

**MINUTES**  
**Middle Republican Natural Resources District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 9:00 AM**  
**Curtis, Nebraska**

**Board Members Present:** Joe Anderjaska, Rick McConville, Dan Estermann, Benjie Loomis, Jay Schilling, Tracy Zink, Brad Randel, John Palic, Shane Rippen, Jolene Messinger, Rick Spencer, Brian Schafer

**Board Members Absent:** Daniel Nelsen

**NRD Staff:** Jack Russell, Sylvia Johnson, Alex Boyce, Mary Tidyman and Stacie Owens

**NRCS Staff:** Jason Kennedy

**Others:** William M Barger, Todd Siel

**Information Mailed to Directors:**

Regular Meeting Agenda	Regular Meeting Minutes
Financial Report	Legal Billing Summary
Profit vs Loss Budget vs Actual	Civil Rights Handout
Surface Water Report	

**Information Distributed at Meeting:**

NCORPE Notes	Hemp and Farm Bill Programs
U.S. Domestic Hemp Production Program	
USDA Office Closure Guidelines	

**Information E-mailed**

September Surface Water Report	NCORPE Notes
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**REGULAR MEETING**

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman McConville at 9:00 am.  
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.

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

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the minutes of the October Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Zink.

Ayes - 10	Nays - 0	Abstain - Spencer, Schilling	Motion Carried
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## **5. CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST**

None.

## **6. FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

A. The October Financial Report was presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$423,868.04.

- ◆ Zink moved to approve the October Financial Report. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 12                      Nays – 0                      Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

## **7. OPEN FORUM**

William M. Barger, Culbertson. Questioned whether we would get the full credit on the acre buyout.

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

### **A. NRCS**

1. District Conservation Report – Kennedy had a few handouts on HEMP Production Programs. He stated that the RCCP has been approved for renewal. CRP sign up will start in mid-December. They will also be having some training in December. He went over a handout of the USDA office closure guidelines.

### **B. NARD**

1. Report – Rippen shared a budget summary on other NRD's across the state if anyone is interested in looking at it. Nothing much going on. Legislative Conference will be coming up in January in Lincoln.

### **C. NNRC**

1. Report. Fornoff reported to Russell that they are getting ready to score water sustainability grants. The mapping grant we submitted made the preliminary cut but the others didn't.

### **D. OUTREACH**

1. Report – Johnson is prepping for the Farm & Ranch Expo. Will be doing Podcasts relatively soon. Attended the N-CORPE meeting last week. We have been approached by a company to participate in a crop insurance study. She and Boyce will be attending the forecast meeting in Holdrege tomorrow. Requested opinions from the Board as to having the December banquet in McCook at the Coppermill with just Board, staff and spouses. Everyone was in agreement. Banquet will be set up for Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **E. LEGISLATION**

None.

### **F. N-CORPE**

1. Status Report – Schilling stated that the inclusion of N-CORPE notes via e-mail to the Board was decided so questions by members can be dealt with prior to the meeting and he encouraged the Board members to contact himself or Loomis anytime. McConville did express

that he would like N-CORPE's accounting to be independent. Discussion held. Schilling reported that there will be more advertising when grazing bids get ready to be gathered since there were a number of people who reported they were unaware the bids were being taken in the past.

**G. OTHERS**

None.

**9. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

**A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

**1. REPORTS**

**(a) SURFACE WATER.**

Bureau report included.

**(b) PERMANENT TRANSFER & VARIANCE REPORT.**

None.

**2. RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

None.

**3. IMP – Alternatives.**

Russell reported that DNR has agreed to work with us on our suggested changes to the IMP once they get completed with the Forecast.

**B. GROUND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA**

None.

**C. OTHER GROUND WATER ACTIVITY**

None.

**10. PROGRAMS**

**A. COST-SHARE FUNDS – LCP/NSWCP.**

None.

**B. WATERSHEDS.**

None.

**C. CHEMIGATION.**

Zink stated that Lindstrom wrote up some rules and regulations language. Russell stated they were still refining it to make sure they have everything covered and clearly understood before we go to hearing.

**D. METERS.**

Russell reported that meter reading is going well. Ken Seim's is still installing the new meters. There will be advertisement in the papers published as required for the grant.

**E. TREE PLANTING.**

None.

**F. LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL APPLICATIONS.**

None.

**11. GENERAL OPERATIONS.**

**A. COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

(1) Personnel & Programs.

Russell would like a quick meeting with the committee following this meeting.

(2) Ground Water.

Zink explained to the Board Chris Martin's position as a contract worker to oversee the new meter data.

**B. SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT.**

None.

**12. LEGAL MATTERS**

**A. Compact Issues.**

None.

**B. Other.**

Russell reminded Anderjaska, Loomis, McConville, Messinger, Schafer, Spencer and Zink that they will be up for election in 2020.

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at 9:00 am at the Middle Republican NRD Office in Curtis, Nebraska.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 am.

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Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary