

**MINUTES**  
**Middle Republican Natural Resources District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 8:15 AM**  
**Curtis, Nebraska**

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

**Board Members Absent:** None.

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

**NRCS Staff:** Jason Kennedy

**Others:** William M. Barger

**Information Mailed to Directors:**

Budget Hearing Agenda's	Budget
Agenda	Public Hearing Minutes 8/17
Special Meeting Minutes 8/17	Special Meeting Minutes 8/25
Financials	Legal Summary
Surface Water Report	Civil Rights Handout

**Information Distributed at Meeting:**

Minutes from 8/11	Bonding Summary Information
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**Information E-mailed**

Executive Session 8/19/20	Special Meeting 8/21/20
Hearings 8/26/20	Quick Idea 8/27/20
Hearing Notices 9/3/2020	Hearing 9/9/2020
Public Hearing/Mtg Notices	

**REGULAR MEETING**

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman McConville at 8:15 am.

- 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. MINUTES**

The Minutes for the August 11<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting, August 17<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing, August 17<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting and August 25<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting were provided to Directors.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the minutes of the August 17<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing with the addition (highlighted). Seconded by Zink.  
Ayes – 12      Nays – 0      Abstain – McConville      Motion Carried
- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the minutes of the August 17<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting. Seconded by Nelsen.  
Ayes – 12      Nays – 0      Abstain – McConville      Motion Carried
- ◆ Schafer moved to approve the minutes of the August 11<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes – 13      Nays – 0      Motion Carried
- ◆ Schafer moved to approve the minutes August 25<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting with corrections. Seconded by Anderjaska.  
Ayes – 11      Nays – 0      Abstain – Spencer, McConville      Motion Carried

#### **5. FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

a. The August Financial Report were presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$1,806,908.80.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the August Financial Reports. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 13      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

b. Approve Budget.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the budget as presented. Seconded by Zink.  
Ayes - 11      Nays – Palic, Spencer      Motion Carried

c. Approve Special Budget to Set Final Tax Request.

- ◆ Nelsen moved to approve the special budget as presented and resolution MR13-2020 setting the property tax request and the occupation tax at \$10. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 11      Nays – Spencer, Palic      Motion Carried

#### **6. OPEN FORUM**

None.

***CHAIRMAN MCCONVILLE MOVED ITEM #7 TO THE END OF THE AGENDA***

#### **7. CHAIRMAN/VICE CHAIRMAN**

## **8. MANAGERS' REPORTS**

a. Outreach. Russell reported that they were almost complete with the edits to the Irrigation Leader Magazine article.

b. Grants. They have applied for another grant for 1,000 more meters so waiting to hear on that.

Johnson reported they installed 8 more weather stations last week for a total of 12. She will be emailing out the user id and password to the board members so they can monitor them as well. Once all the weather stations are in, she will put together a press release for the public.

## **9. NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) – KENNEDY.**

Working on getting people paid for projects that were completed. Finished up 225 CRP contracts between Frontier, Red Willow, Hitchcock and Hayes counties. They have heard that they will begin Phase 4 of the COVID-19 restriction lift either this week or the next but are currently using their own guidelines which include by appointment only and wearing a mask upon entry.

## **10. NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS (NARD) - RIPPEN.**

Annual Conference was cancelled. Their meeting is currently scheduled for September 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Discussion was held. Anderjaska explained some details of how the association works for a few that had questions.

## **11. N-CORPE – LOOMIS/SCHILLING.**

a. Other. Schilling gave a report of the last meeting at the Special Meeting on August 25<sup>th</sup>. There is a meeting today at the Community Center here in Curtis at 10 am.

b. Resolution – Bond Refinancing. Russell went over the two options provided by Bruce Lefler. Discussion held.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the first option to keep the bond maturity date at 12/15/2035 with an approximate savings of \$65,000 and N-CORPE Bonding Resolutions MR11-2020 and MR12-2020. Seconded by Rippen.  
Ayes - 13      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

## **12. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- ◆ Schilling moved to enter into executive session to discuss legal matters and personnel with Board, Manager, Assistant Manager, Alex Boyce and Stacie Owens. Seconded by Palic.  
Ayes - 13      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

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

Entered at 9:19 am.

- ◆ Rippen moved to exit the executive session. Seconded by Anderjaska.  
Ayes – 13      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

Exited at 9:49 am.

## **7. CHAIRMAN/VICE CHAIRMAN**

McConville verbally submitted his resignation as Chairman.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to appoint Randel as Chairman and Zink as Vice Chairman for the remaining 2020 year. Seconded by Rippen.  
Ayes – 12      Nays – Spencer      Motion Carried
- ◆ Schafer moved to adjourn. Seconded by Zink.  
Ayes – 13      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020. Time to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 am.

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Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary