

**MINUTES**  
**Middle Republican Natural Resources District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 5:00 PM**  
**McCook, Nebraska**

**Board Members Present: Kevin Fornoff, Joe Anderjaska, Buck Haag, James Uerling, Steve Cappel, Brad Randel, John Palic, Blaine Stinson, Rick McConville**

**Board Members Absent:** Bill Hoyt, Benjie Loomis

**NRD Staff:** Jack Russell, Bob Merrigan, Stacie Owens

**NRCS Staff:** Jason Kennedy, Kort Kemp

**Others:** Brad Johnson, Norman Timmerman, William M. Barger, Brad Edgerton, Jay Schilling, Brian Schafer, Chelsea Erickson, Dan Estermann

**Information Mailed to Directors:**

Regular Meeting Agenda

Variance Request VAR1-FY2015

Sept Regular Meeting Minutes

Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual

Civil Rights Handout

Bureau Letter to DNR dated 9/30/14

Impact to Streamflow in the RRB

Public Hearing Agenda

Budget Hearing Minutes

September Financial Report

Financial Statements – Draft

Rule 2-1 Variance & Form

Canal Information Handout

Surface Water Report

**Information Distributed at Meeting:**

NRCS Report

Ltr from DNR dated 4/3/2014

Cost Share Summary

Coming to a Head (article)

Surface Water Report

**REGULAR MEETING**

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Haag at 5:00 pm.

a. Verify Quorum.

b. Excused Absences.

◆ Uerling moved to excuse the absence of Bill Hoyt due to illness. Seconded by Palic.

Ayes - 8

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 September Budget Hearing and Regular Board Meeting were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ Fornoff moved to approve the Minutes from the September Budget Hearing and Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Randel.  
Ayes - 8      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

5. Open Hearing for Variance Request at 5:03 pm.

6. Close Hearing at 5:10 pm.

#### **7. CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST**

- ◆ Uerling moved to approve Variance Request VAR1-FY2015. Seconded by Randel.  
Ayes - 8      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

#### **8. FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

A. The September Financial Report and Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual were presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$660,321.71.

- ◆ Uerling moved to approve the September Financial Report and Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual. Seconded by Cappel.  
Ayes - 8      Nays - 0      Motion Carried

Discussed bill received from Lindstrom for services last year. Will follow up with Dan Smith to ensure its accuracy.

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

Anderjaska arrived at 5:19 pm.

#### **9. LEGAL MATTERS**

A. Barger Case. Nothing new.

B. Medicine Creek Case. Nothing new.

C. Compact Issues. Russell stated that oral arguments were completed today. Included a news article in the handouts.

D. Other. None.

#### **10. OPEN FORUM**

None.

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

A. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

1. District Conservation Report – Kennedy handed out his report and answered questions of the Board.

**B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD)**

1. Report – Anderjaska reported on Fall Conference.

**C. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission (NNRC)**

1. Report – None.

**D. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION.**

1. Report – Russell reported on Range Judging attendance and the upcoming Land Judging.

**E. NE REPUBLICAN RIVER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION (NeRRMDA)**

1. Report – Hoyt/Fornoff.  
None.

**F. RRCA.**

- None.

**G. LEGISLATION.**

1. 1098 – Basin Planning. Nothing new.

**H. N-CORPE.**

1. Status Report. Randel reported the accountant was working on his report which they will hopefully have next month. Also stated they are currently advertising for a manager to start overseeing everything. Wells are currently being pulled on the Kason portion of the farm and the pivots will be sold. Discussion held about allocation.

2. Other.  
None.

**I. OTHERS.**

- None.

**12. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

**A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

**1. REPORTS**

**(a) WELL PERMITS**

- None.

**(b) SURFACE WATER**

- Bureau report included in board packet.

**(c) METER PROGRAM**

- Technicians are currently reading and services meters in Frontier County.

**(d) EQIP/ARP (2 applications tabled: John Miller/Gothenburg Livestock).**

- None.

- (e) **GROUND WATER COMMITTEE – pooling changes (currently tabled).**  
None.

- (f) **FRENCHMAN VALLEY COMMITTEE**

Uerling went over the discussions held at the meeting. He also included a handout. Russell stated that he and Felker are planning on meeting with the Bureau to gather further information.

- (g) **MODELING – BROWN & CALDWELL**

1) Interlocal Agreement with UBBNRD on Engineer. Russell stated that Schroeder has reviewed the agreement per the request of the Board. The engineer’s hourly rate would be \$71.00

2) Monthly Teleconferences. Russell reported they would be having monthly teleconferences if the board members would like to come join in at the office.

- 2. **RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

- (a) **VARIANCE CHANGES**

Russell went over the suggested changes to the variance request process and would like to get them implemented and schedule a hearing as soon as possible. There are additional changes that will have to be made to the chemigation rules which the office will start putting together and we can look at all of it next month.

- (b) **SET HEARING**

Will plan on setting a date and time at next months meeting.

- 3. **IMP – DNR DISCUSSION.**

- (a) **COMPLIANCE OPTIONS – BOR LETTER.** Uerling went over a letter from the Bureau to DNR which a copy was provided in the board packet. 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.

### **13. PROGRAMS**

- A. COST-SHARE FUNDS – LCP/NSWCP.**

- 1. **Approve Applications.** Merrigan went over the cost share report.

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

Ayes – 9

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.

**14. GENERAL OPERATIONS.**

**A. PERSONNEL – Hydrologist.**

Russell requested we go into executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss.

**B. SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT.**

None.

**C. VETERANS’ DAY FALLS ON SAME DAY AS NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING. WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?**

Discussion held. It was decided to close down on Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup> for Veteran’s Day and keep the office open on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

- ◆ Randel moved to enter into executive session to discuss personnel issues relating to a hydrolgist. Seconded by Stinson.

Ayes – 9	Nays – 0	Motion Carried
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Chairman Haag restated, for the record, the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session.

Entered into executive session at 6:12 pm.

- ◆ Uerling moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Cappel.

Ayes – 9	Nays – 0	Motion Carried
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Exited executive session at 6:33 pm.

- ◆ Stinson moved to move forward in looking to pursue hiring a hydologist.  
Seconded by Anderjaska.  
Ayes – 9                      Nays – 0                      Motion Carried

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, November 11, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center, at 201 Garlick Avenue, Curtis, Nebraska.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.

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Stacie M. Owens  
Board Secretary