

**MINUTES**  
**LOWER REPUBLICAN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**  
Lower Republican NRD Meeting Room, 30 North John Street, Alma, NE  
September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7:00 pm

**FY2019 Budget Hearing & Board of Directors Meeting**

A notice of the meeting was published on the District Website at [www.lnrnd.org](http://www.lnrnd.org).

**FY2019 BUDGET HEARING**

The Lower Republican NRD FY2019 Budget Hearing was called to order by Vice Chairperson Bill Bose at 7:00 p.m. The notice to this hearing was published in the District newspapers. Highlights of the LRNRD FY2019 budget were presented. A copy of the budget was available for review. County Valuations were reviewed and the amount of property tax needed is \$1,349,340, levy is 0.033187 cents per \$100.

Directors present: Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Absent: Marlin Murdoch, Terry Hoit.

Others present: Jerry Kovarik, NRCS, Andy Raun, Hasting Tribune, Duane Murdoch. Staff present: Todd Siel, Scott Dicke, Shirlee Poyser, Kristen Heft.

Vice Chairperson Bill Bose adjourned the budget hearing at 7:05 p.m.

**Monthly Board Meeting**

Vice Chairperson Bill Bose called the meeting of the Lower Republican NRD Board of Directors to order at 7:15 p.m. Guests were asked to sign the attendance roster. The vice chairperson provided notice that the location of the current copy of the statutes dealing with public meetings laws is located on the south wall and the booklet with the information is provided to all directors.

Directors present: Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Absent: Marlin Murdoch, Terry Hoit.

Others present: Jerry Kovarik, NRCS, Andy Raun, Hasting Tribune, Duane Murdoch. Staff present: Todd Siel, Scott Dicke, Shirlee Poyser, Kristen Heft.

**MATERIAL EMAILED OUT PRIOR TO THE MEETING & MADE PUBLIC AT THE MEETING**

Agenda

LRNRD Board Meeting and Index of Decisions, 8/18

LRNRD/RWP Treasurer's Report, 8/18

NRCS/LRNRD Staff Reports

Variance Request #271

NRD Pickup Bids information

Republican River Basinwide Plan draft

**Comments from the Public:** None.

**Motion #1 by Toby tenBensel seconded by Nelson Trambly to approve the board and variance minutes.**

**Motion carried.** Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2.

**Motion #2 by Matt Harrison seconded by Toby tenBensel to approve the LRNRD and RWP Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.** Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2.

Jerry Kovarik gave the NRCS report. Jerry reviewed that NRCS is working on RCPP, CSP EQIP contracts.

Managers Todd Siel and Scott Dicke reviewed details of the written staff report. The Platte Republican Diversion application comment period has ended. Comments were received from entities indicating support for the project along with comments indicating concern. The PRD commonly shares some of the concerns raised. The 2018 Annual Meeting of the Republican River Compact Administration (RRCA) was held at the Kansas Department of Ag office in Manhattan, KS in August. LRNRD attended both the formal meeting and the working session held beforehand.

Manager Todd Siel presented the 2019 Chevy pick-up bids.

**Motion #3 by Brad Wulf seconded by Nelson Trambly to accept the 2019 Chevy pick-up bid from Alexander Motors of Superior in the amount of \$16,938, including the trade-in of the LRNRD's 2013 Chevy Pick-up.**

**Motion carried.** Ayes 8, Nays 1, Absent 2.

Variance Request #271 F. Murdoch Ranch & Farms & Murdoch Family Limited.

**Motion #4 by Nelson Trambly seconded by Clark Andrews to approve variance request #271 F. Murdoch Ranch & Farms/Murdoch Family Limited. Motion carried.** Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2.

Todd Siel presented the FY2019 LRNRD Budget for approval.

**Motion #5 by Tim Kahrs seconded by Dave Bartels to approve the FY2019 Budget. Motion carried.** Ayes 8, Nays 1, (Bose) Absent 2.

Todd Siel presented the FY2019 1% restricted funds authority.

**Motion #6 by Tim Kahrs seconded by Nelson Trambly to approve the 1% increase in Restricted Funds Authority. Motion carried.** Ayes 9 Nays 0, Absent 2.

Todd Siel presented the Republican River Basinwide Plan draft. Todd explained that approval will be for the full combined RRBWP draft. Then the RRBWP draft will be presented at a public hearing, modifications can be made during this time. The public hearing is scheduled for November 2018. TBNRD, MRNRD, URNRD have approved the proposed full combined draft.

**Motion #7 by Brad Wulf seconded by Nelson Trambly to approve the Republican River Basinwide Plan draft. Motion carried.** Ayes 7, Nays 2, (Bose, Kahrs) Absent 2.

Invasive Species Council will meet in September to discuss the Eastern Red Cedar Trees. The Natural Resources Committee passed a legislative resolution (LR 387) to have an interim study done concerning Eastern Red Cedar Trees. Testimonies were received. NARD's Dean Edson provided a summary of the policies on ERC. Edson stated that the focus is on proper management, such as education and resource materials provided to landowners. Policies will range from cost-sharing for planting, to no cost-share depending on the needs and desires for the local Landowner. Most importantly, management is the responsibility of the

landowner. Lastly, the committee was asked to allow the NRDs to provide management options to landowners.

Platte Republican Diversion application comment period has ended. Those who wanted to have input on our application could submit comments under Option 1. Option 2 provides objectors an avenue to request a hearing based on standing. Comments are currently being reviewed by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources. The NRD is working with consultants and legal counsel on the response back to the State.

The NCORPE board meeting was held on August 15<sup>th</sup> in Curtis. The LRNRD was represented by Todd Siel, Scott Dicke, and Director Nelson Trambly. Jim Schneider (Olsson Associates) presented a model update, explaining the added benefit of using Airborne electromagnetic (AEM) data in our groundwater model. This step will significantly increase the model's accuracy. Bill Sellers provided a report on reseeding and discussed the options regarding seeding rate and the possible mixes of grass seed. Also, Robert Kreiser of RSM, was in attendance and distributed the draft of their 3<sup>rd</sup> part audit for review.

Other Business – none.

**Motion #8 by Clark Andrews seconded by Tim Kahrs to move that the Board go into Executive session at 8:18 p.m. to discuss contractual negotiations. Motion carried. Chairman admonished the board that this is the only subject that can be discussed in closed session.** Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2.

**Motion #9 by Brad Wulf seconded by Nelson Trambly to move that the Board come out of Executive Session at 8:58p.m. and declare that no actions of the board, official or unofficial, were taken during said Closed Session. Motion carried.** Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2.

**Motion #10 by Brad Wulf seconded by Nelson Trambly to take over ownership of three (3) wells from the Village of Hardy. Registration Numbers G-112486, G-112487, G-112488. Motion carried.** Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date