

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 1:30 PM
Curtis, Nebraska

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

Board Members Absent: None

NRD Staff: Bob Merrigan, Roger Lawson, Stacie Owens

NRCS Staff: Jason Kennedy, Kort Kemp

Others: Chris Miller, Brad Johnson, Conrad Nelson, Nate Jenkins, Monte Sheffield, Bruce Fulk, Vern Friesen, Brad Edgerton, Roger Stockton, Lorn Dizmang, Benjie Loomis, Stan Moore, William Barger, Raymond Durner, Marty Schurr, Dan Nelsen, Kevin Owens, John W. Scharf, John Scharf, Justin Bass

Information E-mailed to Directors:

E-Notes dated December 14, 21 & Jan. 4

E-mail re: LR 542 & Budget Cuts

Information Mailed to Directors:

Agenda

Reorganization sheet

Minutes from Regular Meeting

Financial Report

Monthly Income & Expense Report

Civil Rights Resources

I & E Report

Education Program in Rvw for 2011

DNR Forecast ltr dated Dec. 28, 2010

Information Distributed at Meeting:

Surface Water Report

2011 Master Conservationist Awards

REGULAR MEETING

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Fornoff at 1:33 pm.

- a. Verify Oaths of Office.
- b. Verify Quorum.
- c. Excused Absences – None.

2. The agenda and roster were circulated to those present.

- a. Items added to the Agenda since mailing: 11a.2. AWEP Payments
- b. Reorganization of Board and Election of Officers.

Fornoff stepped down as Vice Chairman and turned the meeting over to Merrigan.

Merrigan made 3 calls for nominations from the floor for the position of Chairman.

Uerling nominated Haag for Chairman.

Randel nominated Fornoff for Chairman.

Nominations Cease. Votes casted by written ballot.

Haag = 8

Fornoff = 3

Merrigan announced Haag as new Chairman and turned the meeting over.

Haag made 3 calls for nominations from the floor for the position of Vice Chairman.

Cappel nominated Uerling for Vice Chairman.

Randel nominated Fornoff for Vice Chairman.

Nominations cease. Votes casted by written ballot.

Uerling = 6

Fornoff = 5

Haag announced Uerling as new Vice Chairman.

Haag made 3 calls for nominations from the floor for the position of Treasurer.

Uerling nominated Hoyt for Treasurer. Uerling withdrew nomination.

Uerling nominated Spencer for Treasurer.

Cappel nominated Palic for Treasurer.

Nominations cease. Votes casted by written ballot.

Spencer = 8

Palic = 3

Haag announced Spencer as new Treasurer.

Haag made 3 calls for nominations from the floor for the position of NARD Representative.

Fornoff nominated Anderjaska to remain NARD Representative.

Hoyt nominated Uerling for NARD Representative.

Nominations cease.

Anderjaska requested a voice vote. Joe discussed his reasons for this request and what he has done while on the NARD Board.

- ◆ A motion was made by Anderjaska and seconded by Fornoff to have a roll call vote for the NARD Representative.

Ayes- 3 Nays- Cappel, Haag, Hoyt, McConville, Palic, Spencer, Uerling, Stinson

Motion Failed

Votes casted by written ballot.

Anderjaska = 7

Uerling = 4

Haag announced Anderjaska as retained NARD Representative.

Haag asked for volunteers for the RRMDA Delegate and Alternate. Haag appointed the following:

Hoyt = Delegate
Fornoff = Alternate

Haag asked for volunteers for the Coalition Director and Alternate. Haag appointed the following:

Smith = Director
Fornoff = Alternate

Haag reappointed Tom Hansen to be the RC&D Voting Delegate.

Haag asked for volunteers for the Ground Water Committee. Uerling, Fornoff, Cappel, Spencer, McConville and Randel all volunteered. The committee is only made up of 5 people so written ballots were cast for 5 of the 6 volunteers.

Uerling = 8
Fornoff = 5
Cappel = 8
Spencer = 11
McConville = 11
Randel = 11

Haag announced the Ground Water Committee as being Uerling, Cappel, Spencer, McConville and Randel.

Haag asked for volunteers to be on the Personnel & Operations Committee. Stinson and Hoyt have volunteered at this time. The third seat will be filled in March.

Discussion was held relating to the Secretary position and whether or not it would be beneficial to have a Board Member be given the title. After discussions were held it was decided that no benefit would come of naming a Board Member as the secretary.

- ◆ A motion was made by Randel and seconded by Fornoff to retain Owens as Board Secretary.

Ayes - 11 Nays- 0 Motion Carried

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 December Regular Board Meeting were mailed to Directors.

consensus from the Board's if they wish to move further. If so, they will need to start setting up monitoring wells for data collection.

11. REPORTS – AGENCIES, ASSOCIATIONS, OTHERS

A. NRCS REPORT.

1. District Cons. Report. Kennedy reported on program deadlines.
2. AWEP Payment. Kennedy went over the payment rates for this year and what the MRNRD Board did last year. Discussion was held.

- ◆ A motion was made by Fornoff and seconded by Uerling to pay an additional \$150.00 per acre to the federal payment on the AWEP Permanent Retirement Program.

Ayes – 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

The sign up deadline is February 18th and if there isn't enough interest due to the payment amount, the board encouraged Kennedy to make an additional request at the February board meeting. Further discussion held.

Hoyt made a motion to increase the payment to \$200 now instead of waiting. Motion died from lack of a second.

B. NARD

1. Report – Anderjaska reported that they were preparing for conference and there was nothing much going on other than that.
2. Conference Info.
January 25th & 26th. Owens will advertise a special meeting with no action for those dates. Merrigan will work on setting up a meeting with DNR while in Lincoln.

C. NNRC

1. Report. Nelsen reported that the next meeting will be in Lincoln on January 26th.

D. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION – LAWSON.

1. Reports. Lawson gave his I & E report and talked about it being the MRNRD's turn to handle the banquet at the Legislative Conference. He announced that we would be going over to Misty's as there were no available conference rooms at the Embassy.

E. REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN COALITION

1. Reports. Nate Jenkins discussed the importance of educating the Senator's on what happens down in our basin which is what the coalition is helpful for. He also talked about Chris Miller's presentation on the augmentation project and wanted to get a general idea of where the Board was at on the idea. He also explained the breakdown of costs and provided some general numbers of what that cost would be for our district.
2. Next Meeting, February 16th, Imperial.

F. NE REPUBLICAN RIVER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

1. Reports & Preliminary Forecast.
Merrigan went over the forecast letter from DNR which was included in the Board packets.

2. Next Meeting, February 16th, Imperial.

G. OTHER AGENCIES OR ASSOCIATIONS.

1. RC&D – Roger Stockton has been working on Annual Reports and grant paperwork. He also invited everyone to the Planning Meeting in Cambridge from 1 – 5 p.m. on Thursday, January 27th.

H. LEGISLATION.

1. Sustainability Task Force Report – Anderjaska/Fornoff.
Fornoff went over the meeting held on January 4th where Goeke answered some questions. They also worked in groups to define sustainability. The next meeting will be held on January 31st. Anderjaska went over information relating to the committee and that the facilitator has been pulling all the information submitted by the committee. They will meet on January 12th to go over that information.

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

Water reports will hopefully be mailed out in February.

(d) AWEF.

Discussed during NRCS report.

(e) ARP.

Merrigan suggested the Board start considering another retirement program.

2. TRANSFERS REQUESTS.

(a) INITIAL REVIEW LIST – None.

(b) FINAL REVIEW – None.

3. GROUNDWATER COMMITTEE REPORT.

New committee will plan on meeting at 10:30 am on February 8th at the Community Center.

4. DRAFT REVISIONS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS – DISCUSSION.

Ground Water Committee will start working on revisions.

5. NOTICES OF NON-COMPLIANCE ISSUED.

Nothing new.

6. CEASE AND DESIST ORDER – AFFIRM STAFF ACTION.

Nothing new.

7. AUGMENTATION PLANNING/OBSERVATION WELLS – CHRIS MILLER.

Moved up to follow Item 10.

B. GROUND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA – WATER SAMPLES.

Merrigan reported that we still have not received official news of the grant but have been told that we did get it.

C. OTHER GROUND WATER ACTIVITY

None.

13. PROGRAMS

A. COST-SHARE FUNDS – LCP/NSWCP.

1. Approve Applications. No report available at this time.

B. WATERSHEDS – REHAB.

1. Progress on 32A and 80A.
No report. In winter shutdown.

C. COMPLAINTS – REPORTS ON PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS.

None.

D. CHEMIGATION.

None.

E. TREE PLANTING.

Merrigan reported that orders are very slow this year. We did split an order of mulch with the Upper Republican to cut the cost down.

F. BUFFER STRIPS.

None.

G. LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL APPLICATIONS.

None.

14. GENERAL OPERATIONS.

A. PERSONNEL.

None.

B. SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT.

None.

C. BUILDING REMODELING.

Merrigan reported on the difficulties that have been encountered with black mold and what has been done to fix the situation. Costs, of course, will be higher than bid as they are additional repairs.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 pm.

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at 1:30 p.m., at the Community Center at 201 Garlick Avenue in Curtis, Nebraska.

Stacie M. Owens
Board Secretary