

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 1:30 PM
Trenton, Nebraska

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

Board Members Absent: None

NRD Staff: Jack Russell, Sylvia Johnson, Stacie Owens

NRCS Staff: Jason Kennedy, Amanda Shuler, Ron Thompson, Kathy Barger

Others: Brad Johnson, William Barger, Chelsea Erickson, Rick Spencer, Kyle Shepherd

Information Mailed to Directors:

Public Hearing Agenda

Regular Meeting Agenda

December Public Hearing Minutes

Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual

Surface Water Report

Interlocal Cooperation Agreement

Rules & Regulations Proposed Changes

December Meeting Minutes

Financial Report

Civil Rights Handout

Letter from Stan Moore

Information Distributed at Meeting:

Schroeder & Schroeder Bill Breakdown

2014 Preliminary Water Usage Report

Memorandum of Agreement w/LRNRD

Surface Water Report

Cost Share Summary

Information E-mailed

Letter to Bureau & DNR dated 12/18

RRB Order Compact Call Year in Effect

Letter to DNR dated 12/29

REGULAR MEETING

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Haag at 1:39 pm.

a. Verify Quorum.

b. Excused Absences.

c. Board Reorganization

Haag stepped down as Chairman and turned the meeting over to Russell.

Russell made 3 calls for nominations from the floor for the position of Chairman.

Uerling nominated Haag for Chairman.

Anderjaska nominated Palic for Chairman.

Nominations Cease. Votes casted by written ballot.

Haag – 7

Palic - 4

Russell announced Haag to retain position as Chairman.

Russell made 3 calls for nominations from the floor for the position of Vice Chairman.
Haag nominated McConville for Vice Chairman.
Cappel nominated Uerling for Vice Chairman.

Nominations cease. Votes casted by written ballot.

McConville – 6
Uerling – 3
2 members declined to vote.

Russell announced McConville to retain position as Vice Chairman.

Russell made 3 calls for nominations from the floor for the position of Treasurer.
Uerling nominated Palic for Treasurer.

Nominations cease. Votes casted by unanimous voice ballot.

Russell announced Palic to retain position as Treasurer.

Russell turned meeting over to Chairman Haag.

Haag asked for volunteers for the Safety Committee. Haag announced the appointment of the following: Rippen, Cappel

Haag made 3 calls for nominations from the floor for the position of NARD Representative.
Cappel nominated Uerling for NARD Representative.

Nominations cease. Haag announced Uerling as the new NARD Representative.

Haag asked for volunteers for the Ground Water Committee. McConville, Cappel, Randel, Uerling, Loomis, Palic and Schilling all volunteered. Votes casted by written ballot.

McConville – 9
Cappel – 5
Randel – 9
Uerling – 8
Loomis – 6
Palic – 9
Schilling – 8

Haag announced McConville, Randel, Uerling, Palic and Schilling as the Ground Water Committee.

Haag asked for volunteers for the Frenchman Valley Committee. Rippen, Cappel, Uerling, Schilling and Palic all volunteered and Haag announced them as such.

Haag asked for volunteers for the N-CORPE Director and Alternate. Haag announced the reappointment of the following:

Randel = Director
Loomis = Alternate

Haag asked for volunteers for the RRMDA Delegate and Alternate. Haag announced the reappointment of the following:

Cappel - Delegate
Schilling - Alternate

Haag asked for volunteers for the Personnel and Operations Committee. Rippen, Schilling and Palic agreed to volunteer and Haag announced them as such.

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 December Regular Board Meeting and Public Hearing were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ Uerling moved to approve the Minutes from the December Regular Board Meeting with correction to open forum comment and Public Hearing. Seconded by Cappel.
Ayes - 11 Nays - 0 Motion Carried

5. Open Hearing for Variance Request.
6. Close Hearing.

7. CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST

None.

8. FINANCIAL ACTIONS

A. The December Financial Report and Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual were presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$23,995.85.

- ◆ Fornoff moved to approve the December Financial Report and Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes - 11 Nays - 0 Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

9. OPEN FORUM

William M. Barger, Culbertson. Question relating to percentage of water that crossed gauge.

10. REPORTS – AGENCIES, ASSOCIATIONS, OTHERS

A. NRCS

1. District Conservation Report – Kennedy went over his report on their recent activities. He also stated the Baker complaint has now been completed and, as of yet, no action has been taken to fill the NCRS RC Trenton Office position.

B. NARD

1. Report. None.
2. Voting Delegates. Haag appointed Uerling as Delegate and Randel as Alternate.

C. NNRC

1. Report – Fornoff reported the next meeting will be January 28th in Lincoln following Legislative Conference.

D. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION.

1. Report – Johnson reported we have an Envirothon coming up in February, Water Conference is scheduled for March 3rd, setting up a “meet & greet” with Hughes at some point and reported on her and Russell’s latest trip to Lincoln. Schilling stated he would like to see Johnson do a press release relating to the letters we sent to DNR and the Bureau. Discussion held. Look at setting up a meeting with DNR during Legislative Conference before we consider doing a press release.

E. NeRRMDA

1. Report. None.

F. RRCA.

None.

G. LEGISLATION.

1. 1098 – Basin Planning.

Russell stated there would be a breakfast meeting on Tuesday, January 27 at 7:30 a.m. during Legislative Conference put on by either DNR or Olson’s.

H. N-CORPE.

1. Status Report. Randel reported on some repairs to some of the wells that had to be completed, pivots and well pumps being sold on Big Iron and acres that have been seeded as well as the number acres left to be seeded.

2. Introduction of Kyle Shepherd, Manager. Randel introduced Shepherd as the new manager and Shepherd talked a little about what he is currently working on and answered questions of the Board.

3. Other. Uerling questioned the status of the situation with Wallace School District on the decrease in taxes they will receive.

I. OTHERS.

None.

11. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

1. REPORTS

(a) WELL PERMITS

None.

(b) SURFACE WATER

Bureau reports included in packets.

(c) METER PROGRAM

Preliminary usage report provided. Final will be available next month.

(d) GROUND WATER COMMITTEE

Russell reported there would be a meeting in with Twin Platte tomorrow in North Platte at 1:30 pm.

(e) FRENCHMAN VALLEY COMMITTEE

Russell reported on meetings held with FV. Discussion held.

- ◆ Uerling moved to make a monetary commitment of up to \$200,000 to work with FVID for whatever credit might be available from diverting surface water through their canal if the call is lifted. Seconded by Cappel.

Ayes - 11 Nays - 0 Motion Carried

(f) MODELING – BROWN & CALDWELL

Russell reported on their progress and stated they would be in the office on January 30th at 11 a.m. to present the information they have gathered so far.

2. RULES AND REGULATIONS.

(a) Take Action on Amendments.

- ◆ Cappel moved to approve the proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations. Seconded by Palic.

Ayes - 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

3. IMP – DNR DISCUSSION.

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

1. LRNRD CREDIT. Russell went over the agreement, already approved by the

LRNRD, to allow us to receive their credit of 1,200 acre feet. Discussion held.

- ◆ Uerling moved to accept the 1,200 acre foot credit from the LRNRD. Seconded by Cappel.
Ayes - 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

2. FORECAST LETTER. Russell went over the forecast letter which showed our shortage for the year. Discussion held.

- ◆ Palic moved to report the remaining balance we need of 3,000 acre feet will come from N-CORPE and/or other sources. Seconded by McConville.
Ayes - 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

3. LETTER FROM STAN MOORE. Chairman Haag moved item to be discussed during executive session at the end of the meeting.

12. PROGRAMS

A. COST-SHARE FUNDS – LCP/NSWCP.

1. Approve Applications.

- ◆ Fornoff moved to accept the Cost Share Report as presented. Seconded by Loomis.
Ayes - 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

B. WATERSHEDS.

None.

C. EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL ACT.

None.

D. COMPLAINTS – Reports on previous complaints.

None.

E. CHEMIGATION.

None.

F. TREE PLANTING.

None.

G. BUFFER STRIPS.

None.

H. LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL APPLICATIONS.

None.

13. GENERAL OPERATIONS.

A. PERSONNEL

Russell reported that technician, Spencer Campbell, will be taking 7 weeks off to attend a taxidermy school. He will be short hours of vacation to use which will leave him

without pay for possibly 2 weeks. Russell requested approval of the Board to continue his health insurance despite Campbell not receiving a paycheck. Discussion held.

- ◆ Uerling moved to approve Campbell's continued health insurance while he attends classes. Seconded by McConville.
Ayes - 11 Nays - 0 Motion Carried

B. SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT.

None.

14. LEGAL MATTERS

A. Report – Schroeder.

Chairman Haag moved item to be discussed during executive session at the end of the meeting.

B. Compact Issues.

None.

C. Interlocal Agreement – 9 NRD's re: Lobbyist.

Russell went over the draft agreement and the reasoning behind it. Discussion held.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to table a decision on the agreement until we see whether other NRD's get involved. Seconded by Fornoff.
Ayes - 9 Nays - Uerling, Palic Motion Carried

D. Other. None.

- ◆ Uerling moved to enter into executive session to discuss pending legal matters and invite Jon Schroeder to attend. Seconded by McConville.
Ayes - 11 Nays - 0 Motion Carried

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

Entered into Executive Session at 3:47 pm.

- ◆ Uerling moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes - 11 Nays - 0 Motion Carried

Exited Executive Session at 5:04 pm.

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at the Fairgrounds Ag Building, 209 Morton Street, Hayes Center, Nebraska.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 pm.

Stacie M. Owens
Board Secretary