

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 7:00 PM
Curtis, Nebraska

Board Members Present: Joe Anderjaska, John Palic, Jolene Messinger, Shane Rippen, Travis Rousselle, Benjie Loomis, Tracy Zink, Dan Nelsen, Dan Estermann, Brad Randel, Jay Schilling, Rick McConville

Board Members Absent: None

NRD Staff: Jack Russell, Alex Boyce, Sylvia Johnson and Stacie Owens

NRCS Staff: Jason Kennedy

Others: William M. Barger, Jared Abraham, Jesse Korus

Information Mailed to Directors:

Regular Meeting Agenda

Financial Report

Civil Rights Handout

Regular Meeting Minutes

Profit vs Loss Budget vs Actual

Surface Water Report

Information Distributed at Meeting:

Crop Year 2020 District Water Usage

Draft Monitoring & Studies Memo 3/19/21

Irrigation Leader Magazine

Draft IMP dated 3/19/21

Jesse Bradley PowerPoint regarding the IMP

Information E-mailed

Draft Long Range Plan

Weather Stations

Stakeholder Meeting

NARD Legislative Update 3/12/21

NARD Board Meeting Minutes

Zink reminder for Tuesday Meeting Comments

REGULAR MEETING

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Zink at 7:00 pm.
 - a. Verify Quorum.
 - b. Excused Absences. None.
2. The agenda and roster were circulated to those present.
 - a. 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 March Regular Board Meeting were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the minutes of the March Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Anderjaska.
Ayes – 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

5. FINANCIAL ACTIONS

A. The March Financial Report was presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$111,506.35.

- ◆ Nelsen moved to approve the March Financial Report. Seconded by Loomis.
Ayes - 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

6. OPEN FORUM

None.

7. AEM PRESENTATION.

Boyce introduced Jared Abraham and Jesse Korus who presented the flyover project and provide information on what and how they implemented the information into usable information. They were encouraged to look at funding opportunities

8. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. **IMP.** Stakeholder meeting was held and handouts relating to those materials were distributed to the board members. Any future changes will be done through a technical memorandum with all three districts approval as opposed to a public hearing. The current plan will be to agree upon all changes and take it to hearing in either July or August with an effective date sometime in September

B. **LONG RANGE PLAN.** Still receiving feedback from the board members as far as their input. It was encouraged that those who have not got theirs in to please do so as soon as possible.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. **SCHOLARSHIPS.** Johnson reported that she had received 6 total but only 2 were ag related. Her recommendation was to award these 2 the scholarships.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve \$500 scholarships to Ashlyn Robinson and Coy Hale. Seconded by Rippen.
Ayes – 9 Nays – 0 Abstain – Estermann, Loomis Motion Carried

B. **METER PROGRAM.** Currently have right around 800 meters installed. The second grant has been approved which will provide for another 1,000. The committee discussed whether to charge the producers a yearly fee or to use occupation tax. It was decided to use occupation tax.

Discussion held regarding the side-by-side. The old one will be sold on big iron along with the old tractor and will use these funds to help purchase a replacement.

- ◆ Schilling moved to pursue the purchase of the Polaris 1000 from Lewis Motor Sports for \$12,806. Seconded by Loomis.
Ayes - 10 Nays – Rippen Motion Carried

10. NRCS

A. SIGN AGREEMENT. Kennedy announced starting yesterday clients are allowed to come in by appointment now. Working on obligating EQIP funds. Discussion held about the joint agreement between the MRNRD and NRCS.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the working agreement between the MRNRD and the NRCS and have the board vice chairman sign the agreement. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes – 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

11. NARD

Rippen stated there was a meeting held yesterday mostly to look at the new building and he was not able to attend. They will be starting to look at the budget. Schilling discussed some thoughts and ideas he had for legislative conference.

12. N-CORPE

A. OTHER. Next meeting will be in Alma on April 20th.

13. LEGAL MATTERS

None.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Potential Violations and Cease and Desists

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to enter into executive session to discuss potential violations and cease and desists with the Board, Manager, Assistant Manager and Staff. Seconded by Loomis.
Ayes - 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

Vice Chairman Zink restated, for the record, the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session.

Entered at 8:54 pm.

Randel arrived at 9:12 pm.

- ◆ Palic moved to exit the executive session. Seconded by Rippen.
Ayes - 12 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

Exited at 10:01 pm.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to pursue Cease & Desist letter CD1 Fritsche/BELF. Seconded by Rippen.
Ayes - 12 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

- ◆ Palic moved to pursue Cease & Desist letter CD1 Minary. Seconded by Loomis.
Ayes - 12 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to pursue Cease & Desist letter CD1 S. Rice. Seconded by Palic.
Ayes - 12 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Middle Republican NRD Office in Curtis, Nebraska.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 pm.

Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary