutes of March 2 Regular Board Meeting	Report of District application/contract/agreement
Financial reports	Rock Creek report
NRCS report	Rock Creek lease
IMP Revisions	Long Range Plan

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

Chairman Martin announced that the Open Meetings Act was posted in the NRD Office. Dean Large, Jay Lee and CJ Swanson are excused from this month's meeting.

MINUTES:

Kunkel moved to approve the March 2, 2021 Regular Board meeting minutes as amended. Seconded by Merrihew.

The amendment is to add Janice Stroup as present at the March meeting. Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-absent, 1-abstain. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Financial Report was presented to the Board.

Kunkel moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the Accounts Payable. Seconded by Stromberger.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments.

NRCS REPORT:

Andy Keep sent a written NRCS report for the Board to review.

Stromberger moved to approve the NRCS report dated April 6, 2021 to include the Conservations Plans as signed for Chase, Dundy, and Perkins Counties. Seconded by Brown.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

INTEGRATED MANAMENT PLAN REVISIONS:

Nate reviewed the Draft Integrated Management Plan with the Board and reviewed changes. Nate asked the Board to review the IMP and at the May meeting will discuss any changes and vote to take the IMP to public hearing. The Public Hearing will be held sometime in June and will be approved by September.

GROUNDWATER MANGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Jasper reported that Helena Agri-Enterprise LLC is requesting to drill a large commercial 400 gpm well for their mixing plant at their Imperial location and are asking for a 40-acre foot per year allocation.

Stromberger moved to approve the request of Helena Agri-Enterprise LLC for a commercial well of 400 gpm and an allocation of up to 40-acre feet per year without offsets. Seconded by Schroder.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

Jasper reviewed the request from Imperial Beef to increase their allocation to match their consumption. This will require an offset of 21.7-acre feet (20 certified acres) and the offset will come from decertifying 20 certified acres from the NE 8-7-38.

Kunkel moved to approve the request of Imperial Beef to increase their allocation for their feedlot to 21.7-acre feet and the offset will come from decertifying 20 certified acres from the NE 8-7-38. Seconded by Stromberger.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

VARIANCE COMMITTEE: None.

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS: No report

Stromberger moved to approve the URNRD Report of District applications, contracts and agreements dated April 6, 2021 and to include the Corners for Wildlife applications. Seconded by Stroup.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: No report.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Jasper had nothing to report for the Republican River Basin/Compact or augmentation sites. Jasper reviewed the In-Lieu Calculations base on tax year 2020. This is for us to include into our budget. Turner moved to include the In-Lieu payment into the budget and once levies are set pay the maximum amount of In-Lieu tax. Seconded by Stromberger.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Terry Martin opened the Public Hearing for the Rock Creek report at 9:30 am. The Hearing notice was published in the papers. Chairman Martin asked for any testimony on the Rock Creek report. There was no testimony. Chairman Martin closed the Hearing at 9:33 am.

Nate reviewed the Prescribed Grazing Agreement lease with the Board.

Merrihew moved to approve the Prescribed Grazing Agreement with Ben Reinick. Seconded by Brown.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

Nate reviewed the Long-Range Implementation Plan 2021-2025 with the Board.

Stroup moved to approve the Long-Range Plan for 2021-2025. Seconded by Turner. Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-absent. Motion carried.

INFORMATION & EDUCATION: No report.

LEGISLATION: No report.

STATE ASSOCIATION: No report.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: No report.

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 9:44 a.m. The next Regular Board meeting will be Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted.

CJ Swanson Secretary/Treasurer

C/S_ 5/4/21

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