



Perkins Chase and  
Dundy Counties  
Headquarters in Imperial

# Upper Republican NATURAL RESOURCE DISTRICT

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## **Board of Directors Regular Meeting November 8, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. 511 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Imperial, NE**

Agendas were sent to all Board Members and all others requesting agendas. Agendas were posted in the NRD Office in Imperial, the NRCS Offices in Grant and Imperial, and the FSA Office in Benkelman. The meeting was announced over KADL-Imperial, KRVN-Lexington and KOGA-Ogallala and published in area newspapers.

**Board Members Present:** Kerry Bernhardt, Loren Jessen, Jason Kunkel, Dean Large, Terry Martin, Tom Schroder, Tom Terryberry and Jeff Wallin

**Board Members Absent:** Bret Bullock and Tom Gaschler.

**NRD Staff:** Jasper Fanning, Bruce Curtis, Becca Monteith, Julia Franck and Deb Hayes.

**NRD Legal Counsel:** Joel Burke.

**Others present:** Andy Keep (NRCS), Kort Kemp and Brad Johnson.

### **Information mailed to Directors:**

Minutes of October 4, 2016 Board Meeting	Variance information
Agenda	

### **Information distributed at Board meeting:**

Agenda	Audit report
Minutes of October 4, 2016 Board meeting	NRCS report
Financial reports	Variance information

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 7:39 p.m.

Chairman Martin announced that the Open Meetings Act is posted if anyone would like to review them.

### **OPEN FORUMS:**

Guests, Board members and NRD staff were introduced.

Tom Gaschler and Brett Bullock is excused from tonight's meeting.

### **MINUTES:**

✚ Large moved to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2016 Regular Board meeting as presented. Seconded by Wallin.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 2-absent, 1-abstain. Motion carried.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The Manager presented the Financial Reports to the Board.

- ✚ Terryberry moved to approve the Treasurers report and to pay the Accounts Payable. Seconded by Wallin.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 2-absent. Motion carried.

Jasper presented the FY 15-16 audit report to the Board.

- ✚ Wallin moved to accept the auditor's report dated June 30, 2016. Seconded by Bernhardt.

Roll call vote: 8-yes, 2-absent. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No comments.

### **NRCS REPORT:**

Andy Keep presented the NRCS report and reviewed his written report. This report includes information on Conservation Funding that is available for irrigation improvements and that farmers have until November 18<sup>th</sup> to apply.

- ✚ Terryberry moved to approve the NRCS report of planning activity dated November 1, 2016 to include the Conservation plans as signed for Chase and Perkins County. Seconded by Wallin.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 1-abstain, 2-absent. Motion carried.

### **GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT/RULES AND REGULATIONS:**

Jasper reported to the Board the nitrate phases in the Groundwater Management plan and that Bruce Curtis and Becca Monteith had been working on the data from the water sampling results over the past year and gave a brief description of the presentation they are doing. The presentation is on nitrates in the Upper Republican NRD and consisted of the problem description, data collection, results, possible revisions to the Groundwater Management Plan and the conclusion.

Jasper reported to the Board on Wilder Farms and that they had been asked to be taken off the agenda. Jasper had sent a letter to them and their attorney showing what wells were authorized to be connected based on registrations and permits. They may have a purchase contract for the property and the new owner may come and make a request of the Board.

### **VARIANCE COMMITTEE:**

Jeff Wallin gave the Variance committee report. The Board of Educational Lands and Funds is requesting a variance to drill two new wells, one in the NE 1/4 and NW 1/4 of Section 36-12-40 in Perkins County. There will be no increase in irrigated acres or increase in net pumping.

- ✚ Jeff Wallin, Chairman of the Variance Committee, stated that it was the recommendation of the Variance Committee to approve the Variance request of Board of Educational Lands and Funds to drill a well on the NE 1/4 of 36-12-40 and a well on the NW 1/4 of 36-12-40 with the stipulations, that the allocation on the NW 1/4 36-12-40 well would be 93% of the District allocation, the 5-year historical use and the NW 1/4 and NE 1/4 of 36-12-40 carryforward would be reduced to 0 and would not be eligible to be pooled, together or with any other wells.

Roll call vote: 7-yes, 1-no, 2-absent. Motion carried. Voting yes: Kerry Bernhardt, Loren Jessen, Dean Large, Terry Martin, Tom Schroder, Tom Terryberry and Jeff Wallin. Voting no: Jason Kunkel. Absent: Brett Bullock and Tom Gaschler.

**REPORT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS:** None.

**LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:**

Joel reported that he is still waiting to hear from TERC. NCORPE briefs were due last month.

**REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN MEETING/COMPACT REPORT:**

Jasper reported that the three states met with Bureau of Reclamation and they are working on an MOU between the Nebraska Bostwick and Kansas Bostwick Irrigation Districts.

**AUGMENTATION PROJECTS:**

Todd is working on some maintenance items at Rock Creek property and getting the SCADA system moved over into the building.

NPPD emptied their canal for maintenance and requested Twin Platte NRD get their infrastructure constructed, which they just about have done.

**ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Jasper reported that there are no results from any of the grants yet. The grants that were feasible and met the minimum criteria have been sent to the Natural Resources Commission and all of our grants have made it through this process. Now we are waiting to see what the Commissions ranking and recommendations are. The NET grant won't be out for a while.

Jasper reported that Kansas let Nebraska know that the remaining compact compliance volume this fall that they weren't going to want any of that. Nebraska had a preliminary forecast that they had been working on and Kansas said instead of 15,000 acre feet that they will want 20,000 acre feet of additional water next year. So 20,000 acre feet is roughly the amount that Nebraska will have to take action to create for Kansas.

**INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT:** No report.

**LEGISLATION:** No report.

**STATE ASSOCIATION:** No report.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** No report.

Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 9:11 p.m. The next Regular Board meeting will be December 13, 2016 at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Terryberry  
Secretary/Treasurer