

MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, January 14, 2014, 1:30 p.m.
Tri-Basin NRD

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly board meeting of the Tri-Basin Natural Resources District (NRD) was called to order by Chairman David Nickel, at 1:30 p.m. Nickel noted Public Meeting Law is posted in the boardroom.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with thirteen directors present: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Nickel, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds and Winz. Notice of the meeting was published in the Holdrege Citizen, Bertrand Herald, Elwood Bulletin and the Minden Courier and announced over radio stations KRVN, Lexington and KUVR, Holdrege.

EXCUSE ABSENCES

There were no absences to excuse.

MINUTES

Thorburn presented the minutes of the December 10, 2013 Board Meeting.

Moved by Johnson, seconded by Bilka, to approve the minutes for the December 10, 2013 Regular Board of Directors Meeting. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Nickel, Olsen, Raffety and Reynolds

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Winz

ABSENT: None

FINANCIAL REPORT

Garrelts presented the financial report for the month of December 2013 as follows:

Accrual Expenditures for Month -----	\$163,077.71
Cash Expenditures for Month-----	\$164,084.89
Accrual Revenues for Month-----	\$84,783.24
Cash Revenues for Month-----	\$90,532.41
Bank Balance–December 31, 2013-----	\$19,554.95
Accounts Receivable – December 31, 2013-----	\$76,397.37
Investments – Pinnacle Bank – December 31, 2013-----	\$704,547.09
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – December 31, 2013-----	\$19,144.24
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – December 31, 2013-----	\$7,984.97
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – December 31, 2013-----	\$8,589.29
Fort Kearny IPA Balance – December 31, 2013-----	\$11,751.04
North Dry Creek IPA Balance – December 31, 2013-----	\$16,011.52
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance – December 31, 2013-----	\$23,013.88
Water Jamboree – December 31, 2013-----	\$1,743.78
NRRMDA – December 31, 2013-----	\$7,717.39

Moved by Raffety, seconded by Larson, to accept the December 2013 financial reports and file for audit. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Nickel, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

SPECIAL BILLS

Thorburn presented the VISA, HDR, and attorney bills for approval. Thorburn mentioned he hasn't received the final report from HDR yet. Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Bergstrom to approve the visa and attorney bills. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Nickel, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Nelson to approve payment of the HDR bill upon receipt of the final report. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Nickel, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

NRCS REPORT

FSA Farm Plans: There were no farm plans for approval.

Activity and Progress Report: Breece reported staff has been working on EQIP applications.

COST SHARE REPORT

Well Abandonment – Thorburn presented eleven Well Decommissioning Cost-Share applications. Moved by Winz, seconded by Johnson to approve Well Decommissioning Cost-share applications #72 to #82. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Nickel, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

NSWCP & NRD Applications – Thorburn presented fourteen NSWCP cost-share applications. Thorburn mentioned that NSWCP funds need to be obligated by February 28th of every year so he is recommending two irrigation applications for approval. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Winz to approve fourteen NSWCP Cost-share applications. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Nickel, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

Groundwater & Certified Acre Transfers – Thorburn presented seven groundwater transfer requests for Evan Fagan, Ruth Frith, Ryan Malcom, DASSO, LLC and Midwest Farming (3), ten irrigated acre transfer requests for Craig Philips, KJP Family Partnership, Stanley Smith (3), South Central Feeders, Eugene Trausch, Bruce Anderson and Paul Peterson (2). Andrew Phillips, Eugene Trausch, Paul Peterson and Nye Pelton were present to answer questions.

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Olsen to approve groundwater transfer requests for Evan Fagan, Ruth Frith, Ryan Malcom, DASSO, LLC and Midwest Farming (3). Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Nickel

ABSENT: None

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Bilka to approve certified irrigated acre transfer requests for Craig Philips, KJP Family Partnership, Stanley Smith (3), South Central Feeders, Eugene Trausch, Bruce Anderson and Paul Peterson (2). Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Nickel

ABSENT: None

Educational Land Leases – There were no educational land leases to approve.

OTHER BUSINESS

The public was given the opportunity to bring other specific business or non-agenda items before the board for comment and/or discussion.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Schedule Board Retreat: The Board Retreat will be held the morning of February 11, 2014 at 9:30 am. The agenda will include a presentation from HDR, review of Republican Basin augmentation projects, North Dry Creek Augmentation Well progress, personnel policy changes and by-law changes.

NARD REPORT

Consider \$1,000 Contribution to State Fair Ag Building: Thorburn explained that NARD is asking for \$1000 from each NRD for the Nebraska Building at the State Fair Park with a permanent exhibit for NRDs. Extension will man the building all year round.

Moved by Winz, seconded by Raffety to approve a \$1,000 contribution for the Nebraska Building to be paid for from the Information and Education budget line. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Nickel, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Schedule Executive Committee Meeting: The Executive Committee will meet February 7, 2014 at 10 am to discuss Personnel Policy changes and By-Laws changes.

STAFF REPORTS & NECESSARY ACTION

Board Directives to Staff: Nothing to report.

Out-of-State Travel: Moved by Olsen, seconded by Johnson to approve out-of-state travel for two directors to go to Washington DC for NARD Conference in March 2014. Motion carried.

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AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Nickel, Olsen and Raffety

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Reynolds and Winz

ABSENT: None

MONTHLY REPORTS

Republican Basin (NRRMD): Thorburn reported on Republican Basin Compact forecast meeting.

Platte Basin: Land Committee will meet February 25, 2014 at 9 a.m.

South Dry Creek: Annual IPA meeting set for February 28, 2014.

Sacramento Creek: Annual IPA meeting set for February 28, 2014.

Middle Lost Creek: Nothing to report.

Fort Kearny West: Nothing to report.

Fort Kearny: Annual IPA meeting set for February 28, 2014.

North Dry Creek: Annual IPA meeting set for February 28, 2014.

Whiskey Slough: Annual IPA meeting set for February 28, 2014.

Odessa IPA: Notice was filed with Phelps County Clerk showing apportionment of units of benefit. Annual IPA meeting set for February 28, 2014.

Lake Seldom: Nothing to report.

CoHyst/Platte Basin Coalition: CoHyst meets February 21, 2014 to explore cooperating with Platte River Recovery Program. Platte Basin Coalition meets February 3, 2014 in North Platte.

Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin: Preliminary cost estimate received. Land acquisition will be discussed in executive session.

CNPPID: Steinke reported Lake McConaughay is at elevation 3224 and 55% capacity.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Changes to Policies for NSWCP Cost-Share: Thorburn explained there is a considerable un-obligated balance for NSWCP funding. NDNR requires that NSWCP funds be completely obligated by February 28, 2014. Thorburn explained that because landowners get a higher cost-share rate on EQIP plans, NSWCP usage has declined. Thorburn reviewed a handout with options for using funds in in the next fiscal year. Reynolds suggested discussing the issue at the Board Retreat. Winz asked why atmometers are not cost-shareable. Thorburn said we could approach The Natural Resource Commission about adding them. Lundeen commented on grant funding received by Middle and Lower Republican to completely fund soil moisture sensors. Nickel asked that Thorburn put a proposal together for the natural resource commission to cost-share on atmometers.

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Lundeen to increase cost-share on flowmeters to 50% with a maximum payout of \$500 and increase cost share on soil moisture sensors in Phase III to a maximum of \$500 per parcel, effective July 1, 2014 and leave the maximum payout per landowner per year at \$3500. Motion withdrawn.

Moved by Winz, seconded by Reynolds to petition the Natural Resources Commission to cost-share on atmometers. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Nickel, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

PERSONNEL & LEGAL MATTERS

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Winz to move to executive session for the protection of the public to discuss property negotiations at 2:30 p.m. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Nickel, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Moved by Olsen, seconded by Johnson to move out of executive session for the protection of the public to discuss property negotiations at 3:12 p.m. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Nickel, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There were no comments or concerns.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBNRD Board Retreat and Regular Board Meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., respectively, on Tuesday, February 11, 2014 at Tri-Basin NRD, Holdrege, NE

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Brian Bergstrom, Joe Bilka, Todd Garrelts, Ed Harris, Phyllis Johnson, Joe Larson, Brad Lundeen, David Nelson, David Nickel, David Olsen, Dave Raffety, Larry Reynolds and Ray Winz.

