

**MINUTES**  
**Middle Republican Natural Resources District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 7:30 PM**  
**Curtis, Nebraska**

**Board Members Present: Joe Anderjaska, Shane Rippen, Jay Schilling, Rick McConville, John Palic, Buck Haag, Benjie Loomis, Kevin Fornoff, Steve Cappel, Brian Schafer, Rick Spencer, Jolene Messinger**

**Board Members Absent:** Brad Randel

**NRD Staff:** Jack Russell, Bob Merrigan, Sylvia Johnson, Doris Burke, Stacie Owens

**NRCS Staff:** Jason Kennedy

**Others:** William M. Barger, Chelsea Erickson

**Information Mailed to Directors:**

Agenda	Minutes
Financial Report	Legal Summary
Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual	Civil Rights Handout
R & R Appendix 1	

**Information Distributed at Meeting:**

Cost Share Summary

**Information E-mailed**

March 16 <sup>th</sup> NARD Update	Bond Refunding Summary
March 24 <sup>th</sup> NARD Update	Weather Stations
Award Nominations	April 10 <sup>th</sup> NARD Update

**REGULAR MEETING**

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Haag at 7:30 pm.
  - a. Verify Quorum.
  - b. Excused Absences.

◆ Anderjaska moved to excuse the absence of Randel. Seconded by Palic.  
Ayes - 11      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

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.

- ◆ Spencer moved to approve the minutes of the March Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Cappel.

Ayes - 11      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

#### **5. CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST**

None.

#### **6. FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

A. The March Financial Report was presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$103,192.82.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the March Financial Report. Seconded by Spencer.

Ayes - 11      Nays - 0      Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

#### **7. OPEN FORUM**

William M. Barger, Culbertson. Questions about Enders water.

#### **8. REPORTS – AGENCIES, ASSOCIATIONS, OTHERS**

##### **A. NRCS**

1. District Conservation Report – Kennedy went over their current workload.

Loomis arrived at 7:40 pm.

##### **B. NARD**

1. Report – Rippen stated that deadline for awards was approaching. Johnson e-mailed out information to all the Board members.

##### **C. NNRC**

1. Report – Fornoff reported that they will have a meeting in June to re-evaluate some the grant applications.

##### **D. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION**

1. Report – Johnson is preparing for the Meet and Greet with Dan Hughes which will be held on April 17 and May 12 both at Sehnert’s in McCook at 10 am. She will e-mail out reminders to the Board as the dates get closer. She collected all signatures relating to the Wellfleet project. She has been working on setting up producers on the High Tech program. She went over the scholarship applications and gave her recommendation to the Board.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the Tucker Hartley and Logan Burke to receive this year’s \$500 scholarships. Seconded by Fornoff.

Ayes - 12      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

## **E. LEGISLATION**

1. 1098 – Basin Planning – Extend. Russell stated that the 3-year timeframe is about up so he needs to request a year extension in order to give them a chance to get things more finalized. Discussion held.

- ◆ Messinger moved to approve Russell to request an extension of 1 more year. Seconded by Schafer.

Ayes - 9

Nays – McConville, Palic, Rippen

Motion Carried

## **F. N-CORPE**

1. Status Report. Loomis reported on the teleconference meeting over the bond refinancing and the savings for the Middle Republican of 4.1 million dollars over the duration by doing so. Next meeting will be held on April 19<sup>th</sup> in Curtis. The audit will be conducted by RSM out of Lincoln.

2. Other.

None.

## **H. OTHERS**

None.

## **9. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

### **A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

#### **1. REPORTS**

##### **(a) WELL PERMITS.**

None.

##### **(b) SURFACE WATER**

None.

##### **(c) METER PROGRAM**

None.

##### **(d) GROUNDWATER COMMITTEE**

Russell is looking for dates to hold another meeting. Discussion held. It was decided to watch for a rain date and schedule it at that time.

##### **(e) MODELING – BROWN & CALDWELL.**

Russell reported that he did get Brown & Caldwell to split up the project like discussed previously so we could apply for a grant for the second portion.

##### **(g) TZA PROPOSAL.**

Boyce will be heading out there in the next couple of weeks to finalize the Frenchman Valley project.

#### **2. RULES AND REGULATIONS**

##### **(a) Set Allocation for Hearing in May.**

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve adding January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2022 to 1.4 of Appendix 1, strike 2014 Supplement to Appendix 1 and add a 1.9 which will put a permanent hard-cap of 15” each year. Seconded by Cappel.

Ayes - 4 Nays – McConville, Messinger, Rippen, Schafer, Spencer, Anderjaska, Fornoff, Loomis Motion Failed

- ◆ McConville moved to approve changed to Appendix 1 as presented. Seconded by Loomis.

Ayes - 7 Nays – Palic, Schilling, Spencer, Cappel, Haag Motion Carried

**3. IMP**  
None.

**4. NOTICES OF NON-COMPLIANCE ISSUED**  
None.

**5. CEASE AND DESIST ORDER**  
None.

**B. GROUND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA**  
None.

**C. OTHER GROUND WATER ACTIVITY**  
None.

## **10. PROGRAMS**

**A. COST-SHARE FUNDS – LCP/NSWCP.**

1. Approve Applications. Merrigan went over the cost share report.

- ◆ Cappel moved to approve the cost share report. Seconded by Fornoff.

Ayes - 12 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

**B. WATERSHEDS.**  
None.

**C. EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL ACT.**  
None.

**D. COMPLAINTS.**  
None.

**E. CHEMIGATION.**  
None.

**F. TREE PLANTING.**

Technicians sorted trees today and delivered what need to be delivered to the field offices. Branderberry is scheduled to be here next week.

**G. BUFFER STRIPS.**

None.

**H. LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL APPLICATIONS.**

None.

**11. GENERAL OPERATIONS.**

**A. PERSONNEL.**

None

**B. SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT.**

None.

**12. LEGAL MATTERS**

**A. Compact Issues.**

None.

**B. Other.** Russell stated that the FCID lawsuit on the IMP is in the Supreme Court, Estermann's lost his case, NE Bostwick lawsuit was dropped and there is nothing new on the Medicine Creek case.

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The rules and regulations hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 7:30 pm with next regular meeting being held at 7:45 p.m. at the Curtis Community Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

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Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary