

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 9:00 AM
Curtis, Nebraska

Board Members Present: Tracy Zink, Benjie Loomis, Kevin Fornoff, Travis Rousselle, Rose Weskamp, Daniel Nelsen, Jolene Messinger

Board Members Absent: Jay Schilling, Joe Anderjaska, Shane Rippen, Rick McConville

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

NRCS Staff: Jason Kennedy

Others: None

Information Posted to Directors I-Pads:

Agenda – Regular Meeting

Financials

Civil Rights Handout

Meeting Minutes – Regular Mtg

Draft Budget

Surface Water Reports

Information E-Mailed:

None

Information Handed Out

NARD letter from Dean re: NRD Property Tax Credit

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.

◆ Fornoff moved to excuse the absences of Schilling, Anderjaska, Rippen and McConville. Seconded by Weskamp.

Ayes - 7

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 July Board Meeting were posted to the Directors IPads.

◆ Fornoff moved to approve the Minutes from the July Board Meeting. Seconded by Loomis.

Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Motion Carried

5. FINANCIAL ACTIONS

- A. The Financial Report was presented by Russell.
- ◆ Fornoff moved to approve the July Financials. Seconded by Messinger.
Ayes – 7 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

- B. Approve Budget/Occupation Tax to go to Hearing in September.
- ◆ Loomis moved to approve the budget and occupation tax to go to hearing in September as presented. Seconded by Rouselle.
Ayes – 7 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

6. OPEN FORUM

None.

7. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Governor Meeting. Russell went over the recent meeting he and Anderjaska and the other NRD's had with the Governor.

B. FVID/BOR. The Bureau is looking at futile transfer over to FVID. Going to cost them some money to get out from under the Bureau so they are seeking out all options. Russell and Johnson will be meeting with FVID in October to discuss ideas.

C. Rules Changes. Some changes need to be made to the rules relating to water short year hard cap, replacement well drilling rules and chemigation inspection timelines. Will work with committees on these changes.

8. NRCS- KENNEDY

850K worth of applications have been submitted. The federal fiscal year is October 1st so they are working on wrapping up all year-end reports. Conservation stewardship are due October 1st so they will be working with clients to get those completed.

9. NARD - ANDERJASKA

A. NRD Annual Conference, Sept. 22-24

B. Voting Delegate. Zink appointed Anderjaska as the delegate and Weskamp as the alternate.

10. NRC - FORNOFF

Meeting tomorrow to look over the applications which Fornoff listed out. His term on the commission will end in January and he won't be planning on running again so if anyone on the board is interested, they should pursue it.

11. NSIA – SCHILLING

None.

12. N-CORPE - LOOMIS

Found out that the Schneider VFD's don't require an air conditioning unit. Currently pumping to the Platte now. The Sakata system is out of date and needs to be replaced, which is very expensive. Further discussion will be held on that. The Game and Parks partnership is about to its end so looking to do another year extension which hopefully will lead up to another 3-year contact.

13. LEGAL MATTERS

A. Hearings. Discuss during executive session.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Potential Litigation.

- ◆ Loomis moved to enter into executive session to discuss potential litigation with Board Members and staff. Seconded by Weskamp.
Ayes - 7 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

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

Entered at 9:40 a.m.

- ◆ Loomis moved to exit the executive session. Seconded by Weskamp.
Ayes - 7 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

Exited at 10:00 a.m.

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

- ◆ Nelsen moved to approve Resolution MR7-2024 to establish a sub-committee for violation negotiations. Seconded by Loomis.
Ayes - 7 Nays – 0 Motion Carried
- ◆ Nelsen moved to direct Russell to proceed with hearing negotiations with parties and their attorneys as needed. Seconded by Rousselle.
Ayes - 7 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

The next Regular Board Meeting and Budget Hearings will be held Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Middle Republican NRD Office in Curtis, Nebraska.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary