

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 7 PM
Curtis, Nebraska

Board Members Present: Joe Anderjaska, Daniel Nelsen, John Palic, Travis Rousselle, Benjie Loomis, Jay Schilling, Tracy Zink, Dan Estermann, Shane Rippen

Board Members Absent: Brad Randel, John Palic, Jolene Messinger

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

NRCS Staff: Jason Kennedy

Others: William M. Barger

Information Posted to Directors I-Pads:

Agenda	Minutes – Budget Hearings
Minutes – Regular Meeting	Financial Report
Surface Water Report	Legal Bills
Civil Rights Handout	

Information Distributed at Meeting:

Legal Summary	Burn Area Map
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Information E-Mailed:

None.

REGULAR MEETING

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Zink at 7:00 pm.
 - 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 September Budget Hearing, Special Budget Hearing to Set Final Tax Request and Regular Board Meeting were posted to the Directors IPads.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the minutes of September Budget Hearing. Special Budget Hearing to Set Final Tax Request and Regular Board Meeting with corrections. Seconded by Loomis.

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0 Abstain – McConville, Rippen Motion Carried

5. FINANCIAL ACTIONS

A. The September Financial Report was presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$840,345.18.

- ♦ Nelsen moved to approve the September Financial Report. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes - 9 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

6. OPEN FORUM

William M. Barger, Culbertson. Questions regarding a permanent transfer and canal recharge.

7. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. WRCF. Russell reported on the meeting with all major players in building a system to connect all our information and build a system to allow for producer access. They are all considered all issues but think they can build what we need.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Programs: Schilling went over discussions held during the Personnel and Programs meeting and committee recommendations.

- ♦ Schilling moved to approve the offering of the permanent retirement program with a \$700,000 cap (\$230,000 MRNRD funds) to start immediately and end January 1, 2022. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes - 9 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

Deep Water LLC has approached us to do a large, 3-year tree planting project. We would net around \$30,000 by doing it. Currently, the estimated cost share would be \$56,000 and we have a \$10,000 limit set up.

- ♦ Schilling moved to waive the \$10,000 cost share limit for the Deep Water LLC 3-year tree planting project. Seconded by Nelsen.
Ayes - 8 Nays – Anderjaska Motion Carried

Central Platte NRD will be doing a grazing improvement burn project up in the NE corner of our district as well as their district, Lower Loup and Twin Platte. It was decided to give them \$10,000 to CPNRD over the next 3 years to complete the project.

Our drone needs to be updated preferably with some infra-red capabilities so we have better details identifying water quality inspections. Priced two different drones with capabilities that are needed and it was decided with the rapid changes in technology we would purchase the cheaper one for \$8,000.

9. NRCS

Kennedy went over the EQIP deadlines. Currently working on CSP renewals and field work. Attended an interesting training on the tree burning program. He will try to make sure he scans if and gets it emailed to the office so it can be distributed to the board.

10. NARD

Rippen went over the annual meeting. Audit has been completed and he has it available if anyone wants to view it. Their office building has been completed and all setup.

11. N-CORPE

Next meeting is next week.

12. LEGAL MATTERS

Russell reported that the agreement was almost complete with the Wellfleet community and should be ready for your review next meeting. Lindstrom filed paperwork yesterday for the Hauxwell case. Briefs are still going back and forth. Should be a court hearing in Stockville on the pooling on October 29th.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. None.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Middle Republican NRD Office in Curtis, Nebraska.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary