

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, May 12, 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

Board Members Absent: Benjie Loomis

NRD Staff: Jack Russell, Bob Merrigan, Sylvia Johnson, Doris Burke, Mary Tidyman & Stacie Owens

NRCS Staff: Jason Kennedy, Kort Kemp

Others: Brad Johnson, Doug Sellers, Andy Miller, Barry Carl, Stan Moore, Jerome Gaedke, Lorn Dizmang, William M. Barger, Joe Knox, Mark Towne, Dan Estermann

Information Mailed to Directors:

Agenda	Adjudicatory Hearing Minutes
Regular Meeting Minutes	VAR5-2015
Financial Report	Schroeder Billing WS
Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual	Civil Rights Handout
Brown & Caldwell Report	Ltr from DNR dated 4-30-15
VAR6-2015	

Information Distributed at Meeting:

Memo from Johnson dated 5-12-15	
Tree Program Packet	Well Permit Report
Surface Water Report	FV Irrigation District Report
Brown & Caldwell Proposal	Cost-Share Summary
Uerling Presentation & Notes	

Information E-mailed

News Articles 4-22-15	NARD Legislative Update 4-24-15
NRC WSF Hearing	News Clippings for 5-1-15
NARD Legislative Update 5-1-15	

REGULAR MEETING

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Haag at 7:30 pm.
 - a. Verify Quorum.
 - b. Excused Absences.

◆ Uerling moved to excuse Loomis due to illness. Seconded by Cappel.

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 April Adjudicatory Hearing and Regular Board Meeting were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the Minutes from the April Adjudicatory Hearing and Regular Meeting. Seconded by Uerling.
Ayes - 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

5. CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST

Merrigan briefly went over the information provided at last month's meeting and answered additional questions.

- ◆ Fornoff moved to approve Variance Request 5 for Barry Carl. Seconded by Anderjaska.
Ayes - 7 Nays – Schilling, Uerling, Cappel Motion Carried

6. FINANCIAL ACTIONS

A. The April Financial Report and Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual were presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$117,956.20.

- ◆ Uerling moved to approve the April Financial Report and Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes - 10 Nays - 0 Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

7. OPEN FORUM

Jerome Gaedke, Wellfleet. Questioned whether the flow of water from N-CORPE could be slowed to avoid so much erosion.

Joe Knox, Wellfleet. Expressed concerns about the silt going into Wellfleet lake.

8. REPORTS – AGENCIES, ASSOCIATIONS, OTHERS

A. NRCS

1. District Conservation Report – Kennedy reported on the tree packet the NRCS secretaries put together following their administration of the tree program this year and expressed a desire that the Board read through the whole thing. The civil engineering technician position has been advertised and he expects to hear the outcome soon. The new employee at the Trenton office is scheduled to start on June 29th. He also stated there will be engineers out to look at dams 2A and P2.

B. NARD

1. Report – Uerling went over the details Johnson put together on the basin tour which were included in the handouts. Next NARD meeting will be in June.

2. Consider Participation in NET Program. Uerling requested the Board make a decision on whether or not to participate in the NET Program. Discussion held.

- ◆ Uerling moved to pledge \$3,000 to the 1 hour NET program to promote the NRD's. Seconded by Cappel.
Ayes - 3 Nays – McConville, Palic, Randel, Rippen, Schilling, Cappel, Haag
Motion Failed

C. NNRC

1. Report – Fornoff reported on the April 28th Hearing to receive testimony on the operating rules. Next meeting is scheduled May 21st in Kearney.

D. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION.

1. Report – Johnson reported that the Managers' Retreat is scheduled here in Curtis on June 2nd and 3rd. She also reminded the Board that they would be doing interviews with all the Board members for the website. She will plan on coming to each Board members home. She only had one applicant for the ACE Camp Scholarship and recommended the Board approve the application.

- ◆ Uerling moved to award the ACE Camp Scholarship for \$190 to Matthew Wissink. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes - 10 Nays - 0 Motion Carried

E. NeRRMDA

1. Report – Cappel. None.

F. RRCA.

None.

G. LEGISLATION.

1. 1098 – Basin Planning.

Next coordination meeting will be in Holdrege on May 19th and Stakeholder meeting in Cambridge on June 16th. Schilling expressed concerns regarding some of the areas being discussed as not being hydrologically connected and was not being included. Discussion held.

- ◆ Schilling moved that the MRNRD take the position that the basin wide plan include the entire basin. Seconded by McConville.
Ayes - 9 Nays - Fornoff Motion Carried

H. N-CORPE.

1. Status Report.

Randel reported on the events of the last meeting. Wells were officially shut off on April 7th. Wood chips have been purchased for the roads through a grant they received. Game and Parks agreement will not take place. They did hire the employee that was planned to be paid under that agreement but is now an N-CORPE employee.

2. Other. Uerling put together a slide show of some damages along the Medicine Creek and presented it to the Board. He had many suggestions which a written copy has been filed with these minutes. Schilling brought up the property tax issues that have been in the news recently. Discussion held.

- ◆ Schilling moved that the MRNRD pay 25% of the N-CORPE taxes pending legal approval from our attorney Lindstrom. Seconded by Uerling.
Ayes - 5 Nays – Anderjaska, Fornoff, McConville, Palic, Randel
Motion failed

Anderjaska stated for the record that he was in favor of paying the taxes but wished to have legal guidance first.

I. OTHERS.

None.

9. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

1. REPORTS

(a) WELL PERMITS

Merrigan’s report was included in the packets.

(b) SURFACE WATER

Bureau’s report was included in handouts.

(c) METER PROGRAM

1. Quote to Rebuild Database. Owens went over her and Burke’s meeting with Mike Meier of Custom Data Solutions and the request for the groundwater program office to have the database rebuilt to be more efficient. She answered questions of the Board.

- ◆ Schilling moved to hire Custom Data Solutions to rebuild the database at a cost of up to \$30,000. Seconded by Uerling.
Ayes - 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

(d) GROUND WATER COMMITTEE

None.

(e) FRENCHMAN VALLEY COMMITTEE.

Report from Felker was included that described the amount of water that has been diverted into the canal and how it has gone down the canal so far.

(f) MODELING – BROWN & CALDWELL

Russell provided a copy of the recharge study proposal received. Discussion held.

- ◆ Uerling moved to hire Brown and Caldwell to complete the recharge study as proposed. Seconded by Cappel.
Ayes - 10 Nays - 0 Motion Carried

2. RULES AND REGULATIONS.

None.

3. IMP

Russell went over the supreme courts decision on the mound credit. He would

like permission to get a more technical answer and he would like to use Brown & Caldwell to do so.

- ◆ Palic moved to give Russell permission to work with Brown & Caldwell on technical issues relating to the mound credit up to \$10,000. Seconded by Anderjaska.

Ayes - 10 Nays - 0 Motion Carried

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. Review Information – Stan Moore.

Merrigan went over the variance request received from Moore and the information gathered. Moore was also available to answer questions.

10. PROGRAMS

A. COST-SHARE FUNDS – LCP/NSWCP.

1. Approve Applications.

- ◆ Uerling moved to accept the Cost Share Report as presented. Seconded by Palic.

Ayes – 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

B. WATERSHEDS.

None.

C. EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL ACT.

None.

D. COMPLAINTS.

None.

E. CHEMIGATION.

Technicians doing inspections.

F. TREE PLANTING.

Completed.

G. BUFFER STRIPS.

None.

H. LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL APPLICATIONS.

None.

11. GENERAL OPERATIONS.

A. PERSONNEL.

Russell requested the Personnel and Operations committee to pick some dates to meet in McCook for a meeting from 9:30 a.m. to Noon. They will look at their calendar and get back with him. He also stated that he will be making an offer to a hydrologist that was recently interviewed.

B. SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT.

None.

12. LEGAL MATTERS

A. Compact Issues.

None.

B. Other.

None.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center at 201 Garlic Ave., Curtis, Nebraska.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 pm.

Stacie M. Owens
Board Secretary