

**MINUTES**  
**Middle Republican Natural Resources District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at 7:30 PM**  
**Curtis, Nebraska**

**Board Members Present: Joe Anderjaska, Steve Cappel, Shane Rippen, Jay Schilling, Rick McConville, Kevin Fornoff, James Uerling, John Palic, Buck Haag, Benjie Loomis**

**Board Members Absent:** Brad Randel

**NRD Staff:** Jack Russell, Bob Merrigan, Alex Boyce, Sylvia Johnson, Doris Burke, Mary Tidyman & Stacie Owens

**NRCS Staff:** Jason Kennedy

**Others:** Kyle Shepherd, Rick Spencer, Chelsea Erickson, Dan Estermann, William M. Barger

**Information Mailed to Directors:**

Agenda	Minutes from June Meeting
Financial Report	Legal Summary
Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual	Civil Rights Handout
Compact Balances	Surface Water Report

**Information Distributed at Meeting:**

Draft Budget	Culbertson Canal
Surface Water Report	TZA Proposal
Cost Share Report	

**Information E-mailed**

Medicine Creek Information – Private & Confidential

**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.

◆ Fornoff moved to excuse the absence of Randel. Seconded by Palic.  
Ayes - 10            Nays – 0            Motion Carried

2. The agenda and roster were circulated to those present.
  - a. Items added to the Agenda since mailing: 12.b. Other - Lobbyist

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 July Regular Board Meeting were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ Uerling moved to approve the Minutes from the July Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Schilling.  
Ayes - 9            Nays - 0            Abstain - Haag            Motion Carried

**5. CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST**

None.

**6. FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

A. The July Financial Report was presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$27,151.26.

- ◆ Uerling moved to approve the July Financial Report. Seconded by Schilling.  
Ayes - 10            Nays - 0            Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

B. Budget – Approve to go to Hearing.  
Russell went over the final draft budget.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the proposed budget to go to public hearing in September. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 10            Nays - 0            Motion Carried

- ◆ Fornoff moved to approve the \$10 occupation tax to go to public hearing in September. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 10            Nays - 0            Motion Carried

**7. OPEN FORUM**

None.

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

**A. NRCS**

1. District Conservation Report – Kennedy reported that the summer intern is now gone. The new soil conservationist started last week. Picked up another \$135,000 of EQIP money which will fill seven more contracts. RCPP Memo of Understanding between NRCS and the three NRD’s today.

**B. NARD**

1. Report – Rippen reminded the Board about the fall conference.
2. Fall Conference Agenda. Enclosed.
3. Appoint Voting Delegates. Haag appointed Rippen as the voting delegate and Anderjaska as the alternate.

**C. NNRC**

1. Report – Fornoff stated that the grants have been turned in and will go to DNR for scoring. He expects they would know who will receive them in December or January.

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

1. Report – Johnson reported that the grant has been submitted to the NNRC. The Manager’s Retreat will be here in Curtis on August 29<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>. There will be an option for them to golf or go fishing on the 29<sup>th</sup> and a tour of Frenchman-Cambridge Irrigation District and meetings on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. She met with Lindstrom who has been working on the contract for the purchase of Wellfleet Lake. There is an issue with boundaries and a survey will need to be completed. A Soil Health Field Day poster was included in the handouts. Anyone interested in going should let her know and she will RSVP.

#### **E. RRCA.**

None.

#### **F. LEGISLATION**

##### **1. 1098 – Basin Planning.**

Next stakeholder meeting will be August 16<sup>th</sup> in Cambridge.

#### **G. N-CORPE**

1. Status Report. Shepherd reported they have been busy doing regular maintenance on the pipeline and replacing some culverts. He also provided copies of the audit for the board to take home and review. He will answer questions at the next meeting. The budget has been completed and augmentation billing up through March of 2016 has been done and mailed out to the NRD’s. There is an interest to build a chicken egg facility on the property and they will be taking a tour next week.

##### **2. Other.**

None.

#### **H. OTHERS**

None.

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

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

##### **1. REPORTS**

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

Merrigan went over the report and went over an issue with Bill Moore’s replacement well. Discussion held.

◆ Palic moved to table the matter indefinitely. Seconded by Fornoff.

Ayes - 10          Nays - 0          Motion Carried

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

None.

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

None.

###### **(d) GROUND WATER COMMITTEE**

Russell reported on the progress they made at their last meeting of revising the rules and regulations. Suggested changes were made and additional sections printed off and placed in the groundwater committee member’s folders. He will plan on setting up around the last week of August or first week in September to go over the new sections.

**(e) FRENCHMAN VALLEY COMMITTEE.**

Uerling had some questions about the water diverted. Boyce will follow-up with Felker tomorrow.

**(f) MODELING – BROWN & CALDWELL**

Russell requested the Board review the contract handed out for Brown & Caldwell to meet with DNR to go over their findings and try to get DNR to agree to some additional credits we will be asking for. Discussion held.

- ◆ Uerling moved to approve the proposed contract with Brown & Caldwell for up to \$12,525. Seconded by Rippen.

Ayes - 10      Nays - 0      Motion Carried

**(g) TZA PROPOSAL.**

Nothing new.

**2. RULES AND REGULATIONS**

None.

**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.

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

Ayes - 10      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

**B. WATERSHEDS.**

None.

**C. EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL ACT.**

None.

**D. COMPLAINTS.**

None.

**E. CHEMIGATION.**

Ongoing.

**F. TREE PLANTING.**

None.

**G. BUFFER STRIPS.**

None.

**H. LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL APPLICATIONS.**

None.

**11. GENERAL OPERATIONS.**

**A. PERSONNEL.**

Russell reported that payroll will now be completed by McChesney Martin Sagehorn, PC out of North Platte.

**B. SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT.**

None.

**12. LEGAL MATTERS**

**A. Compact Issues.**

None.

**C. Other – Lobbyist.**

Russell went over the information relating to trying to get an extension to legislation which is set to sunset in 2018 which effects NRD's that are fully or over appropriated. There is an interest in hiring a lobbyist to pursue this extension and are requested \$3,500 from each fully or over appropriated NRD's. Discussion held.

- ◆ Schilling moved to not join the other NRD's for hiring a lobbyist. Seconded by McConville.

Ayes - 10                      Nays – 0                      Motion Carried

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Curtis Community Center, at 201 Garlick Avenue, in Curtis, Nebraska

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

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Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary