

**MINUTES**  
**Middle Republican Natural Resources District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 7:30 PM**  
**Curtis, 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, Bob Merrigan, Sylvia Johnson, Stacie Owens, Doris Burke

**NRCS Staff:** Jason Kennedy

**Others:** Jon Schroeder, Doug Hallum, William M. Barger, Roger Goltl, Kyle Shepherd, Brad Edgerton, Dan Estermann, Chelsea Erickson, Don Felker, Jerry Kotschwar

**Information Mailed to Directors:**

Public Hearing Agenda	Rules Page 1 Relating to Rule 2-1
Request for Variance Form (3/15)	Regular Meeting Agenda
Minutes	Public Hearing Agenda – Variance
Permit to Construct Well	VAR4-2015
Burton Drilling Co Log	Dep/Dev/Static WS
Water Usage/Maps for Variance	Financial Report
Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual	Legal Billing Summary
Civil Rights Handout	Surface Water Report
Brown & Caldwell Report	

**Information Distributed at Meeting:**

Meet & Greet w/Dan Hughes	Cost Share Summary
FVID and HRW Recharge Presentation	Lease Agreement w/FVID

**Information E-mailed**

Bureau's Notification/Harlan Supply	NARD Update 2/13, 2/27
US Supreme Court Opinion	Hearings March 2/13
FVID Lease Agreement	

**REGULAR MEETING**

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman McConville at 7:35 pm.
  - a. Verify Quorum.
  - b. Excused Absences.
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.

Haag arrived at 7:37 p.m.

4. The Minutes for the February Regular Board Meeting were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ Fornoff moved to approve the Minutes from the February Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Rippen.  
Ayes - 11      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

5. Opened Hearing for Variance Request at 7:38 p.m.

6. Closed Hearing at 7:53 p.m.

## **7. CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST**

Discussion held.

- ◆ Palic moved to approve Goltl Variance Request, Var4-2015. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 7      Nays – Cappel, Haag, Schilling, Uerling      Motion Carried

## **8. FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

A. The February Financial Report and Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual were presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$249,483.17.

- ◆ Uerling moved to approve the February Financial Report and Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual. Seconded by Cappel.  
Ayes - 11      Nays - 0      Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

## **9. OPEN FORUM**

None.

## **10. REPORTS – AGENCIES, ASSOCIATIONS, OTHERS**

### **A. NRCS**

1. District Conservation Report – Kennedy reported on some preliminary funding numbers. Also, stated there will be a civil rights review in the Curtis office and explained what the entailed. They will be needing to do a phone interview with a Board member and a producer. McConville has already agreed to do the interview. He will be working on starting to approve EQIP applications on Monday. Discussion held on possible additional funding from the MRNRD.

- ◆ Uerling moved to allow Russell to take action based on the recommendations from the groundwater committee following their next meeting. Seconded by Schilling.  
Ayes - 11      Nays –0      Motion Carried

### **B. NARD**

1. Report – Uerling reported on the meeting held yesterday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. He stated that NET approached Dean about doing some programming on each NRD in the State. Cost would be around \$3,000 per NRD for an hour. Discussion held. No decision needs to be made until June.

**C. NNRC**

1. Report – Fornoff reported there will be a meeting in Kearney on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. They are hoping to vote on the rules. Informational meetings will be held in Scottsbluff on March 25<sup>th</sup>, Kearney or Grand Island on March 26<sup>th</sup> and Omaha or Lincoln the following week. He stated that we should start working on a grant application now so we are ready when they do start accepting applications.

**D. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION.**

1. Report – Johnson reported on the Meet and Greet with Senator Hughes at Schnert’s on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Scholarships have been advertised but no applications received yet. NARD will be bringing out TV equipment to do short interviews with all the Board members for the website this spring. Uerling suggested collecting some suggestions from the public for ideas to improve the Water Conference since attendance was so low.

**E. NeRRMDA**

1. Report – Cappel. None.

**F. RRCA.**

None.

**G. LEGISLATION.**

1. 1098 – Basin Planning.

Russell reminded everyone about the stakeholder meeting in Cambridge on March 31st.

**H. N-CORPE.**

1. Status Report.

Kyle Shepherd reported on current activities and stated that everything is running smoothly. Randel reported there is a group of investors who wish to purchase a section of ground from N-CORPE to put up an egg laying facility. Discussion held regarding the water needs of the facility. Randel stated he would like feedback from the Board on their thoughts. Concerns discussed. Schroeder will look into some of the legality concerns the Board has and let us know what he finds out. Shepherd also reported the Game and Parks position has been filled and the new employee will start on March 23rd. No official report has been received from the accountant yet.

2. Other.

None.

**I. OTHERS.**

None.

**11. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

**A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

**1. REPORTS**

**(a) WELL PERMITS**

No report included as there are no additional changes.

**(b) SURFACE WATER**

Bureau’s report included in packet. Schilling reported that the closing

notices have been lifted. Meeker-Driftwood canal will receive 6”.

**(c) METER PROGRAM**

Water reports are still going out.

**(d) GROUND WATER COMMITTEE**

Russell will email some dates out to the committee tomorrow and see what works for everyone for to meet.

**(e) FRENCHMAN VALLEY COMMITTEE – Doug Hallum.**

Hallum provided a presentation on canal recharge and return flow timing estimations (copy of presentation filed with these minutes). He answered questions of the Board and audience.

**(f) MODELING – BROWN & CALDWELL**

Report included in packets.

**2. RULES AND REGULATIONS - Take action on hearing**

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the changes to the Rules and Regulations on Rule 2-1.2. Seconded by Uerling.

Ayes - 11      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

**3. IMP**

Schilling expressed concerns relating to the pumping standard. Discussion held.

**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**

None.

**12. PROGRAMS**

**A. COST-SHARE FUNDS – LCP/NSWCP.**

**1. Approve Applications.**

- ◆ Fornoff moved to accept the Cost Share Report as presented. Seconded by Rippen.

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 the executive committee met with a potential hydrologist but they plan on continuing to look. Kennedy reported that they have started advertising the position in Trenton.

**B. SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT.**

None.

**14. LEGAL MATTERS**

**A. Report – Schroeder.**

- ◆ Uerling moved to enter into executive session to discuss pending legal matters and invite Jon Schroeder to attend. Seconded by Palic.  
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 9:51 pm.

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

Exited Executive Session at 10:21 pm.

Discussion held.

**B. Compact Issues.**  
None.

**C. Other.**  
None.

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center at 201 Garlic Ave., Curtis, Nebraska. Adjudicatory Hearing will precede the meeting also at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 pm.

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Stacie M. Owens  
Board Secretary