OTHERS PRESENT

Carie Lynch, John Thorburn, Nicole Salisbury, Tammy Fahrenbruch, Nolan Little, Kevin Breece, Dave Ford, Lori Potter, Mary Smith, Paul Peterson, Nye Pelton, Eugene Trausch, Andrew Philips, Lee Wells,

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Respectfully Submitted:

Carie Lynch, Asst. Secretary

INDEX OF BOARD DECISIONS
 TRI-BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
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ID	Motion #	Category	Subject	Aye	Nay	Abs	Motion
	2014-01-14-01	Meeting Administration		12		1	<u>Moved by Johnson, seconded by Bilka, to approve the minutes for the December 10, 2013 Regular Board of Directors Meeting. Motion carried.</u>
	2014-01-14-02	Meeting Administration		13			<u>Moved by Raffety, seconded by Larson, to accept the December 2013 financial reports and file for audit. Motion carried.</u>
	2014-01-14-03	Meeting Administration		13			<u>Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Bergstrom to approve the visa and attorney bills. Motion carried.</u>
	2014-01-14-04	Budget		13			<u>Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Nelson to approve payment of the HDR bill upon receipt of the final report. Motion carried.</u>
	2014-01-14-05	Meeting Administration		13			<u>Moved by Winz, seconded by Johnson to approve Well Decommissioning Cost-share applications #72 to #82. Motion carried.</u>
	2014-01-14-06	Meeting Administration		13			<u>Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Winz to approve fourteen NSWCP Cost-share applications. Motion carried.</u>
	2014-01-14-07	Certifications & Transfers	Fagan, Frith, Malcom, Dasso and Midwest Farming	12		1	<u>Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Olsen to approve groundwater transfer requests for Evan Fagan, Ruth Frith, Ryan Malcom, DASSO, LLC and Midwest Farming (3). Motion carried.</u>
	2014-01-14-08	Certifications & Transfers	Philips, KJP, Smith, South Central Feeders, Trausch,	12		1	<u>Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Bilka to approve certified irrigated acre transfer requests for Craig Philips, KJP Family Partnership, Stanley Smith (3), South Central</u>

			Anderson and Peterson				<u>Feeders, Eugene Trausch, Bruce Anderson and Paul Peterson (2). Motion carried.</u>
2014-01-14-09	Budget		Nebraska Building	13			<u>Moved by Winz, seconded by Raffety to approve a \$1,000 contribution for the Nebraska Building to be paid for from the Information and Education budget line. Motion carried.</u>
2014-01-14-10	Meeting Administration			11		2	<u>Moved by Olsen, seconded by Johnson to approve out-of-state travel for two directors to go to Washington DC for NARD Conference in March 2014. Motion carried.</u>
2014-01-14-11	District Plans & Programs		Motion Withdrawn	13			<u>Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Lundeen to increase cost-share on flowmeters to 50% with a maximum payout of \$500 and increase cost share on soil moisture sensors in Phase III to a maximum of \$500 per parcel, effective July 1, 2014 and leave the maximum payout per landowner per year at \$3500. Motion withdrawn.</u>
2014-01-14-12	District Plans & Programs		Atmometers	13			<u>Moved by Winz, seconded by Reynolds to petition the Natural Resources Commission to cost-share on atmometers. Motion carried.</u>
2014-01-14-13	Meeting Administration			13			<u>Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Winz to move to executive session for the protection of the public to discuss property negotiations at 2:30 p.m. Motion carried.</u>
2014-01-14-14	Meeting Administration			13			<u>Moved by Olsen, seconded by Johnson to move out of executive session for the protection of the public to discuss property negotiations at 3:12 p.m. Motion carried.</u>