

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at 7:30 PM
Curtis, Nebraska

Board Members Present: Joe Anderjaska, Rick McConville, John Palic, Steve Cappel, Jolene Messinger, Benjie Loomis, Jay Schilling, Brad Randel, Brian Schafer, Shane Rippen, Kevin Fornoff, Tracy Zink

Board Members Absent: Rick Spencer

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

NRCS Staff: Jason Kennedy, Diane Hidy

Others: Heath Ruf, Dan Estermann

Information Mailed to Directors:

Regular Meeting Agenda	Letter of Interest from Heath Ruf
Regular Meeting Minutes	Financial Report
Draft Budget	Civil Rights Handout
Annual Conference Tentative Agenda	Surface Water Report

Information Distributed at Meeting:

Letter of Interest from Tracy Zink	Cost Share Summary
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Information E-mailed

NARD Annual Conference Invite	Groene Requested Board Member Emails
Basin Planning Executive Summary	

REGULAR MEETING

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman McConville at 7:30 pm.
 - a. Verify Quorum.
 - b. Excused Absences.
 - c. Appoint Board Member to Finish out 2018.

Tracy Zink and Heath Ruf both sent in a letter of interest for the vacate position. Both attended the meeting and talked about their interest in the District and its future. After their comments, the Board took consideration and appointed Tracy Zink to the vacant position.

2. The agenda and roster were circulated to those present.
 - a. Items added to the Agenda since mailing: 9.a.3.a. Platte River Diversion
10.b.1. Approve Resolution for Watershed

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.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the minutes of the July Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Rippen.
Ayes - 11 Nays – 0 Abstain - Zink Motion Carried

5. CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST

None.

6. FINANCIAL ACTIONS

A. The July Financial Report was presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$92,734.33.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the July Financial Report. Seconded by Cappel.
Ayes - 11 Nays – 0 Abstain - Zink Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

B. Budget – Approve Budget to go to Hearing.
Russell presented the budget. Discussion held.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to move \$250,000 from N-CORPE operations to N-CORPE Creek Contingency and approve the proposed budget with that change, and the \$10 occupation tax to go to public hearing in September. Seconded by Fornoff.
Ayes - 11 Nays – 0 Abstain - Zink Motion Carried

7. OPEN FORUM

William M. Barger, Culbertson. Expressed concerns about the amount of rain and erosion it has caused and requested the Board contact FSA to push them to provide cost share to repair.

8. REPORTS – AGENCIES, ASSOCIATIONS, OTHERS

A. NRCS

1. District Conservation Report – Jason Kennedy reported that the position in the Hayes Center office has been offered but until the process is complete, he is unable to announce who it was offered to. They have completed filing new CSP contracts and are working on renewal contracts now. They did receive additional funding for EQIP and are able to finalize two contracts under that funding. Kennedy and Overton went out and did an evaluation of the area that the P2 dam repairs would be encompassing.

B. NARD

1. Report – Rippen that the NARD Fall Conference is coming up in September and that anyone interested in going should let Owens know.

C. NNRC

1. Report – Fornoff reported that the next meeting will be in Kearney on August 15th to go over grant applications and appoint a scoring committee.

D. OUTREACH

1. Report – Johnson stated that she has submitted applications for 2 grants. She has been working on the building with the contractor.

2. Red Thread Contract. She reported that they had a teleconference and regrouped on what was expected and also stated that they were advised that they will work closely with the personnel and programs committee to establish something that was agreeable to all parties in the committee.

- ◆ Schafer moved to approve to enter into a contract with Red Thread with the Personnel and Programs overseeing their work. Seconded by Anderjaska.
 Ayes - 10 Nays – Palic Abstain - Zink Motion Carried

E. LEGISLATION

1. 1098 – Basin Planning.
 Russell went over the process and comments that have been made. Discussion held.

- ◆ Loomis moved to approve the basin plan as provided. Seconded by Anderjaska.
 Ayes - 8 Nays – Messinger, Palic, Schilling, Cappel Motion Carried

F. N-CORPE

1. Status Report – Loomis reported there was a meeting tomorrow here in Curtis and that they were continuing to work on changes that need to be made. They did talk about a couple patches of leafy spurge that need to be dealt with.

G. OTHERS

None.

9. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

1. REPORTS

(a) SURFACE WATER.

Bureau’s report included in Board packets.

(b) PERMANENT TRANSFER & VARIANCE REPORT.

None.

(c) GROUNDWATER COMMITTEE.

None.

(d) MODELING – BROWN & CALDWELL.

None.

(e) WELLFLEET ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

None.

2. RULES AND REGULATIONS.

None.

3. IMP

(a) Platte River Diversion. Russell reported he was planning on sending in a letter of support for the project if the Board so chose. Discussion held.

- ◆ Fornoff moved to approve the letter of support that Russell has written. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes - 12 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

B. GROUND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA

None.

C. OTHER GROUND WATER ACTIVITY

None.

10. PROGRAMS

A. COST-SHARE FUNDS – LCP/NSWCP.

Cost share report reviewed.

- ◆ Palic moved to approve the cost share report. Seconded by Fornoff.
Ayes - 11 Nays – Anderjaska Motion Carried

B. WATERSHEDS.

(1) Approve Resolution for P2 Watershed.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve proposed easement resolution between the R & C Spencer Farms, LLC and the Middle Republican NRD as presented. Seconded by Palic.
Ayes - 12 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

C. CHEMIGATION.

None.

D. METERS.

None.

E. TREE PLANTING.

None.

F. LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL APPLICATIONS.

None.

11. GENERAL OPERATIONS.

A. PERSONNEL & PROGRAM COMMITTEE.

None.

B. SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT.

None.

C. ELECTIONS.

None.

12. LEGAL MATTERS

A. Compact Issues.

None.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ◆ Fornoff moved to enter into executive session to discuss real estate with the Board, Manager and Staff. Seconded by Palic.
Ayes - 12 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

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

Entered at 9:01 pm.

- ◆ Fornoff moved to exit the executive session. Seconded by Palic.
Ayes - 12 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

Exited at 9:05 pm.

- ◆ Palic moved to delegate Russell to seek additional financing quotes with Morton and lending institutions in the District. Seconded by Cappel.
Ayes - 12 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

Schilling went over the changes made to the original building design which dropped the price to \$615,000 instead of \$657,000.

The Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 7:30 pm at the Curtis Community Center in Curtis, Nebraska.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary