

**MINUTES**  
**Middle Republican Natural Resources District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**May 8, 2007**  
**McCook, Nebraska**

**Board Members Present:** Joe Anderjaska, Kevin Fornoff, Josh Friesen, Gayle Haag, Benjie Loomis, Stan Moore, Jerry Mustion, Dan Nelsen, Brad Randel, Marty Schurr, Rick Spencer

**Board Members Absent:** None

**NRD Staff:** Dan Smith, Bob Merrigan, Mary Tidyman, Roger Lawson

**NRCS Staff:** Ben Hardin

**Others:** Dean Edson, Al Eveland, Brad Edgerton, Ralph Scott, Ron Friehe, Larry Durner, William M Barger, Raymond Durner, Connie Jo Discoe, Kurt Fritsch, Steve Whipple, Dennis Berry, Don Felker, Kirche Martin, Robert Martin, Dennis Egle, Scott McDonald, Lee Carter

**Information Mailed to Directors:**

Agenda	April Minutes
April Public Hearing Minutes	Budget Comparison
March Financial Report	E-notes May 1, 2007
I & E Report	Camp Scholarship Application
Spring Well Reports	Draft Economic Impact Report
Proposed Salary Changes	Southwest Coalition on Water
RRBC Interlocal Agreement	Water Package Q & A
April 13 NARD Update	April 19 NARD Update
April 26 NARD Update	Public Relations Proposal

**Information Distributed at Meeting:**

Cost Share Summary	Tree Cost Share
Transfer Requests	Permits to Construct
Reservoir Level Report	Envirothon News Release
LB 701 Article	May 4 NARD Update
Transfer Requests	FVID Memorandum of Agreement
Riverside Memorandum of Agreement	

**REGULAR MEETING**

The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Friesen at 7:03 PM. The agenda and roster were circulated to those present.

Notice of the regular monthly meeting was published in the **North Platte Telegraph** and the **McCook Daily Gazette** and was posted at the **MRNRD Office** and on the **District Website** at [www.mrnrd.org](http://www.mrnrd.org). As a courtesy it was also provided to local radio stations.

The minutes for the regular board meeting and public hearing on April 10, 2007 were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and second by Moore to approve the minutes as

presented.

Ayes- 10

Nays-0

Motion Carried

### **LEGAL MATTERS –**

Smith reported that the final decision from the district court in the McDermott case has not been received.

### **FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

The financial report for April was presented. The County Treasurer's Balance was \$14,105.27. The monthly budget comparison was presented and reviewed.

- ◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and second by Spencer to approve the April financial report as presented.

Ayes-10

Nays-0

Motion carried

A copy of this report is on file with the minutes.

### **OPEN FORUM**

Kurt Fritsch from City of McCook, Steve Whipple of Cambridge, William Barger of Culbertson spoke on LB701 and other groundwater management issues.

### **NRCS REPORT**

Hardin presented the NRCS report. Hardin reported that they are writing EQIP contracts. There should be funding for all priority EQIP applications. Funding is still short for irrigation. Technicians have been checking erosion sites from the rain. They checked the Blackwood watershed dams. There was a couple of big CRP plantings that were washed out. They are being replanted.

Fornoff arrived at 7:33 p.m.

### **NARD**

Dean Edson handed out summary report on LB701.

Al Eveland discussed the process for repaying bonds using comparisons of per acre fee and property tax. Health insurance was tabled to next month.

### **NACD**

E-notes were mailed to the Directors.

**NNRC – None**

### **INFORMATION AND EDUCATION**

Smith provided a summary of I & E activities for April.

One camp scholarship application was received.

A letter was received from Wauneta-Palisade requesting funding for entry fee for State Envirothon.

- ◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and second by Fornoff to approve Range Camp Scholarship for Laura Barger.

Ayes-11

Nays-0

Motion carried

- ◆ A motion was made by Loomis second by Moore to pay for the entry fee for Wauneta-Palisade Envirothon paying what the Upper Republican does not cover with a maximum of \$100.00 .

Ayes-11                      Nays-0                      Motion Carried

- ◆ A motion was made by Schurr and second by Loomis to table the proposal for NRD Education Funds.

Ayes-11                      Nays-0                      Motion Carried

Lawson arrived at 8:26 p.m.

#### **NRRMDA**

The Association meeting was held on April 20.

Smith went the over report. Ground Water Committee will meet June 5<sup>th</sup> time to be set later.

#### **RC&D**

None

#### **RON FRIEHE**

Friehe handed out a letter and addressed his concerns. Friehe gave a general background of his farming operation.

#### **AMERITIS**

Phil Young agreement was reviewed.

- ◆ A motion was made by Fornoff and second by Anderjaska to approve the Public Relations Proposal up to \$3,000.00.

Ayes-9                      Nays-2                      Motion Carried

Water Resources Advisory Panel

Discussion was held on Water Resource Advisory Panel.

#### **LEGISLATION**

NARD legislative updates were mailed to directors.

#### **GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

Permit to construct report was handed out to Directors. Monthly Reservoir reports have not been received. Smith went over graph in hand out.

#### **METER REPORT**

A current usage report was circulated.

#### **INCENTIVE PROGRAMS**

No action required.

#### **TRANSFER REQUEST**

Merrigan reviewed the transfer requests. Copies of the requests were circulated.

- ◆ A motion was made by Schurr and second by Anderjaska to approve water transfer T-8 from Olson Livestock & Seed Inc to Frank Stehno.

Ayes-11                      Nays-0                      Motion carried

- ◆ A motion was made by Fornoff and second by Schurr to to approve water transfer T-10 from Douglas Smith to Bryan & Ami Hauxwell.

- Ayes-11                      Nays-0                      Motion carried
- ◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and second by Fornoff to approve water transfer T-11 from Ada Remington to Don Olson.

- Ayes-11                      Nays-0                      Motion carried
- ◆ A motion was made by Fornoff and second by Schurr to to approve water transfer T-12 from Don D Olson to Don J Olson.

- Ayes-11                      Nays-0                      Motion carried
- ◆ A motion was made by Schurr and second by Nelsen to approve water transfer T-13 from Loren Larington to Randel Family Trust.

- Ayes-10                      Nays-0                      Abstain Randel                      Motion carried
- ◆ A motion was made by Fornoff and second by Loomis to approve water transfer T-14 Mike & Peggy Messersmith to Bruce Kramer.

Ayes-11                      Nays-0                      Motion carried

**ECONOMIC STUDY PROPOSAL –**

Discussion was held on draft of Economic Study. Minor changes have been recommended in charts.

**BASIN FUNDING –**

The board discussed the percentage of depletions of 44% Upper, 30% Middle and 26% Lower and whether these percentages should be used for the bond and future projects.

**SURFACE WATER BUYOUTS –**

Buyouts for Frenchman Valley are \$80 per acre ft and Riverside \$63.00 per acre ft. Discussion was held on buyouts and Interlocal Cooperation Agreement. Board wants a minimum of 2 people on board.

- ◆ A motion was made by Loomis and second by Schurr to approve interlocal agreement for administration of the bond with 2 voting members and 1 alternate.

Ayes-10                      Nays-1                      Motion Carried

**BOND PROCESS –**

- ◆ A motion was made by Loomis and second by Fornoff to move ahead with the 1 year bond.

Ayes-9                      Nays-2                      Motion carried

- ◆ A Motion was made by Moore and second by Nelsen to move ahead with bonding to pay for Frenchman Valley and Riverside.

Ayes-11                      Nays-0                      Motion carried

**ALLOCATION**

Possible allocations were discussed. No action taken.

**SPRING WELL MEASUREMENTS**

Spring well measurements are done. Reviewed charts in packet.

**GROUND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA – None**

**OTHER GROUND WATER ACTIVITY-**

Have draft of contract with DEQ to sample surface water. Reimbursement to NRD will be approximately \$5000.00.

**WILD –**

None

**BUFFERSTRIPS –**

None

**LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL –**

Application for Oppliger and Southwest feeder were reviewed.

- ◆ A motion was made by Fornoff and second by Schurr to accept livestock waste control applications from Oppliger Feeders LLC and Southwest Feeders.

Ayes-11

Nays-0

Motion carried

**SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT FUNDS**

Smith reviewed the cost-share summary report.

- ◆ A motion was made by Fornoff and second by Loomis to accept the report and approve applications as presented.

Ayes – 11

Nays – 0

Motion carried

**WATERSHEDS –** Hardin covered in his report.

**COMPLAINTS –** None

**CHEMIGATION –** Letters are being sent on permit not yet renewed. Deadline is June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**TREE PLANTING –** Tree planting is completed and contractor is laying weed barrier.

**SALARY RECOMMENDATIONS**

Shurr handed out a draft of possible salary changes. Discussion was held on the salary changes it was decided to table until next month.

**SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT –** None

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 PM

The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 12, 2007 in Curtis, Nebraska starting at 7:30 PM.

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Mary Tidyman  
Recorder