

**MINUTES**  
**Middle Republican Natural Resources District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**March 13, 2008**  
**Curtis, Nebraska**

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

**Board Members Absent:** None

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

**NRCS Staff:** Marty Gugelman

**Others:** Roger Kolbet, Jerry Kotschwar, Traci Witthuhn, Brad Edgerton, Raymond Durner, William Barger, Buck Haag, Rick McConville, Mark Rouse

**Information Mailed to Directors**

Agenda	Minutes from February 12 Meeting
Public Hearing Agenda	February Financial Report
Monthly Income & Expense Report	National Women's History Month Article
E-Notes for Feb. 20, 26 & Mar. 4	I&E Report
Website Activity Chart	Envirothon Score Sheet
Letter dated Feb. 22, Bostwick Irrigation	Excerpts from Winter Conference in Kansas
Southwest NE RC&D Annual Report	Press Release dated Feb. 2 by RRWCD
NARD Memo dated Feb. 15, 22 & 29	Permit To Construct dated March 13
Temporary Transfer Request T5-7	Water Usage Report
2008 Candidate List for MRNRD	

**Information Distributed at Meeting:**

2 Press Releases dated Mar. 13 by RRBC	NARD Memo dated Mar. 7
NARD Bill Summary Tracking Sheet	Surface Water Report for February
RRCA Mtg Agenda Mar. 11-12, Kansas	Gazette Article by Max Nelms
3 OWH Articles dated Mar. 12	Cost-Share Summary
Permanent Transfer PT4-PT5	Permit to Construct Well Application

**REGULAR MEETING**

The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Friesen at 7:33 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 February 12, 2008 regular were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and seconded by Nelsen to approve the

Minutes of the February 12, 2008 Regular Board Meeting.

Ayes-10      Nays- 0      Abstain-Loomis      Motion Carried

The meeting was recessed at 7:35 p.m. for the purpose of opening the variance hearing.  
The meeting was reconvened at 7:41 p.m.

**CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST**

Discussion was held and Brad Edgerton of Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, Cambridge Office, provided additional information on the status of the water-short year.

- ◆ A motion was made by Fornoff and seconded by Mustion to grant a variance to supplemental well users in the Frenchman Valley Irrigation District and Riverside Irrigation Company from the Rules 5-3.11 and 5-3.11.1 of the Rules and Regulations.

Ayes-11      Nays- 0      Motion Carried

**LEGAL MATTERS**

Smith had nothing new to report on the case status of LB 701.

**FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

a. The financial report for February and Monthly Income and Expense Report were presented by Smith. The County Treasurer's Balance was \$125,296.12.

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

Ayes-11      Nays- 0      Motion Carried

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

- ◆ A motion was made by Schurr and seconded by Fornoff to approve the 2006-2007 Audit Report and billing with recommendation that we talk with Auditors about their discrepancy report.

Ayes-11      Nays-0      Motion Carried

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

**OPEN FORUM**

None.

**REPORTS**

**A. NRCS REPORT**

Gugelman reported on EQIP 2008 contracts are complete and approved, water shed repair status and inspections of the disaster locations are half done. He also pointed out the EEO handout on National Women's History Month.

**B. NARD**

Anderjaska reported on the meeting in Holdrege on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Dave Wolf was hired as the new I&E Coordinator. They are working on the new budget which will be acted on at the June 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting. Our Board will need to take action prior to that meeting. Insurance increased to about \$2,000 which will place an increase on dues of about 10%. Requested that we look into implementing a Wellness program which has a positive impact on the cost of

insurance. Elections were held: Brad Steinkruger, President; Mary Ann Workman, Vice President; and, Joe Anderjaska, Secretary/Treasurer.

### **C. NACD**

E-notes dated February 20, 26 and March 4 were mailed to the Directors.

### **D. NNRC**

None.

### **E. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION**

Lawson went over his report which was included in the Board packet. He went over the results of the Envirothon, Loess Canyon Biological Unique Landscape Meeting, nominations for Conservation Awards Program (deadline around March 31) and that there were no scholarship applications received as of yet.

### **F. REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN COALITION**

Witthuhn passed out additional press releases and financial report. She mentioned that the funds were getting low primarily due to legal costs and she would be meeting with all three NRD managers to discuss.

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

Smith reported on the May meeting which will be held somewhere in the Middle Republican District however exact location has yet to be determined.

### **H. OTHER AGENCIES**

1) RC&D – Roger Stockton provided 1) handouts to Smith to include in the Board packets since he was unable to attend the meeting.

### **I. LEGISLATION**

Smith reported on the NARD memos, editorials and articles in the Omaha World Herald included in the Directors packet. LB 1094 is still moving on the general file. LB 975 contains language that would take away restriction requirements on comingled wells. Smith also mentioned Senator Whiteman's comments on wanting disclosure of what the irrigation districts do with all funds.

## **GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

### **A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

#### **1. WELL PERMITS**

Smith went over McClatchey replacement well.

#### **2. SURFACE WATER REPORT**

Smith went over current water report.

#### **3. METER PROGRAM**

Smith reported that there were only a couple meters that need to be repaired and put back in the field. He also went over the Water Usage Report.

#### **4. INCENTIVE PROGRAMS**

None.

**5. TRANSFER REQUEST**

Merrigan presented the following Temporary Transfer request for 2008:

	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
T-5	Dave & Delma Fischer	Jerry Mustion
T-6	Dave & Delma Fischer	Fred Mustion
T-7	Dave & Delma Fischer	Don Oppliger

- ◆ A motion was made by Schurr and seconded by Fornoff to approve Temporary Water Transfer Requests T5-T7.

Ayes -9      Nays – Haag      Abstain-Mustion      Motion Carried

Merrigan presented the following Permanent Transfer requests and Permit to Construct a Water Well from Mr. Logan Otto:

	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
PT4	NW ¼ of 19-9-34, Lincoln Co.	W ½, SW ¼, E1/2, SE ¼ of 5-8-35, Hayes Co.
PT5	SE ¼ of 19-3-34, Lincoln Co.	NE ¼ of 4-8-35, Hayes Co.

- ◆ A motion was made by Schurr and seconded by Loomis to approve Permanent Water Transfer Requests PT4-5 and Application for a Permit to Construct a water well.

Ayes –10      Nays –Spencer      Motion Carried

**6. REPORT ON RRCA MEETING IN KANSAS CITY**

Smith went over a Summary of the Meeting events included in the Board packet. Kansas did not call for arbitration as they had expected would happen. Brad Edgerton added that the meeting had not been adjourned but suspended for 2 weeks

**7. ACTION ON SUPPLEMENTAL WELLS RELATED TO SURFACE WATER PURCHASES**

Covered during Variance Hearing.

**8. CONSIDER PARTICIPATION IN WATER LEASES.**

Covered during Variance Hearing.

**9. WATER USE REPORT**

Smith briefly highlighted on the current water use report and noted that there is a calculation problem in the database that will need to be corrected but that number shown is relatively accurate.

**10. RETREAT WITH URNRD IN NORTH PLATTE**

Smith discussed the planned Board Retreat scheduled for March 17<sup>th</sup> in North Platte. Owens will call Board Members on Sunday evening, March 16<sup>th</sup> to provide a reminder.

**B. GROUND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA**

None

**C. OTHER GROUND WATER ACTIVITY**

None.

## **PROGRAMS**

### **CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT FUNDS**

Smith presented the Cost-Share Summary.

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

Ayes – 11      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

### **WATERSHEDS**

Smith discussed the lack of funds to fix 80A so we will have to monitor it until it can be fixed.

### **COMPLAINTS**

None.

### **CHEMIGATION**

None.

### **TREE PLANTING**

None.

### **BUFFER STRIPS**

None.

### **LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL APPLICATIONS**

None.

## **GENERAL OPERATIONS**

### **PERSONNEL – PERSONNEL & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Meeting will be held April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Friesen, Randel and Loomis are main committee members, with Nelsen as the alternate.

### **SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT**

None.

### **ELECTIONS**

Smith provided an update on the 2008 Candidate List as of March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **PRINTER/COPIER**

Smith will provided bids on replacement of two copiers with a new one at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 PM.

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, April 8, 2008 at 7:30 P.M. in Curtis, Nebraska at the Legion Hall.

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Stacie M. Owens  
Board Secretary