

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
July 7, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.
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. 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, Jay Lee, Terry Martin, Harry Merrihew, Brock Stromberger, Jason Kunkel, Tyler Turner and Tom Terryberry, Tom Schroder.

Board Members Absent: Janice Stroup.

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

Others Present:

Information mailed to Directors:

Agenda	SW Weed Management request
Minutes of June 2nd Regular Board Meeting	UNL Taps request
Report of District applications, contracts, agreements	

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda	NRCS report
Minutes of June 2nd Regular Board Meeting	SW Weed Management Funding request
Financial reports	Report of District applications, contracts, and agreements
Draft budget	UNL Taps Program Funding request
Surplus property list	UNL Weather Station

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 9:20 am.

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

Roll call of Board Members was done. Janice Stroup is excused from this month's meeting.

MINUTES:

- Bernhardt moved to approve the June 2, 2020 Regular Board meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Stromberger.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 1-abstain, 2-absent. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Financial Report was presented to the Board. Jasper discussed the NRD's general insurance with the Board and will check into other possible insurance options.

Tom Schroder arrived at 9:25 a.m.

Nate reported to the Board that the NRD has purchased a 2020 side by side from Eichner's for \$24,894 and would like that added to the payables list as it is ready to be picked up.

- Bernhardt moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the Accounts Payable as amended. Seconded by Lee.

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

Jasper reviewed the draft budget for FY 20-21 with the Board. Jasper discussed occupation tax, bonds and wages with the Board.

- Stromberger moved to approve line 5 on page 2 of the draft budget worksheets for an increase of 3% on employee wages. Seconded by Turner.

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

Jasper met with the Executive committee before the Board meeting for his annual review.

- Terryberry moved to give the Manager a 2.5 % salary increase. Seconded by Bernhardt.

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

The Board reviewed the Surplus Property list dated July 2020.

- Terryberry moved to allow management and staff to dispose of surplus property. Seconded by Stromberger.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments.

NRCS REPORT:

Andy Keep sent a written NRCS report to the Board this month. Andy reviewed the staffing changes that have taken place at NRCS. Braden Poppe started as a new Range Management Specialist in the Imperial Office on June 22nd.

- Terryberry moved to approve the NRCS Report of Planning Activity dated July 7, 2020 to include the Conservations Plans as signed for Perkins County. Seconded by Kunkel.

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

Nate presented the SW Weed Management Funding request to the Board. They are asking for \$2,000 to \$5,000 to implement programs and support from their working partners.

- Bernhardt moved to budget \$5000 for SW Weed Management and start with \$2500 for the first donation. Seconded by Kunkel.

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

UPPER REPUBLICAN NRD RULES AND REGULATIONS: None

VARIANCE COMMITTEE: None

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

- Terryberry moved to approve the Report of District Applications, Contracts and Agreements dated July 7, 2020 to include the pooling contract. Seconded by Stromberger.

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

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: No report.

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING AND COMPACT MEETING REPORT: No report.

AUGMENTATION PROJECTS:

Jasper reported that there is ongoing maintenance at Rock Creek and the grass needs rain.

Jasper reported that NCORPE has done a parameters resolution for bond refinancing, so everything is ready when the market for bonds is right.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Nate discussed the UNL-TAPS program funding request for \$1000. This is their 4th year for the UNL-Testing Ag Performance Solutions program and is growing in number of participants.

- Terryberry moved to donate \$1000 to the UNL Taps Program. Seconded by Bernhardt.

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

Nate discussed the UNL Weather Station with the Board. There is a station in Champion that the NRD sponsors for \$2600. Nate discussed different options with the Manager of the program or some different options that might be available. UNL, Nebraska Mesonet, will provide the funding for this year and will send out another sponsor bid for next year. The Board took no action on the sponsorship due to Mesonet providing the funding this year and will review sponsoring again next year.

Nate discussed the irrigation retirement program with the Board. He has been putting purchase agreements together and one cooperator was not interested in moving forward. There is approximately \$1.1 million available. Nate and Jasper reviewed different options for this.

- Turner moved to direct Nate to contact person on the list to rebid for retirement acres. Seconded by Kunkel.

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

INFORMATION & EDUCATION: No report.

LEGISLATION: No report.

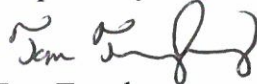
STATE ASSOCIATION:

Jasper reported that NARD is working with insurance from the fire and has had a cleaning crew working on cleanup. He also reported that Husker Harvest Days has been cancelled for this year.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: None

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m. The next Regular Board meeting will be Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Terryberry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tom" being more distinct than the last name.

Tom Terryberry
Secretary/Treasurer