



Perkins, Chase and
Dundy Counties
Headquarters in Imperial
www.urnrd.org

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
February 4, 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.

Board Members Present: Kerry Bernhardt, Jason Kunkel, Dean Large, Jay Lee, Terry Martin, Harry Merrihew, Brock Stromberger and Tom Terryberry.

Board Members Absent: Janice Stroup, Tom Schroder and Tyler Turner.

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

Others Present: Andy Keep, John Deaver and George Seward.

Information mailed to Directors:

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| Agenda | Report of District Applications, Contracts, and agreements |
| Minutes of January 7th Regular Board Meeting | |

Information distributed at Board meeting:

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| Agenda | Variance request information |
| Minutes of January 7th Regular Board Meeting | Report of District applications, Contracts, and agreements |
| Financial reports | |
| NRCS report | |

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 9:13 am.

Chairman Martin announced that the Open Meetings Act was posted if anyone would like to review it.

Introductions of Board, NRD Staff and guest were done.

MINUTES:

- Kunkel moved to approve the January 7, 2020 Regular Board meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Stromberger.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 3-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 Lee.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments.

NRCS REPORT:

Andy Keep gave the NRCS report. Andy went over the written report which reviewed how the Conservation Assessment Ranking Tool (CART) will be used and the benefits it will have.

- Terryberry moved to approve the NRCS Report of Planning Activity dated February 4, 2020 to include the Conservation Plans as signed for Chase and Perkins County. Seconded by Bernhardt.

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

UPPER REPUBLICAN NRD RULES AND REGULATIONS: None.

VARIANCE COMMITTEE:

Kerry Bernhardt gave the Variance Committee report. The Variance Committee met before the Regular Board meeting with John Deaver and George Seward.

John Deaver is requesting to transfer 75.6 certified acres from the NE ¼ of Section 11-9-39, Perkins County to the SE ¼ of Section 11-4-42, Dundy County and to retire/convert the irrigation well to a livestock well. The ground in the SE ¼ of Section 11-4-42 is currently pasture, a new well would be drilled in the SE ¼ of Section 11-4-42 and a pivot for 120 acres will be added. The new pivot would be developed after the 2020 irrigation season. Mr. Deaver is also asking to waive the 30-waiting period.

- Bernhardt, on behalf of the Variance Committee, moved to waive the 30-day waiting period.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 1-no, 3-absent. Motion carried.

Voting yes, Bernhardt, Kunkel, Lee, Merrihew, Martin, Stromberger, Terryberry. Voting no: Large. Absent: Schroder, Stroup, Turner.

- Bernhardt, on behalf of the Variance Committee, moved to approve the Variance request of John Deaver/George Seward to transfer 75.6 certified acres from the NE ¼ 11-9-39, Perkins County, to the SE ¼ 11-4-42, Dundy County, to approve drilling a new well in the SE ¼ 11-4-42 for 120 certified acres and the well will not run until the 2021 irrigation season, there will be no carryforward and the remaining 53.6 acres on the NE 11-9-39 will be decertified.

Discussion.

Roll call vote: 6-yes, 2-no, 3-absent. Motion carried.

Voting yes, Bernhardt, Kunkel, Lee, Merrihew, Martin, Stromberger. Voting no: Large and Terryberry. Absent: Schroder, Stroup, Turner.

REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:

- Bernhardt moved to approve the Report of District Applications, Contracts and Agreements dated February 4, 2020 to include the NSWCP applications, well decommissioning application. Seconded by Terryberry.

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

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: No report.

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING AND COMPACT MEETING REPORT:

Jasper discussed the Legislative Conference and some of the major bills that were being supported by the NRDS.

AUGMENTATION PROJECTS: No report

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Bruce and Jasper discussed the NRD's groundwater model and an agreement with Olsson and Associates for the GET model software, Groundwater Evaluation Tool, that will allow for input of data and user-friendly displays of the effects of different pumping scenarios, among other things. Olsson's proposal is \$75,000 and an additional \$5,000 annually for the GET model. The NRD has a grant for this which will cover 60% of the cost.

- Stromberger moved to approve the agreement with Olsson and Associates. Seconded by Kunkel.

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

Nate reported that the Soil Moisture probe program is open again.

INFORMATION & EDUCATION: No report.

LEGISLATION: No report.

STATE ASSOCIATION:

Terry Martin reported on NARD Legislative Conference.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: None

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 10:25 am. The next Regular Board meeting will be Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry
Secretary/Treasurer