

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Public Hearing
Ground Water Management Area, Rules & Regulations
Tuesday, November 12, 2024 @ 9:00 AM
Middle Republican NRD Office, 208 Center Ave, Curtis, Nebraska

Board Members Present: Tracy Zink, Joe Anderjaska, Jolene Messinger, Shane Rippen, Benjie Loomis, Dan Nelsen, Jay Schilling, Rick McConville, Rose Weskamp

Board Members Absent: Travis Rousselle

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

Others: Jason Kennedy, Tony Cribell, Tim McKillip, Laurie Maris, Gary Kotschwar, Amanda Johnson, Ben Widener, Jane Widener, Josh Friesen, Krystle Friesen, Colleen Mullanix, Duane Dinnel, Nathan Vitosh, Garret Pollard, David Gross

PUBLIC HEARING

The public hearing was called to order by Chairman Zink at 9:00 a.m. The agenda and roster were circulated to those present.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH NRSS SECTION 46-743. (2) NOTICE OF THIS PUBLIC HEARING WAS PUBLISHED FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE WEEKS WITH THE LAST PUBLICATION NOT LESS THAN SEVEN DAYS PRIOR TO THE HEARING IN THE NORTH PLATTE TELEGRAPH AND MCCOOK GAZETTE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY OF THE DISTRICT AND WITH NRSS SECTION 46-743. IT WAS ALSO POSTED ON THE DISTRICT WEB SITE AT WWW.MRNRD.ORG.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony regarding revisions to the Ground Water Management Area, Rules and Regulations for the Middle Republican Natural Resources District (hereinafter “MRNRD”).

OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED CHANGES AND REVISIONS/TESTIMONY - NRD

Russell went over the proposed changes with correction to the listed appendix number 1.1. which should read 1.1.7. The language listed was accurate as printed.

TESTIMONY

STATE AGENCIES

None

FEDERAL AGENCIES

None.

OTHER NRDS

None.

OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

None.

OTHERS IN ORDER SET BY CHAIRMAN

Josh Friesen, Wallace. Congratulates the board members on everything they have done and are in agreement to the suggested changes to the rules as being presented. Feels that most landowners and operators have become diligent with their water management.

Amanda Johnson, Hayes Center. Also expressed an agreement with the changes being presented and with Friesen's testimony.

Jay Schilling, McCook. Expressed concerns for removal of the hard cap and explained why.

Benjie Loomis, Maywood. Stated that he understood what Schilling was saying but is in more of an agreement with Friesen and Johnson.

Joe Anderjaska, Hayes Center. Feels it would be a wiser decision to wait for groundwater model that should be out in the next year before changing any of the rules.

Ben Widener, Wellfleet. In agreement with the proposed changes also feels like N-CORPE should be used more.

Receipt of Written Testimony was noted for the record.

1. NE Department of Natural Resources

The hearing was closed at 9:26 a.m. by Chairman Zink.

Stacie M. Owens
Secretary to the Board