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*Natural Resources District*

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## NEWS RELEASE

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# Tri-Basin NRD Approves Lower Tax Levy, Lower Budget

Tri-Basin Natural Resources District's (TBNRD) board of directors took the final step in approving a significantly lower budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year at their September board meeting on Tuesday. Directors held a public hearing to set a tax levy different from the previous fiscal year. Following the hearing, directors approved a tax levy of .027655, or 2.7 cents per \$100 valuation, for the 2017-18 fiscal year, which is a significant decrease from the 2016-17 asking of .039374. In addition, the overall 2017-18 fiscal year budget reflects a 28 percent reduction in tax asking versus last year's budget. TBNRD directors approved the budget at their August meeting, following a public hearing.

"It's a top priority for our district to not only conserve and protect our natural resources, but to also conserve the financial resources available to us," said TBNRD Manager John Thorburn.

In other business, Tri-Basin NRD directors approved a two-year agreement with Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District (CNPPID) to divert high flows from the Platte River for the purpose of groundwater recharge and the offset of depletions to streamflows. Previously, diversion agreements have been only one year terms.

Tri-Basin NRD directors appointed Jim Bendfeldt from Central Platte NRD as their Joint NRD Representative for the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (PRRIP) Land Advisory Committee. Tri-Basin's manager, John Thorburn, will serve as the alternate Joint NRD Representative to the committee.

Board members also approved one application to convert livestock facility acres to irrigated crop ground, one groundwater transfer application, and one application for well decommissioning cost-share funds.

Tri-Basin NRD's next Board of Directors meeting will be Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room at Tri-Basin NRD, 1723 Burlington St., Holdrege, Nebraska.

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