

**MINUTES**  
**Middle Republican Natural Resources District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 1:30 PM**  
**Trenton, Nebraska**

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

**Board Members Absent:** Rick McConville

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

**NRCS Staff:** Jason Kennedy, Ron Thompson, Nathan Roth

**Others:** Robert Meyer, Virginia Trail, Dan Estermann, William M. Barger, Brad Johnson

**Information Mailed to Directors:**

Agenda	Minutes
Financial Report	Legal Summary
Profit & Loss Report vs Actual	Civil Rights Handout
Legislative Conference Agenda	Surface Water Report
VAR11 Variance Request	VAR10 Variance Request

**Information Distributed at Meeting:**

NRCS Report	Sub-Districts Pamphlet
Low To High Tech Water Pamphlet	Cost Share Summary

**Information E-mailed**

Compact Forecast

**REGULAR MEETING**

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Haag at 1:34 pm.
  - a. Verify Quorum.
  - b. Excused Absences.

◆ Uerling moved to excuse the absence of Rick McConville. 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: 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 were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the Minutes from the December Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 10      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

**5. CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST**

None.

**6. FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

A. The December Financial Report was presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$67,425.05.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the December Financial Report. Seconded by Cappel.  
Ayes - 9      Nays - Uerling      Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

Bob Meyer went over the audit and answered questions.

- ◆ Uerling moved to accept the audit as presented. Seconded by Schilling.  
Ayes - 9      Nays - Palic      Motion Carried

**7. OPEN FORUM**

None.

*Moved Item 9.c.2 here.*

**9. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

**C. OTHER GROUND WATER ACTIVITY**

2. Variance Packet – Trail. Merrigan presented Virginia Trail’s request and turned questioning from the Board over to her. Additional information was requested and will be provided.

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

**A. NRCS**

1. District Conservation Report – Kennedy went over his report and talked about the Ogallala Aquifer Funds. Discussion held.

**B. NARD**

1. Report – Uerling resigned as NARD Rep effective after Legislative Conference. Haag encouraged members to consider filling the position for the remainder of this year.

- 2. Legislative Conference, January 25-27, Lincoln.  
Rooms are booked and Owens will e-mail out the confirmation number.

**C. NNRC**

1. Report – Fornoff reported next meeting will be Wednesday at 1 PM during legislative conference.

2. Application for NRC Funds. Russell and Johnson reported that we withdrew our application after reading the fine print. Fornoff reported that they had 14 applications for \$250,000 or less and 12 large project applications. Scoring to begin March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**D. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION**

1. Report – Johnson reported the Low to High Tech Water Solutions program will be at NCTA, January 28<sup>th</sup>. We will also be teaming up with the McCook Chamber of Commerce for their Farmer Appreciation in March. She will be setting up another Meet & Greet with Dan Hughes soon. Scholarship advertising to begin February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**E. NeRRMDA**

1. Report – Cappel. None.

**F. RRCA**

None.

**G. LEGISLATION**

1. 1098 – Basin Planning. Russell stated there is a meeting in Cambridge next week.

**H. N-CORPE**

1. Status Report. Randel reported that they were about 1/3 done pumping at 80-85% capacity.

2. Other. None.

**I. OTHERS**

None.

**9. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

**A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

**1. REPORTS**

**(a) WELL PERMITS.**

None.

**(b) SURFACE WATER**

Bureau report included in Board packets. Uerling suggested looking into purchasing water from Enders to avoid pumping N-CORPE. Discussion held. Russell will talk to Felker and report back.

**(c) METER PROGRAM**

Preliminary numbers show district use at around 9.24” for 2015.

**(d) GROUND WATER COMMITTEE**

Russell will plan on trying to set up a meeting around the first week in February.

**(e) FRENCHMAN VALLEY COMMITTEE.**

Russell reported that FV has also approved the agreement.

**(f) MODELING – BROWN & CALDWELL**

Boyce reported that the Medicine Creek model should be complete in a couple months and they will train him on how to use it. He encouraged the Board members to stop by the office and he can explain how it works.

**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.

**D. OTHER GROUND WATER ACTIVITY**

1. Variance Packet – Kuhlman.

Packet was included for review. Kuhlman's will be at the meeting next month to present and answer questions.

2. Variance Packet – Trail.

*Moved up on the agenda following Item 7.*

**10. PROGRAMS**

**A. COST-SHARE FUNDS – LCP/NSWCP.**

1. Approve Applications. Merrigan went over the report.

◆ Cappel 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.**

None.

**F. TREE PLANTING.**

None.

**G. BUFFER STRIPS.**

None.

**H. LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL APPLICATIONS.**

None.

**11. GENERAL OPERATIONS.**

**A. PERSONNEL.**

Russell reminded the Board that incumbent's filing deadline is February 16<sup>th</sup> and non-incumbent's is March 1<sup>st</sup>. Currently advertising for the Trenton field office position.

**B. SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT.**

None.

**C. PICK UP BIDS.**

Merrigan went over the 2 bids he received: 1) \$28,482 – Chevy ½ Ton; 2) \$28,585 – Ford ½ Ton.

- ◆ Uerling moved to approve the purchase of the Chevy for \$28,482. Seconded by Cappel.

Ayes - 10          Nays – 0          Motion Carried

**12. LEGAL MATTERS**

**A. Compact Issues.**

None.

**B. Other.**

None.

### **13. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- ◆ Uerling moved to enter into executive session to discuss potential real estate purchase and new lawsuit. Seconded by Rippen.  
Ayes - 10      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

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

Entered Executive Session at 3:36 pm.

- ◆ Fornoff moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 10      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

Exited Executive Session at 4:24 pm.

Discussion held.

- ◆ Schilling moved to authorize Russell to move forward with real estate negotiations. Seconded by Fornoff.  
Ayes - 10      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. at the Wallace Community Center, at 105 East Alice Street, in Wallace, Nebraska

The meeting was adjourned at 4:26 pm.

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Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary