

**MINUTES**  
**Middle Republican Natural Resources District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**October 9, 2007**  
**Curtis, Nebraska**

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

**Board Members Absent:** Rick Spencer

**NRD Staff:** Dan Smith, Bob Merrigan, Roger Lawson and Stacie Owens

**NRCS Staff:** Doug Whisenhunt

**Others:** Lori Sughroue, Brad Edgerton, Mark Billinger, Brad Johnson, William Barger, Barry Richards, Claude Cappel

**Information Mailed to Directors:**

Agenda	September 11, 2007 Board Minutes
Budget Hearing FY 2007	Special Budget Hearing
September Financial Report	Monthly Income & Expense Report
NARD Letter Dated September 26	E-Notes for Sept. 25 & Oct. 2
Information & Education Report	Oct. 3 Memo from Dan
IMP 10/3 Revised Draft	Post Hearing R&R Draft

**Information Distributed at Meeting:**

Cost-Share Summary	Monthly Reservoir Report
Pickup Bids	Certified Acres Numbers
National Disability Awareness Memo	National Energy Awareness E-mail
Farm Bureau Newsletter	

**REGULAR MEETING**

The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Friesen at 7:30 p.m. The agenda and roster were circulated to those present.

**Added Items:** None.

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 September 11, 2007 Regular Board Meeting, Budget Hearing FY 2007 and Special Budget Hearing To Set Final Tax Request were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and seconded by Fornoff to approve the Minutes of the September 11, 2007 Regular Board Meeting, Budget Hearing FY2007 with corrections and Special Hearing To Set Final Tax Request.  
Ayes-10      Nays-0      Abstain-0      Motion Carried

**LEGAL MATTERS**

Smith reported on the Order that came down from the Frontier County lawsuit that found in our favor. There is a 30 day appeal period beginning October 2, 2007. After the 30 days, we

will request that the other cases be dismissed. To-date, we are unaware of anything filed by the Friends of the Republican.

### **FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

a. The financial report for September and Monthly Income and Expense Report were presented by Smith. The County Treasurer's Balance was \$55,193.35.

- ◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and seconded by Nelsen to approve the September financial report and Monthly Income and Expense Report as presented.

Ayes- 10      Nays-0      Abstain- 0      Motion Carried

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

### **OPEN FORUM**

Bill Barger and Mark Billinger had comments and discussions regarding the Kansas certified water rights process. Barry Richards expressed his concerns about irrigation, taxes and conservation.

### **REPORTS**

#### **NRCS REPORT**

Whisenhunt reported on the following: EQIP 2007 is done and the demand for 2008 looks good, working on redoing the ranking system, new farm bill, CRP is currently on hold, emergency conservation funds, hand out on EEO Civil Rights and e-mail regarding October National Energy Month.

#### **NARD**

Anderjaska gave a brief report on the outcome of the NARD Annual Conference in Kearney and discussed the business session memo which was included in the Board packets. Also commented that the insurance side was still going very well.

#### **NACD**

E-notes dated September 25 and October 2 were mailed to the Directors.

#### **NWRA**

Smith reported the NWRA's Annual Meeting will be held in Albuquerque, NM on November 7-9, 2007. Dean Edson, Executive Director of NARD would like to see a couple managers attend. Anderjaska confirmed conversation and stated he believed Dan should go.

- ◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and seconded by Fornoff to allow Smith to use District funds for out of state travel to Albuquerque.

Ayes – 10      Nays – 0      Abstain-0      Motion Carried

#### **NNRC**

Smith reported that the commission has been looking at procedures they'll need to have in place for the Water Review Board, if needed.

### **INFORMATION AND EDUCATION**

Lawson presented his report on the Conservation Craze Days, completion of the Range Judging competition held in Curtiss and the upcoming Land Judging competition which will be held in McCook on October 10<sup>th</sup>. Lawson reported that the website was still experiencing technical difficulties and he would be working on it as soon as the Land Judging competition was completed.

## **NE REPUBLICAN RIVER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION**

None.

## **RC&D**

None.

## **LEGISLATION**

Smith reported that the Interim Study Hearing LR 106 will be held in Alma on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

### **WELL PERMITS**

None.

### **SURFACE WATER REPORT**

Smith discussed the September Reservoir Report and that DNR would be considering this year a “water-short” year.

### **METER PROGRAM**

Smith reported that our technicians were reading and servicing meters. We will continue to service meters until the end of this month at which time we will reevaluate our progress and determine whether to keep servicing meters or just read them. Technicians would resume servicing meters upon completion of meter readings.

### **INCENTIVE PROGRAMS**

Smith reported on the CREP steering committee meeting he attended in Lincoln.

### **TRANSFER REQUEST**

None.

### **CONSIDER REVISIONS FOR GWMA and IMP**

Smith went over the changes that were to be considered and answered questions from the Board. Schurr has concerns about the relation of the two plans and would like to see them fit more closely together. It was decided to keep the revisions tabled at this time.

### **GROUND WATER COMMITTEE MEETING**

GW Committee Meeting on Monday, Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> at the MRNRD office in Curtis.

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

Smith reported the Fall Well readings are almost complete. Merrigan mentioned we had only 3 left. Should have completed report by November meeting.

### **REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN COALITION**

Smith reported that the bond progress is slow, there are concerns regarding the possible lawsuit. Basin Coordinator position has recommended candidate. She will either reside in Curtis or Imperial and work out of that respective NRD office. Another resolution will need to be done on the funding and then there will be a delay on the bond release due to the 30 remonstrations period allowing for public objection.

## **PROGRAMS**

### **WILD**

None.

**BUFFERSTRIPS**

None.

**LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL**

None.

**CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT FUNDS**

Smith presented the Cost-Share Summary.

- ◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and seconded by Moore to approve Cost Share Report.

Ayes -9      Nays -0      Abstain- Fornoff      Motion Carried

**WATERSHEDS**

Smith reported that we have nothing new on whether we will get funds to fix damages. Merrigan has been talking with FEMA where we might be able to get some funding. Merrigan reported that they have been working on clean-up and repaired two (2) risers.

**COMPLAINTS**

None.

**CHEMIGATION**

None.

**TREE PLANTING**

None.

**GENERAL OPERATIONS**

**PERSONNEL**

None.

**SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT**

None.

**VEHICLE QUOTES**

Merrigan reported on the four vehicles that were currently on lots in surrounding area.

- ◆ A motion was made by Loomis and seconded by Fornoff to direct staff to purchase one of the top two proposals from Wagner Ford and Wagner Chevrolet.

Ayes -10      Nays -0      Abstain- 0      Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 13, 2007 in McCook, Nebraska at 7:30 PM.

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Stacie M. Owens  
Board Secretary