

# Upper Republican NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

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

# Board of Directors Regular Meeting June 2, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. 511 East 5<sup>th</sup> 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. The call-in information for the meeting was sent to area papers, radio stations and all others requesting agendas.

**Board Members Present:** Kerry Bernhardt, Dean Large, Terry Martin, Harry Merrihew, Brock

Stromberger, Jason Kunkel, Tyler Turner and Tom Terryberry, Tom Schroder.

**Board Members Absent:** Janice Stroup and Jay Lee.

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

Others Present: Andy Keep and Joel Burke.

#### **Information mailed to Directors:**

Agenda Report of District applications, contracts,

Minutes of May 5th Regular Board Meeting and agreements

## **Information distributed at Board meeting:**

Agenda NRCS report

Minutes of May 5th Regular Board Meeting Report of District applications, contracts,

Financial reports and agreements

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.

Roll call of Board Members was done. Jay Lee and Janice Stroup are excused from this month's meeting.

## **MINUTES:**

➤ Terryberry moved to approve the May 5, 2020 Regular Board meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Stromberger.

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

## FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Financial Report was presented to the Board.

Merrihew moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the Accounts Payable. Seconded by Terryberry.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No comments.

# NRCS REPORT:

Andy Keep gave the NRCS report and reported on the Operational Status and the Phased Reopening phases.

Terryberry moved to approve the NRCS Report of Planning Activity dated June 2, 2020 to include the Conservations Plans as signed for Chase and Perkins County. Seconded by Bernhardt.

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

#### **UPPER REPUBLICAN NRD RULES AND REGULATIONS:**

Jasper reported to the Board that there is nothing to be discussed right now but the Groundwater Control Committee will need to meet before the July Board meeting.

**VARIANCE COMMITTEE:** None

# REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

Kunkel moved to approve the Report of District Applications, Contracts and Agreements dated June 2, 2020 to include the NSWCP application and the well decommissioning application. Seconded by Stromberger.

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

**LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:** No report.

## REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING AND COMPACT MEETING REPORT:

Jasper reported on the conference calls on Basin compliance with Kansas and Colorado.

Jasper discussed with the Board that he has had meetings with other NRDs and DNR concerning updating IMPs. The agreements we have with Kansas have never been integrated into the IMP. They have discussed restructuring the IMPs so that the majority of what needs to be in the IMPs is in the IMP and the accounting is changed by agreements between the States by having those changes and details put in a technical document that is referenced by the IMP. If the States were to enter into a new agreement the IMPs won't need to be updated but rather, we can go through a less formal process of working together to adopt a new technical accounting. This is still being worked on with DNR and Jasper will keep the Board updated.

**AUGMENTATION PROJECTS:** The augmentation wells will not be running this year and possibly next year also.

Jasper updated the Board on the office painting project. Jasper will be having a budget committee meeting before the July meeting.

## **ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Bruce reported to the Board that when we are doing the summer water sampling that we will also be testing for uranium and arsenic water samples in irrigation wells. The cost will be about \$8000. UNL also has asked that we do nitrate sampling for them also and we will use the same wells for this. They have asked all NRDs for well sampling. Nebraska Department of Energy has asked all the NRD's to test for pesticides in wells in 2021.

#### **INFORMATION & EDUCATION:**

Jasper reported that Nate has been working with Danielle and Julia on spring water level measurements and making a GIS map of water level changes. Then they will do maps for 7 to 10-year measurements.

**LEGISLATION:** No report.

# **STATE ASSOCIATION:**

The NARD office was destroyed during the protestors in Lincoln. The building was started on fire and the upper level where the NARD office is located has severe smoke and water damage.

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** None

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 9:33 a.m. The next Regular Board meeting will be Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry Secretary/Treasurer