

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 1:30 PM
Curtis, Nebraska

Board Members Present: Joe Anderjaska, Rick McConville, Benjie Loomis, Jay Schilling, Brad Randel, John Palic, Jolene Messinger, Dan Estermann, Dan Nelsen

Board Members Absent: Brian Schafer, Shane Rippen, Tracy Zink, Rick Spencer
NRD Staff: Jack Russell, Sylvia Johnson, Alex Boyce, Colt Livingston, Mary Tidyman and Stacie Owens

NRCS Staff: Jason Kennedy

Others: Chelsea Erickson, Chance Thayer

Information Mailed to Directors:

Agenda	Minutes
Financials	Legal Summary
Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual	Rules & Regulations
Civil Rights Handout	

Information Distributed at Meeting:

Rule 4-4.12 Language	IMP Powerpoint
Chemigation Permit Changes	Remote Meter Project
NRCS Drone Notification	Surface Water Report

Information E-mailed

NARD Summary 1/17/20, 1/24/20, 1/31/20, 2/7/20
NARD Bills ZW Weekly 1-17-20

REGULAR MEETING

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

◆ Palic moved to excuse the absence of Zink and Rippen. Seconded by Anderjaska.

Ayes - 8 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 January Regular Board Meeting were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the minutes of the January Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Nelsen.
Ayes - 8 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

5. CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST

None.

6. FINANCIAL ACTIONS

a. The January Financial Report was presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$666,221.29.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the January Financial Report. Seconded by Messinger.
Ayes - 8 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

Loomis arrived at 1:35 pm.

7. OPEN FORUM

None.

8. MANAGERS' REPORTS

a. IMP. Russell handed out a powerpoint of recommended changes to the IMP that he and Boyce will be requesting. Boyce showed the powerpoint on the screen and answered questions of the board.

b. Meter Program. Johnson reported on the meter installation process. Everything has been going very well.

c. AEM. Boyce reported on the water sustainability grant for \$1.5 million which is a 60-40 match. He discussed the area they will be flying which consists of 1,500 linear miles. Russell stated our estimated cost would be \$150,000 per year over a 4 year period.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the AEM project. Seconded by Loomis.
Ayes - 9 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

d. WRCF. Russell went over the number of acres to be permanently retired by both parties.

- Besler Resolution
- Johnson Resolution

- ◆ Loomis moved to approve the resolutions for permanent retirement of 94.5 SW acres of Besler's and 86 GW acres of Johnson's. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes – 9 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

9. COMMITTEE REPORT

a. Personnel & Programs. Anderjaska went over what was discussed at the committee meeting prior to the regular board meeting. It was recommended by the committee to trade 2 older technician pickups for 2 new ones for a total of \$32,474 with Deveny Motors.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the recommendation of the committee. Seconded by Randel.
Ayes – 9 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

b. Groundwater – Rules & Regulations Hearing.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the Rules and Regulations with the addition of Rule 4.4.12, backflow preventer definition and statute 12-011.03C, and correction of “Department” to “DEE” on page 20. Seconded by Loomis.
Ayes – 9 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

c. Wellfleet. Russell would like a quick meeting following this regular board meeting.

10. NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) – KENNEDY.

CRP deadline (not including CREP) is February 28th. Still no signup deadline for CSP or EQIP. Went over the notice that will go out on the drones they have scheduled to fly over the burn sites North of Moorefield.

11. NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS (NARD) - RIPPEN.

Russell wanted to know if any board members were interested in attending the Washington DC trip March 14-18th and, if so, to let him know as soon as possible as tomorrow is last day to get reservations. Kris Polly is working on arranging another trip to Australia if there is enough interest. It would be around the end of March first part of April.

12. N-CORPE

a. Other. Loomis stated nothing really progressed at the last meeting. Schilling did state they are working on getting each NRD’s billing out and paid every month instead of these long periods in between. Discussion was held about whether insurance can be run directly through NARD or whether it has to be run through an NRD which is what they have recently been told. Anderjaska stated it should be able to run directly through NARD but he would make some phone calls to double check.

13. LEGAL MATTERS

None.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. Contract Negotiations.

- ◆ Palic moved to enter into executive session to discuss N-CORPE contract negotiations on wind energy with Board, Manager and Staff. Seconded by Loomis.
Ayes - 9 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

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

Entered at 2:35 pm.

- ◆ Palic moved to exit the executive session. Seconded by Loomis.
Ayes – 9 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

Exited at 2:50 pm.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 1:30 pm at the Middle Republican NRD Office in Curtis, Nebraska.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 pm.

Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary