

**MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday, December 9, 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 1:31 p.m. Nickel noted Public Meeting Law is posted in the boardroom. Prior to the meeting a reception was held for Dave Nelson for twenty-seven years of service. A public hearing concerning changes to TBNRD's Chemigation Rules & Regulations was opened prior to this meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken with eleven directors present: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Nelson, Nickel, Raffety and Reynolds. 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**

Moved by Nelson, seconded by Lundeen, to excuse Bilka from the September and October 2014 board meetings. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Bilka

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

**MINUTES**

Thorburn presented the minutes of the November 13, 2014 Board Meeting. *(Nickel noted later that the Planning Committee minutes from November 12, 2014 will need to be approved in January 2015.)*

Moved by Larson, seconded by Garrelts, to approve the minutes for the November 13, 2014 Regular Board of Directors Meeting. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Bergstrom and Larson

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Garrelts presented the financial report for the month of November 2014 as follows:

Accrual Expenditures for Month -----	\$85,855.31
Cash Expenditures for Month-----	\$64,713.16
Accrual Revenues for Month-----	\$24,121.77
Cash Revenues for Month-----	\$19,782.26
Bank Balance–November 30, 2014-----	\$501,779.14
Accounts Receivable – November 30, 2014-----	\$2,049.24
Investments – Pinnacle Bank – November 30, 2014-----	\$610,771.81
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – November 30, 2014-----	\$18,803.10
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – November 30, 2014-----	\$9,326.55
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – November 30, 2014-----	\$10,700.09
Fort Kearny IPA Balance – November 30, 2014-----	\$11,481.05
North Dry Creek IPA Balance – November 30, 2014-----	\$16,210.23
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance – November 30, 2014-----	\$22,552.73
Water Jamboree – November 30, 2014-----	\$5,170.80
NRRMDA – November 30, 2014-----	\$7,622.36

Moved by Raffety, seconded by Larson, to accept the November 2014 financial reports and file for audit. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

#### **SPECIAL BILLS**

Thorburn presented the VISA and attorney bills for approval. Moved by Garrelts, seconded Bilka to approve the visa and attorney bills. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

#### **NRCS REPORT**

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

**Activity and Progress Report:** Scheele reported that staff has been working on completing CSP contracts with a deadline of December 12, 2014.

#### **COST SHARE REPORT**

**Well Abandonment** – Thorburn presented nineteen well decommissioning cost-share applications for approval. Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Larson to approve nineteen well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

**NSWCP & NRD Applications** – Thorburn presented seven NSWCP cost-share applications to approve. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Johnson to approve seven NSWCP cost-share applications. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

#### **GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT**

**Groundwater & Certified Acre Transfers** – Thorburn presented three irrigated acre transfer requests from Del Gustafson, Kathryn Vandell Life Estate and Gregory Alan Linder and a correction of certified irrigated acres for Gregory Alan Linder for approval. Tim Gustafson, Sharon Linder and Ryan Holt were present to answer questions.

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Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Lundeen to approve an irrigated acre transfer request for Del Gustafson, Kathryn M. Vandell Life Estate and Gregory Alan Linder et al Trustee. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety to approve a request for a correction to certified irrigated acres for Gregory Alan Linder et al, Trustee. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

**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**

**IWMS Activity Report- Scheele:** Scheele reported on Irrigation Water Management activities for 2014 which included NAWMN, Soil Moisture Sensors, EQIP, CSP, Ultrasonic Flowmeter measurements, Tri-Basin Irrigator and Nitrogen/Pesticide Management training.

**Review Proposed Recharge Agreements with CNPPID:** Thorburn presented two potential recharge agreements with CNPPID. One for Phelps Canal and one for E-65/Elwood Reservoir. The agreement for E-65/Elwood Reservoir is for one year and the Phelps County Canal is for five years. Both agreements would divert high flows from the Platte River when available. Costs increased from previous agreements and will increase again in one year. Thorburn commented that the E-65/Elwood Reservoir Canal agreement would be more useful for TBNRD than the Phelps Canal Agreement because the recharge is needed more in the Republican Basin. Nickel suggested discussing the contracts in executive session later in the meeting.

**Consider Approving Chemigation Program Rules (After Hearing):** This agenda item will be discussed later in the meeting after the public hearing is closed.

**Proposed Employee Wellness Program Incentives:** Thorburn mentioned that Pat Nott presented information about the proposed Employee Wellness Incentive Program. The directors asked for more information about the Points system. The points system rewards employees for activities related to nutrition, exercise, community service and other activities. Five points equals fifteen minutes of time and the maximum points that can be accumulate are one hundred sixty points for eight hours of Annual Leave. Information about the points was included in the Board Packet. Reynolds commented that some of the activities to earn points are a personal responsibility and not business related. Lynch explained the benefits of the wellness program. Bergstrom commented that the benefits out-weigh the cost to the District.

Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Johnson to approve the Employee Wellness Program Incentives.  
Motion carried.

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

NAY: Garrelts and Reynolds

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

#### **NARD REPORT**

**Legislative Conference Delegate and Alternate Delegate:** Reynolds commented that the NARD Legislative Conference will be held the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of January 2015. Reynolds commended staff on the recent press releases.

Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Lundeen to appoint Larry Reynolds as delegate and Dave Raffety as alternate delegate to the NARD Legislative Conference. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Raffety and Reynolds

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no committee reports.

#### **STAFF REPORTS & NECESSARY ACTION**

**Board Directives to Staff:** There was no staff report.

**Out-of-State Travel:** There was no out-of-state travel to approve.

#### **MONTHLY REPORTS**

**Republican Basin (NRRMDA):** Thorburn mentioned local stakeholders are needed for the Joint Integrated Management Plan committee for the Republican Basin Plan.

**Platte Basin:** Thorburn mentioned excess flows will be coming out of the South Platte River soon. TBNRD will be receiving an invoice for the second installment of the J-2 Reregulation Reservoir.

**South Dry Creek:** Nothing to report.

**Sacramento Creek:** Nothing to report.

**Middle Lost Creek:** Nothing to report.

**Fort Kearny West:** Nothing to report.

**Fort Kearny:** Nothing to report.

**North Dry Creek:** Landowner has asked for access gates.

**Whiskey Slough:** Nothing to report.

**Odessa IPA:** Thorburn presented pictures of construction progress.

**Lake Seldom:** Nothing to report

**CoHyst/Platte Basin Coalition:** Nothing to report.

**Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin:** Nothing to report.

**CNPPID:** Ford reported Lake McConaughay is at elevation 3246.6 or 71% of capacity.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Consider Approving Chemigation Program Rules (After Hearing):** Moved by Johnson, seconded by Lundeen to approve the Chemigation Program Rules and submit to Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Review NRD Sign Repair Proposals:** Thorburn mentioned that the TBNRD sign needs repair and \$2,000 was budgeted for the expense. He received bids from two companies: Miller Signs (\$2279) and Sign Center (\$1595). Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka to accept the bid from The Sign Center to repair the TBNRD sign. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

#### **PERSONNEL & LEGAL MATTERS**

Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka to move to executive session for the protection of the public to discuss contract negotiations at 2:46 p.m. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

Moved by Johnson, seconded by Lundeen to move out of executive session for the protection of the public to discuss contract negotiations at 3:26 p.m. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

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Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety to accept the E-65/Elwood Reservoir Agreement with CNPPID. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Larson to have legal counsel examine the Phelps County Canal Agreement. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Olsen and Winz

#### **COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

There were no comments or concerns.

#### **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting will be held 1:30 p.m., on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at Tri-Basin NRD

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

#### **DIRECTORS PRESENT**

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

#### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Russ Edeal, Richard Holloway, Sharon Linder, Ruth Nielsen, Lori Potter, Curtis Scheele, Tim Gustafson, Ryan Holt, Carie Lynch, John Thorburn, Nicole Salisbury, Tammy Fahrenbruch, Dave Ford, Nolan Little and Destinee Steinke.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Carie Lynch, Asst. Secretary

INDEX OF BOARD DECISIONS  
 TRI-BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
 December 9, 2014

ID	Motion #	Category	Subject	Aye	Nay	Abs	Motion
	2014-12-09-01	Meeting Administration		10		1	Moved by Nelson, seconded by Lundeen, to excuse Bilka from the September and October 2014 board meetings. Motion carried.
	2014-12-09-02	Meeting Administration		9		2	Moved by Larson, seconded by Garrelts, to approve the minutes for the November 13, 2014 Regular Board of Directors Meeting. Motion carried.
	2014-12-09-03	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Raffety, seconded by Larson, to accept the November 2014 financial reports and file for audit. Motion carried.
	2014-12-09-04	Budget		11			Moved by Garrelts, seconded Bilka to approve the visa and attorney bills. Motion carried.
	2014-12-09-05	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Larson to approve nineteen well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2014-12-09-06	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Johnson to approve seven NSWCP cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2014-12-09-07	Certification & Transfers	Gustafson, Linder and Vandell	11			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Lundeen to approve an irrigated acre transfer request for Del Gustafson, Kathryn M. Vandell Life Estate and Gregory Alan Linder et al Trustee. Motion carried.
	2014-12-09-08	Certification & Transfers	Linder	11			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety to approve a request for a correction to certified irrigated acres for Gregory Alan Linder et al, Trustee. Motion carried.

	2014-12-09-09	Personnel	Wellness Points Program	9	2		Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Johnson to approve the Employee Wellness Program Incentives. Motion carried.
	2014-12-09-10	Directors	NARD Leg. Conf.	9		2	Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Lundeen to appoint Larry Reynolds as delegate and Dave Raffety as alternate delegate to the NARD Legislative Conference. Motion carried.
	2014-12-09-11	District Plans & Programs	Chemigation Rules	11			Moved by Johnson, seconded by Lundeen to approve the Chemigation Program Rules and submit to Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality. Motion carried.
	2014-12-09-12	Budget	Building Sign Repair	11			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka to accept the bid from The Sign Center to repair the TBNRD sign. Motion carried.
	2014-12-09-13	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka to move to executive session for the protection of the public to discuss contract negotiations at 2:46 p.m. Motion carried.
	2014-12-09-14	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Johnson, seconded by Lundeen to move out of executive session for the protection of the public to discuss contract negotiations at 3:26 p.m. Motion carried.
	2014-12-09-15	Agreements	CNPPID E-65/Elwood Reservoir	11			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety to accept the E-65/Elwood Reservoir Agreement with CNPPID. Motion carried.
	2014-12-09-16	Agreements	Phelps Canal	11			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Larson to have legal counsel examine the Phelps County Canal Agreement. Motion carried.