

**Budget Hearing FY 2011-2012**  
**Middle Republican Natural Resources District**  
**September 13, 2011**  
**Curtis, Nebraska**

**Board Members Present:** Kevin Fornoff, Joe Anderjaska, Buck Haag, James Uerling, Rick McConville, Steve Cappel, Bill Hoyt, Blaine Stinson, Rick Spencer, Brad Randel, John Palic

**Board Members Absent:** None

**NRD Staff:** Dan Smith, Robert Merrigan and Stacie Owens

**Those Presenting Testimony:** Jay Schilling, Jon Swanson, Jerry Calvin, Josh Friesen

The budget hearing was called to order by Chairman Haag at 7:00 P.M.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the proposed budget of the Middle republican NRD. This is in accordance with §13-501 to §13-512

The budget notice was published in the **North Platte Telegraph** and the **McCook Gazette** and was posted at the **MRNRD office** and on the district website at [www.mnrnd.org](http://www.mnrnd.org). As a courtesy is was also provided to local radio stations. Guests should note the location of a current copy of the statutes dealing with public meetings and the booklet with the information provided to the directors.

Manager Dan Smith presented the proposed budget and reviewed each line in detail. Total general fund requirements are \$8,885,356 with the total requirement for all funds of \$2,804,025 and a cash reserve of \$263,000. The property tax requirement is \$703,388.74. This would result in a proposed tax rate of .030281. The proposed occupation tax rate for this budget is \$8.50.

**Testimony:**

Jay Schilling, McCook. Schilling read his written testimony and answered questions. Testimony is filed with these minutes.

Jon Swanson, Culbertson. Swanson stated why he feels surface water and comingled acres should be excluded from paying the occupation tax as they are already paying charges to the Irrigation Districts they are under. He also stated he has not received any surface water in 10 years.

Jerry Calvin, McCook. Calvin discussed his concerns about the businesses and communities relating to the occupation tax.

Josh Friesen, Wallace. Friesen read his written testimony and answered questions. Testimony is filed with these minutes.

The hearing was adjourned at 7:36 P.M.

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Stacie M. Owens, Secretary to the Board

**Special Budget Hearing to Set Final Tax Request  
FY 2011-2012  
Middle Republican Natural Resources District  
September 13, 2011  
Curtis, Nebraska**

**Board Members Present:** Kevin Fornoff, Joe Anderjaska, Buck Haag, James Uerling, Rick McConville, Steve Cappel, Bill Hoyt, Blaine Stinson, Rick Spencer, Brad Randel, John Palic

**Board Members Absent:** None

**NRD Staff:** Dan Smith, Robert Merrigan and Stacie Owens

**Those Presenting Testimony:** Marleen Garcia

The special hearing was called to order by Chairman Haag at 7:37 P.M.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request at a different levy rate than the prior year. This is in accordance with §77-1601.02.

The budget notice was published in the **North Platte Telegraph** and the **McCook Gazette** and was posted at the **MRNRD office** and on the district website at [www.mrnrd.org](http://www.mrnrd.org). As a courtesy is was also provided to local radio stations. Guests should note the location of a current copy of the statutes dealing with public meetings and the booklet with the information provided to the directors.

Manager Dan Smith presented the following information concerning the proposed 2011-2012 budget and levy rate:

2010-2011 Property Tax Request	\$ 0.00
2010 Tax Rate	0.00
Property Tax Rate (2010-2011 Request/2011 Valuation)	0.00
2011-2012 Proposed Property Tax Request	\$ 703,388.74
Proposed 2011 Tax Rate	0.030281

Smith noted for the record that the published notice for this hearing contained an error with regard to the "Proposed 2011 Levy Rate". The published rate was 0.000303. It should have been 0.030281. The erroneous rate was calculated by a program provided by the State Auditor's Office.

**Testimony:**

Marleen Garcia, McCook. Introduced herself as the Red Willow County Treasurer and stated that she was concerned with the notice that was in the paper regarding the proposed tax rate which showed to be very low. Smith explained that was a clerical

error. She stated that she had intended to testify that we should increase the levy so the burden would be spread out amongst everyone instead of just the irrigators and the occupation tax could be lower.

The hearing was adjourned at 7:43 P.M.

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Stacie M. Owens, Secretary to the Board