

**MINUTES**  
**Middle Republican Natural Resources District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 1:30 PM**  
**Curtis, Nebraska**

**Board Members: Brad Randel, Dan Nelsen**

**Board Members via Zoom: Joe Anderjaska, Rick McConville, Benjie Loomis, Jay Schilling, Tracy Zink, John Palic, Jolene Messinger, Rick Spencer, Dan Estermann, Brian Schafer, Shane Rippen**

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

**NRCS Staff:** Jason Kennedy

**Others:** William M. Barger

**Information Mailed to Directors:**

|                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Agenda                         | Regular Board Meeting Minutes |
| Financials                     | Legal Summary                 |
| Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual | Civil Rights Handout          |
| N-CORPE Bond Information       |                               |

**Information E-mailed**

Rules & Regulations Drafts & Zoom Link Information

Surface Water Report

**REGULAR MEETING**

**1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Randel at 1:30 pm.**

- a. Verify Quorum.
- b. Excused Absences.

**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. MINUTES**

The Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on November 10, 2020 were provided to Directors.

- ◆ Schafer moved to approve the minutes of the November 10th Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Schilling.

Ayes – 13      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

**5. FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

a. The November Financial Report was presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$21,337.52.

- ◆ Zink moved to approve the Financials and Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual. Seconded by Anderjaska.  
Ayes - 13                      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

## **6. OPEN FORUM**

None.

## **7. MANAGERS' REPORTS**

### a. Amended Nisley Resolution.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the Amended Nisley Resolution MR19-2020. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 13                      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

### b. Rules & Regulations.

Russell stated that we would be sending out specific sections to review for changes each Monday until we have completed changes to the entire document.

### c. I-Pads/Tablets.

Looking to go to paperless meetings with I-Pads or tablets. Cost of purchasing them would be between \$400-500 for each. We will contact other NRD's who are already practicing this to see how they handled it and get suggestions and other pricing options out there. Discussion held.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the purchase of either I-Pads or tablets and getting the best options and prices available. Seconded by Zink.  
Ayes - 7                      Nays – Palic, Randel, Rippen, Schafer, Spencer, Estermann  
Motion Carried

### d. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission (NNRC)

Meeting will be held January 13<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM at the Red Willow County Fairgrounds.

- ◆ Loomis moved to nominate Kevin Fornoff for the NNRC. Seconded by Schafer.  
Ayes - 13                      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

Owens will send out a reminder e-mail to the Board prior to the meeting.

## **8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### a. Personnel & Programs.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to support H&RW on their contract extension with the Bureau. Seconded by Palic.  
Ayes - 12      Nays – 0      Abstain - Spencer      Motion Carried

Other items discussed at their meeting related to the changes to the Rules & Regulations, talking with Pheasants Forever about taking over the 5 drills we own or reducing the number of them down to 2-3 if we continue to maintain them and potentially purchasing a tractor for tree planting. Discussion held and it was suggested that an ad be put out to see if we could lease a tractor for 2-3 months for tree planting.

b. Ground Water.

Discussed the changes to the Rules and Regulations at their meeting.

**9. NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) – KENNEDY.**

As of last week, McCook and Curtis offices have been rolled back to Phase 0 for COVID-19 meaning no further clients are allowed in the office and only 2 staff members can be in there. Trenton and Hayes Center are still in Phase 1 which is no clients in the office, only staff. They have wrapped up CSP contracts and are working on the EQIP. Still needs to work on the EQIP WaterSmart grant criteria with the NRD.

**10. NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS (NARD) - RIPPEN.**

a. Legislative Conference, Lincoln, Jan. 26-27.

b. Other. There was a problem with their original plan on how they were going to pay for the building so they have come up with another route which involves paying dividends out of the risk pool to all 23 districts evenly with the agreement that the districts will donate it back to the NARD Foundation. Discussion held.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to authorize Rippen to sign the NARD agreement and Russell to send the money back to the foundation once it has been received. Seconded by Loomis.

Ayes - 8    Nays – Estermann, McConville, Messinger, Nelsen, Palic  
Motion Carried

**11. N-CORPE – LOOMIS/SCHILLING.**

a. Other. Invenegy contract has been signed. They have paid \$41,835 which will go towards the bond payoff. There is still zoning and testing that must take place before they know it will even work. Loomis is on the bid opening committee so will have a meeting via zoom from the Curtis office. Next regular meeting will be December 30<sup>th</sup>.

**13. LEGAL MATTERS**

None.

**14. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:34 pm.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 1:30 PM.

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Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary