

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 September 10, 2024, at 9:20 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, Dean Large, Harry Merrihew, Terry Martin, Brock

Stromberger, Jay Lee, Jason Kunkel, CJ Swanson, Tom Schroder, and Tyler Turner.

Board Member Absent: Janice Stroup.

NRD Staff: Jasper Fanning, Nate Jenkins, Julia Strand, and Deb Hayes. **Others Present:** Andy Keep (NRCS), Joel Burke (NRD Attorney).

Information emailed to Directors:

Agenda Report of District applications, contracts, and agreements

Draft Budget

Information distributed at Board meeting:

Agenda NRCS report
Regular Board meeting minutes, August 6, 2024 Report of District applications/contracts
and agreements
Draft Budget and worksheets Voting delegate for NARD Conference
Budget Resolutions Resolutions for NARD Conference

Chairman Martin called the regular meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

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

DIRECTORS ABSENCES:

Tom Schroder has missed five meetings due to medical reasons.

Lee moved to excuse Tom Schroder's absences for the last five meetings. Seconded by Merrihew.

Roll call vote: 9-yes, 1-abstain, 1-absent. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Large moved to approve the August 6, 2024, Regular Board meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Brown.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 3-abstain, 1-absent. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Financial report was presented to the Board.

➤ Brown moved to pay the accounts payable. Seconded by Stromberger.

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

Lee moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Swanson

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

BUDGET:

The Budget Hearing was held before the Board meeting today. Chairman Martin asked for a motion to approve the budget.

- ➤ Brown moved to approve the FY 24-25 URNRD Budget as presented. Seconded by Merrihew. Roll call vote: 10-yes 1-absent. Motion carried.
 - ➤ Stromberger moved to approve Resolution UR-2024-09-10-01 for setting the Property Tax request. Seconded by Turner.

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

Large moved to approve Resolution UR-2024-09-10-02 FY 2024-2025 Occupation Tax resolution. Seconded by Brown

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

NRCS REPORT:

Andy Keep gave the NRCS report. Andy reported on Grassland CRP and nearly 1.44 million acres recently accepted in Grassland CRP for offers received in 2024 and producers will have enrolled more than ten million acres in the working-lands programs. The top states for they year's Grassland CRP signup are Nebraska 237,853 acres accepted, Colorado with 218,145 acres accepted and New Mexico with 185,619 acres accepted.

Swanson moved to approve the NRCS report of Planning Activity dated September 10, 2024, to include the conservation plans as signed for Chase and Dundy County. Seconded by Brown.
Roll call vote: 10-yes, 1-absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No public comments.

GROUNDWATER MANGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS: No report.

VARIANCE COMMITTEE: None.

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

➤ Brown moved to approve the report of District applications, contracts and agreements dated September 10, 2024, to include the NSWCP applications and recertification request. Seconded by Turner.

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

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: None.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Jasper reported that there was not much action during the Special Session of legislature. Jasper gave an overview of a meeting with Senator Fischer.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Nate discussed with the Board the spraying for grasshoppers that Larry Winger has done on over two thousand acres at Rock Creek.

INFORMATION & EDUCATION: None

LEGISLATION: None

STATE ASSOCIATION:

➤ Brown moved to appoint Terry Martin as the NRD voting delegate and NARD Annual Conference in Kearney. Seconded by Swanson.

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

Jasper reviewed the resolutions with the Board that will be presented at NARD Annual Conference and the Board discussed their position on these resolutions.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: None

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 10:11 am.

Respectfully submitted.

CJ Swanson Secretary/Treasurer