

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 9:00 AM
Curtis, Nebraska

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

Board Members Absent: Jolene Messinger
NRD Staff: Jack Russell, Alex Boyce and Stacie Owens
NRCS Staff: Jason Kennedy
Others: William M. Barger

Information Posted to Directors I-Pads:

Agenda	Minutes
Financials	Draft Budget
Civil Rights Handout	Draft Rules and Regs Section
FNIC Premium Summary	NARD Procedures

Information Distributed at Meeting:

NARD Procedures	Surface Water Report
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REGULAR MEETING

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Zink at 9:00 a.m.
 - a. Verify Quorum.
 - b. Excused Absences.

◆ Anderjaska moved to excuse the absence of Messinger due to illness. Seconded by Nelsen.

Ayes – 9 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

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

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 Regular Board Meeting were posted to the Directors iPads.

◆ Schilling moved to approve the minutes of Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Rousselle.

Ayes – 9 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

Randel arrived at 9:03.

5. FINANCIAL ACTIONS

A. The Financial Report was presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$79,674.88.

- ◆ Nelsen moved to approve the Financial Report. Seconded by Anderjaska.
Ayes – 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

B. Approve Budget to go to Hearing.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the budget as presented with the mil levy set at and occupation tax set at \$10/acre. Seconded by Loomis.
Ayes – 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

6. OPEN FORUM

William M. Barger, Culbertson. Questioned land retirements and surface water.

7. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Rules and Regulations.

Russell reported on the progress being made on the rules and regulations. He will be setting up committee meetings in hopes of getting everything finalized to go to hearing in October or November.

B. Insurance Coverage Approval.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the insurance renewal as presented with FNIC. Seconded by Anderjaska.
Ayes – 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Groundwater Committee.

Russell covered committee reports under rules and regulations above. Anderjaska requested that Russell and Johnson look into the water well requests to be drilled in McCook for the new sports complex.

B. Programs and Personnel Committee.

Schilling agreed that Russell covered everything under the rules and regulation section above.

9. NRCS

Kennedy reported that there is still funding until the end of the month for fire damages. There are 169 CRP contracts that are due by September 9th so they are busy working on those. Still doing some field work.

10. NARD

A. NRD Annual Conference, September 26-27, Kearney.

Russell passed out the current NARD procedures for legislative conference so the board can review what is in place.

B. Voting Delegates for Annual Conference.

Rippen will be the delegate and Anderjaska will be the alternate.

11. N-CORPE

Schilling spoke with Kyle prior to the meeting since either he or Loomis were able to attend. Going to change accounting firms from their current one. They are figuring they will have to run the well fields so they are working to get them all up and running within the next two months. The board had voted on an 8% pay raise for Kyle.

12. LEGAL MATTERS

A. Bryan & Ami Hauxwell - Litigation. Vinton stated that the Hauxwell's would like to settle the case and stop with all the legal expenditures. If the board would just grant them their pooling agreement they would drop the lawsuit. They feel as though they have been penalized enough already. Bryan spoke about the cost of money lost in crops they were unable to water due to not being granted the pooling agreement. He stated that he had fixed all the violations and learned where they had went wrong. Ami explained why and how they need and use the pooling.

B. Jerry Kautz – Potential Litigation.

Russell stated that a Cease and Desist has been sent and further discussion will need to be held in executive session.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Legal Matters – Litigation and Personnel.

- ◆ Schilling moved to enter into executive session to discuss litigation and personnel with Manager and staff. Seconded by McConville.
Ayes -10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

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

Entered at 10:25 a.m.

- ◆ Nelsen moved to exit the executive session. Seconded by Loomis.
Ayes - 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

Exited at 11:27 a.m.

Chairman Zink reminded everyone that entered into executive session that the discussions held within that timeframe were private and should not be discussed.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Middle Republican NRD Office in Curtis, Nebraska.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary