

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, February 9, 2010
Curtis, Nebraska

Board Members Present: Josh Friesen, Kevin Fornoff, Dan Nelsen, Marty Schurr, Joe Anderjaska, Brad Randel, Buck Haag, Benjie Loomis, Rick Spencer, James Uerling, Rick McConville

Board Members Absent: None

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

NRCS Staff: None

Others: Raymond Durner, Roger Goltl, Randall Hileman, Roger Stockton, William M. Barger, Brad Johnson, James Schneider, Jesse Bradley

Information E-mailed to Directors:

E-Notes dated Jan. 12, 19, 26	Lower Republican Resolution
Special Meeting Notice & Agenda	Jan. 15 NARD Update
2010 NARD Bills	2010 JEO Hospitality Invite
SW Lease Proposal and Discussion Items	2010 Legislative Summary, Jan. 29
NARD Bill Summary & Positions	2010 NACD Conference News
NARD Update & Bill Summary, Feb. 5	

Information Mailed to Directors:

Agenda	Board Meeting Minutes
Variance Hearing Agenda	PT6-2009 & MR 534
Financial Report	Monthly Income & Expense
Civil Rights Resources	I & E Report
ACE Camp brochure	2010 Master Conservationist Award
Master Conservationist Recipients list	Republican River Restoration Partners
AmeriCorps NCCC	Letter from Dunnigan, Jan. 25

Information Distributed at Meeting:

Special Meeting Minutes	NRCS Report
RRBC Report	Surface Water Report
2009 Water Usage Report	IMP Draft Revisions, Feb 2010
Republican River Model Region 50 Year Map	Letter from Claude Cappel, Feb. 6
Cost-Share Report	Copier/Printer Quotes
Conservation Trees brochure	

REGULAR MEETING

1. **The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Friesen at 7:04 pm.**
 - a. Verify Quorum.
 - b. Excused Absences – None.

2. The agenda and roster were circulated to those present.
Items added to the Agenda since mailing - None.

3. 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**. As a courtesy it was also provided to local radio stations. Guests should also note the location of a current copy of the statutes dealing with public meetings and the booklet with the information provided to directors.

4. The Minutes for the January 12th Regular Board Meeting and January 26th Special Meeting were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and seconded by Loomis to approve the Minutes of the January 12th Regular Board Meeting and January 26th Special Meeting.

Ayes- 9 Nays- 0 Abstain-Schurr, Uerling Motion Carried

5. Open Hearing for Variance Request.

The meeting was recessed at 7:06 pm for the purpose of opening the variance hearing.

6. Close Hearing.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:21 pm.

7. CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST

Discussion held.

- ◆ A motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Schurr to approve PT6-2009 for 59.13 acres and MR 534 with the condition of only 36” of allocation be transferred.

Ayes – 7 Nays – Haag, McConville, Spencer, Uerling Motion Carried

8. FINANCIAL ACTIONS

a. The January Financial Report and Monthly Income and Expense Report were presented by Smith. The County Treasurer’s Balance was \$166,233.22.

- ◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and seconded by Uerling to approve the January 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.

b. Audit.

- ◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and seconded by Schurr to accept the audit and approve payment of \$3,625.00 from the general fund and \$200.00 from the Texaco fund.

Ayes- 11 Nays- 0 Motion Carried

9. LEGAL MATTERS

a. Case Status – LB 701 – Declaratory Judgment – January 21.
Nothing new.

- b. Occupation Tax Challenge – Lancaster District Court.
Nothing new.

10. OPEN FORUM

William M. Barger. Requested the Board considering taking transfers off the table.

11. REPORTS – AGENCIES, ASSOCIATIONS, OTHERS

A. NRCS REPORT.

1. District Cons. Report. Smith briefly went over Doug Whisenhunt’s report and civil rights handout, copies of which are filed with these Minutes.

B. NARD

1. Report – Anderjaska reported the meeting held in Lincoln on Wednesday, January 27th.

2. Conference Report. Anderjaska reported that the Legislative conference was very well attended this year.

C. NNRC

1. Report – Nelsen reported on the January 27th meeting. They held election of officers and voted to go from 6 meetings a year to 5.

D. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

1. Reports.

Lawson went over his report and answered questions.

2. Summer Camp Scholarships. Lawson described the ACE camp and requested that it be added to the list of qualifying summer camps for scholarship money. Lawson also requested that the Board consider only paying 80% of the fees instead of the full 100% so the camper has some obligation.

◆ A motion was made by Uerling and seconded by Fornoff to approve the ACE camp as a qualifying scholarship camp.

Ayes- 11 Nays- 0 Motion Carried

Discussion was held relating to changing the scholarship from 100% to 80% and it was decided to wait to see if there would be more interest in the scholarship fund with the addition of the ACE camp.

E. REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN COALITION

Smith briefly went over Traci Witthuhn’s report a copy of which is filed with these Minutes.

F. NE REPUBLICAN RIVER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

Smith pointed out that the Minutes from the last meeting were included in Witthuhn’s packet.

G. OTHER AGENCIES OR ASSOCIATIONS.

1. RC&D. Roger Stockton discussed the Republican River Restoration Partners handout which was mailed to directors and requested use of the skid loader and one of our technicians to help with this project.

◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and seconded by Spencer to support the project and leave it up to the Manager to work out the details with Stockton and the Upper Republican NRD Manager as to how many skid loader and man hours would be appropriate.

Ayes- 11 Nays- 0 Motion Carried

H. LEGISLATION.

1. Legislative Reports.

Smith went over some of the bills and testimony relating to those bills.

12. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

1. REPORTS

(a) **WELL PERMITS**

Nothing new.

(b) **SURFACE WATER**

Bureau's report handed out.

(c) **METER PROGRAM**

Smith went over the water usage report for 2009 irrigation season.

(d) **AWEP.**

Smith reported that we still have not heard anything on the 2nd year of funding.

2. TRANSFERS REQUESTS.

(a) **INITIAL REVIEW LIST – None.**

(b) **FINAL REVIEW – Tabled Eichman - Seward.**

This item was addressed and voted on during the Public Hearing.

Discussion was held regarding Barger's request during open forum that transfers be pulled from the table and allowed.

◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and seconded by Schurr to not accept any transfers until the new rules and regulations, and the IMP have been revised.

Ayes- 11 Nays- 0 Motion Carried

3. ACREAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM.

1. AWEP.

Nothing new.

4. GROUNDWATER COMMITTEE REPORT.

Friesen reported that the groundwater committee met at 3 to go over the revisions received from DNR on the IMP.

5. IMP AND GWMA REVISIONS – DISCUSSION.

Friesen turned the meeting over to Jim Schneider who also introduced Jesse Bradley. Jim went over changes in detail that were suggested on the IMP and asked for suggestions on language in specific areas of concern. Jim and Jesse will work with Smith on any changes.

B. GROUND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA.

None.

C. OTHER GROUND WATER ACTIVITY

None.

13. PROGRAMS

A. CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT FUNDS.

1. Approve Applications. Smith went over Cost-Share.

- ◆ A motion was made by Fornoff and seconded by Randel to approve the Cost Share applications.

Ayes – 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

B. WATERSHEDS.

Nothing new.

C. COMPLAINTS.

None.

D. CHEMIGATION.

None.

E. TREE PLANTING.

Merrigan reported that the orders have been very slow and we have already turned back some of the trees.

F. BUFFER STRIPS.

None.

G. LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL APPLICATIONS.

None.

14. GENERAL OPERATIONS.

A. PERSONNEL.

None.

B. COPIER/PRINTER REPLACEMENT.

Smith went over the quotes received from Top Office, Eakes Office Plus and Xerox.

- ◆ A motion was made by Schurr and seconded by Uerling to accept the quote from Eakes on the Sharp MX-4100 model.

Ayes – 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

C. SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT.

None.

D. CANDIDATE FILING.

Smith announced that everyone up for election has refiled except Schurr who is filling out paperwork now.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 pm.

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, March 16, 2010 at 7:00 pm in Curtis, Nebraska at the Community Center at 201 Garlick Avenue.

Stacie M. Owens
Board Secretary