

**MINUTES**  
**Middle Republican Natural Resources District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 7:30 PM**  
**Curtis, Nebraska**

**Board Members Present: Joe Anderjaska, Steve Cappel, Shane Rippen, Jay Schilling, Rick McConville, John Palic, Buck Haag, Benjie Loomis, Brad Randel**

**Board Members Absent:** Kevin Fornoff, James Uerling

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

**NRCS Staff:** Jason Kennedy

**Others:** William M. Barger, Dan Estermann

**Information Mailed to Directors:**

Budget and Special Hearing Agendas	Proposed 2016-2017 Budget
Regular Meeting Agenda	Minutes from August Meeting
Financial Report	Legal Summary
Civil Rights Handout	Surface Water Report

**Information Distributed at Meeting:**

Cost Share Report

**Information E-mailed**

Press Release and Talking Points

**REGULAR MEETING**

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Haag at 7:40 pm.
  - a. Verify Quorum.
  - b. Excused Absences.

◆ Randel moved to excuse the absence of Fornoff and Uerling. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 9                      Nays – 0                      Motion Carried

2. The agenda and roster were circulated to those present.

- a. Items added to the Agenda since mailing: 9.1.c. CREP Renewal Issue

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 August Regular Board Meeting were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the Minutes from the August Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Palic.  
Ayes - 8      Nays - 0      Abstain - Randel      Motion Carried

#### **5. CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST**

None.

#### **6. FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

A. The August Financial Report was presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$22,962.01.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the August Financial Report. Seconded by McConville.  
Ayes - 9      Nays - 0      Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

B. Budget – Approve.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the budget and set the mill levy at .031243 and the occupation tax at \$10.00 as presented. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 9      Nays - 0      Motion Carried

#### **7. OPEN FORUM**

William M. Barger, Culbertson. Questioned whether there would be credit for the Frenchman Valley ditch water that was purchased.

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

##### **A. NRCS**

1. District Conservation Report – Kennedy reported that the CREP renewal plans have been written. Deadlines of November 18<sup>th</sup> have been set for the RCPP and Ogallala Aquifer applications. He will be attending NARD Fall Conference in Kearney.

##### **B. NARD**

1. Report – Rippen had nothing new to report other than they are preparing for the Fall Conference. Anderjaska did request Rippen to talk about the possibility of NRD Directors being able to get health insurance through NARD.

2. Fall Conference. September 25-27.

##### **C. NNRC**

1. Report – Fornoff. None.

##### **D. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION**

1. Report – Johnson reported that she has submitted three grants. She also reported on the Manager's Retreat and how well that went. She attended the UNL Extension field day in North Platte and the Soil Health Day in Culbertson. Currently working on a new logo.

**E. RRCA.**

None.

**F. LEGISLATION**

**1. 1098 – Basin Planning.**

Meeting on Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> in Holdrege. Next Stakeholder Meeting will be November 1<sup>st</sup> in Cambridge.

**G. N-CORPE**

**1. Status Report.** Randel reported that they are still working on repairs to a bridge and cleaning up some logs jams. Next meeting will be September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**2. Other.**

Russell reported that he plans on having Shephard and Bob Myer attending the next meeting to answer any questions about the audit.

**H. OTHERS**

None.

**9. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

**A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

**1. REPORTS**

**(a) WELL PERMITS.**

None.

**(b) SURFACE WATER**

Bureau's report was included in the packets.

**(c) METER PROGRAM**

None.

**(d) GROUND WATER COMMITTEE**

Russell stated that they did meet to go over another few sections of the Rules and Regulations. There will be one more meeting and then those changes will be brought to the entire Board for review.

**(e) FRENCHMAN VALLEY COMMITTEE.**

None.

**(f) MODELING – BROWN & CALDWELL**

Working on setting up a meeting between Brown & Caldwell and DNR for some time in October.

**(g) TZA PROPOSAL.**

Boyce will be traveling to Colorado later this week to meet with them on the compact, Frenchman Valley and the Culbertson Canal.

**2. RULES AND REGULATIONS**

None.

**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. CREP Renewal Issue.

Merrigan and Burke went over the request for some CREP ground to be renewed and the issue they were having with being able to renew based on DNR requirements. Discussion held.

- ◆ Loomis moved to approve the change of the livestock well back to an irrigation well for the purpose of approving a CREP contact renewal for Seward. Seconded by Anderjaska.

Ayes – 8                      Nays – Haag                      Motion Carried

**10. PROGRAMS**

**A. COST-SHARE FUNDS – LCP/NSWCP.**

1. Approve Applications.

- ◆ Cappel moved to approve the cost share report. Seconded by Rippen.

Ayes – 8                      Nays – 0                      Abstain - Palic                      Motion Carried

**B. WATERSHEDS.**

Russell stated that we did just receive three dam assessments but he hasn't had time to review what they say. Also, another issue with the structure SW of Maywood. There is an erosion issue and the County is working to re-route the road so we will plan on working with them on some of the costs associated with the repairs.

**C. EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL ACT.**

None.

**D. COMPLAINTS.**

None.

**E. CHEMIGATION.**

Ongoing.

**F. TREE PLANTING.**

None.

**G. BUFFER STRIPS.**

None.

## **H. LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL APPLICATIONS.**

None.

## **11. GENERAL OPERATIONS.**

**A. PERSONNEL.** Russell reported that Amy Houser has turned in her resignation. She will finish out her two weeks and then we will start doing some advertising. Russell stated that Burke donated some sick leave to Houser when she was ill. He has reviewed the donated leave and signed off on it as he has no concerns related to the exchange. Kaila Kressin's six month review is up. Russell feels she has come along very well and will be bumping up her salary based on the previous discussions they had at the time of hire. Currently working on changes to the Personnel Policy so there will be a personnel and operations committee soon.

## **B. SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT.**

None.

## **12. LEGAL MATTERS**

### **A. Compact Issues.**

None.

### **B. Other.**

Russell stated that the survey on Wellfleet Lake it being done. A brief has been filed on the Medicine Creek case. Anyone interested in reading it can contact us.

## **13. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Curtis Community Center, at 201 Garlick Avenue, in Curtis, Nebraska

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

---

Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary