

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 7:30 PM
Curtis, Nebraska

Board Members Present: Joe Anderjaska, Shane Rippen, Rick McConville, John Palic, Buck Haag, Kevin Fornoff, Steve Cappel, Jolene Messinger, Brian Schafer, Benjie Loomis, Jay Schilling

Board Members Absent: Brad Randel, Rick Spencer

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

NRCS Staff: Jason Kennedy

Others: Dan Lindstrom, Brad Johnson, William M. Barger, Andy Olson, Kirk Olson, Robert Meyer, Randy Robinson, Dan Estermann, Ken Andersen

Information Mailed to Directors:

Regular Meeting Agenda	Budget Hearing Minutes
Special Budget Hearing to Set Final Tax Request Minutes	
Regular Meeting Minutes	Financial Report
Legal Summary	Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual
Civil Rights Handout	Draft Rules & Regs 10-5-2017
Permanent Transfer application	Reassignment application

Information Distributed at Meeting:

Audit	Surface Water Report
Cost Share Report	(2) Proposed N-CORPE Allocation Language
Preliminary N-CORPE Model Printout	Medicine Creek decision

Information E-mailed

Medicine Creek decision

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. None.

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, Special Budget Hearing to Set Final Tax Request and Regular Board Meeting were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ Rippen moved to approve the minutes of the September Budget Hearing, Special Budget Hearing to Set Final Tax Request and Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Palic.
Ayes - 10 Nays – 0 Abstain – Schilling Motion Carried

5. CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST

None.

6. FINANCIAL ACTIONS

A. The September Financial Report was presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$915,864.26.

- ◆ Fornoff moved to approve the September Financial Report. Seconded by Rippen.
Ayes - 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

B. Audit – Bob Meyer.

Meyer went over the audit in detail and answered questions of the Board. A few changes were suggested which Meyer will complete and send out a revised report for their acceptance at the November meeting.

7. OPEN FORUM

Kirk Olson, North Platte. On behalf of the Land Owners for a Common Purpose, he requested to be on the agenda for next month’s meeting to provide a letter from their attorney and discuss the potential sale of the N-CORPE land. He also requested the MRNRD’s attorney write an opinion letter on the subject as well.

William M. Barger, Culbertson. Had a question regarding being able to review the draft rules and regulations. He also stated he agreed that the N-CORPE ground should be sold.

Dan Estermann, Wellfleet. Had comments relating to the thistle and weeds on the N-CORPE ground.

8. REPORTS – AGENCIES, ASSOCIATIONS, OTHERS

A. NRCS

1. District Conservation Report – Kennedy reported that they have plantings for about 35,000 shrubs this year which is almost double to what we have had in the last few years. The engineers are out doing survey’s on P2 now. Once the hiring freeze is lifted, the Hayes Center office is ranked as number 2 to be filled. Stated that the range judging contest went very well and they had 232 kids participate.

B. NARD

1. Report – Rippen reported on the annual conference. The golf tournament generated around \$5,000 and the shooting contest generate around \$1,000. Both resolutions passed with one cleaning up some wording on surface water leasing. A new lobbyist has been hired. He did bring copies of the audits if anyone is interested in looking at them.

C. NNRC

1. Report – Fornoff stated they will be grading applications at their next meeting in December and results should come out shortly thereafter.

D. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

1. Report – Johnson is currently working on posters for the upcoming Natural Resource Committee tour of N-CORPE they will be having on October 16th. Many will be staying here in Curtis where we will serve them breakfast and supper. Probes have all been pulled and stored away for the winter. She’s been attending meetings and will now start assisting in reading meters.

E. LEGISLATION

1. 1098 – Basin Planning. Russell reported on the last meeting.

F. N-CORPE

1. Status Report.

Loomis reported on the September 27th meeting. Olson’s were there with a request to have a round table discussion with the N-CORPE representatives to discuss the sale of the land. They did request the auditors to go more in-depth on the auditing of the books so the results will take a few months longer. Meyer explained to the Board the different types of audits there are and what is looked at for each of them.

2. Other. None.

G. OTHERS

None.

9. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

1. REPORTS

(a) WELL PERMITS.

None.

(b) SURFACE WATER

Bureau’s report included in Board packets.

(c) METER PROGRAM

Meters are currently being read.

(d) GROUNDWATER COMMITTEE.

Meeting was held last week which will be discussed further under Rules and Regulations.

(e) MODELING – BROWN & CALDWELL.

Russell and Boyce found a few mistakes in the N-CORPE model which they are working on fixing now. He did provide the initial preliminary maps for everyone to review.

(f) WELLFLEET ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Russell stated that a check for half of the materials for improvements to Wellfleet Lake has been paid to Clayton Schmitz as agreed.

2. RULES AND REGULATIONS – APPROVE TO GO TO HEARING.

Russell went over all the major suggested changes. Lindstrom was available to answer questions and provide additional advice. Discussion held.

- ◆ Palic moved to approve the draft rules and regulations to go to hearing with inclusion of additional changes as presented. Seconded by Cappel.
Ayes – 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

3. IMP
None.

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) Surface Water Resolution.
None.

10. PROGRAMS

A. COST-SHARE FUNDS – LCP/NSWCP.

1. Approve Applications. Went over the cost share report.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the Cost Share Report. Seconded by Rippen.
Ayes - 11 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 & PROGRAMS.

None.

B. SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT.

None.

12. LEGAL MATTERS

A. Compact Issues.

None.

B. Other.

Lindstrom.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to enter into executive session to discuss potential litigation with the Board, Manager, staff and Lindstrom. Seconded by Schilling.

Ayes - 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

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

Entered at 10:15 pm.

- ◆ Palic moved to exit the executive session. Seconded by Anderjaska.

Ayes - 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

Exited at 10:30 pm.

The Public Hearing on the Rules and Regulations and regular board meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2017 at 7:30 pm at the Curtis Community Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:31 pm.

Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary