

MINUTES
LOWER REPUBLICAN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Lower Republican NRD Meeting Room, 30 North John Street, Alma, NE
March 12th, 2009
Board of Directors Meeting

A notice of the meeting was announced over radio station KRVN and published in the newspapers within the District.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL MAILED OUT PRIOR TO MEETING:

1. Agenda, Monthly Board Meeting, 3/12/09
2. LRNRD Board Meeting Minutes and Index of Decisions, 2/12/09
3. Treasurer's Report, 2/28/09
4. Budget Comparison, 2/28/09
5. Managers Report, 3/5/09
6. Arbitration Schedule, 3/4/09
7. Assistant Managers Report, 3/4/09
8. SPA Sample Results, 3/4/09
9. Republican River Basin Coalition Report, 3/09
10. LRNRD Wellness Plan, 3/09
11. Water Wells: Active Versus Inactive Registration Status, 3/09
12. Change in Location on Contiguous Property, 3/09
 - a. Lois Potter
13. Rule 7-2 Allocation
14. Rural Water Treasurer Report, 2/28/09
15. AWEF Proposal, 3/09
16. LRNRD – NARD Testimony on LB582 & LB 98
17. NARD Bill Summary Tracking Sheet
18. NARD Update, 2/09
19. Application for Permit to Construct a Well in the LRNRD
20. LRNRD NSWCP Cost Share Report, 3/09

MATERIALS HANDED OUT AT THE MEETING:

1. Agenda, 3/09
2. 2009 SW NE Water Conference Brochure
3. Change in Location on Contiguous Property, 3/09
 - a. Margie Howsden
 - b. K.C. Farms/Kevin Choquette
 - c. Richard Hersh
4. LRNRD Testimony on LB681

Chairperson Nelson Trambly called the regular monthly meeting of the Lower Republican NRD Board of Directors to order at 8:00 p.m.

Directors present: Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Brian Holtze, Jim Moore, Roger Nelson, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Absent: Bill Bose, Marlin Murdoch.

Nelson Trambly informed the audience of the Open Meetings Laws posters posted in the meeting room.

Others present: Ginger Jensen, Kearney Hub, Nick Simonson, Harlan Co. NRCS, Traci Witthuhn, Republican River Basin Coordinator, Brad Edgerton, Frenchman Cambridge Irrigation District, Cambridge. Staff present: Mike Clements, Bryan Lubeck, Shirlee Poyser, Kristi Coe.

Motion #1 by Brad Wulf seconded by Matt Harrison to accept the board minutes as presented from the February board meeting. Motion carried. Roll Call – 9 Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Brian Holtze, Jim Moore, Roger Nelson, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf. Nays – 0. Absent - 2 Bill Bose, Marlin Murdoch.

Motion #2 by Jim Moore seconded by Brad Wulf to accept the February treasurer's report as distributed. Motion carried. Roll Call – 9 Dave Bartels, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Brian Holtze, Jim Moore, Roger Nelson, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews. Nays – 0. Absent - 2 Bill Bose, Marlin Murdoch.

The staff reports had been distributed prior to the meeting and are in the minute book. Michael Clements presented the idea of the LRNRD having an Annual Water Conference. Several NRD's already have one of their own conferences and Mike believes it would be a benefit to our District. Michael Clements updated the board on the Arbitration Schedule. Bryan Lubeck discussed the nitrate sampling from the district and posed questions from the board. A copy of this report is in the minute book.

Bill Bose and Marlin Murdoch entered at 8:10 p.m.

Nick Simonson gave the NRCS report.

Traci Witthuhn presented the Republican River Basin Coalition Report. The NRRMDA meeting will be April 3rd in Imperial. There will be a Coalition meeting that same day.

Shirlee Poyser gave the LRNRD Wellness Plan report. A copy of this report is in the minute book.

Motion #3 by Roger Nelson seconded by Terry Hoit to approve the LRNRD to participate in the NARD Wellness Program and approve paying the employee portion of the blood chemistry profile. Motion carried. Roll Call – 11 Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Brian Holtze, Jim Moore, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels. Nays – 0. Absent - 0.

Brad Edgerton, Frenchman Cambridge Irrigation District, talked to the board about water transfers and he agrees with the LRNRD that transfers should not be allowed.

Mike Clements reported that DNR has changed their policy on inactive wells. DNR now requires that wells only have to have a water tight cover but do not have to have the pump removed. Mike asked the board if they want to change our rules to reflect the changes that DNR has made. Kristi Coe feels that a meter needs to be present so we know that the well is definitely not being used.

Motion #4 by Brad Wulf seconded by Matt Harrison to update our rules and regulations to adhere to the new DNR policy pertaining to inactive wells. Once approved all inactive wells that have the pump and pumping column removed do not have to have a flow meter. If the pump and pumping column are left in place the well can still be changed to inactive status but must have a flow meter and must adhere to existing requirements pertaining to inactive wells. Motion carried. Roll Call – 10 Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Brian Holtze, Jim Moore, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels. Nays – 1 Bill Bose. Absent - 0.

Kristi Coe presented the Change in Location of Certified Acres on Contiguous Property.

Motion #5 by Bill Bose seconded by Matt Harrison to approve Lois Potter, Margie Howsden, K.C. Farms/Kevin Choquette and Richard Hersh's Change in Location of Certified Acres on Contiguous Property. Motion carried. Roll Call – 11 Terry Hoit, Brian Holtze, Jim Moore, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison. Nays – 0. Absent - 0.

There was no Rural Water update.

Motion #6 by Bill Bose seconded by Jim Moore to approve the Rural Water treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried. Roll Call – 11 Brian Holtze, Jim Moore, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit. Nays – 0. Absent - 0.

Mike Clements briefly talked about the AWEP (Agricultural Water Enhancement Program). The AWEP proposal combines federal and local funds to supplement temporary dryland conversion periods. In addition, AWEP offers a partnership to reduce water consumption and related depletions to the Republican River surface water flows in the LRNRD. This conversion program would complement a basin wide effort to reduce irrigated acres, promoting stream flow sustainability. The AWEP Program will be submitted to NRCS officials for final approval on April 1st. Starting in fiscal year 2009-2010, Mike asked the board to budget \$100,000 over the next four years for the AWEP program.

Motion #7 by Bill Bose seconded by Brian Holtze to contribute \$100,000 over the next 4 years to the AWEP Program. Motion carried. Roll Call – 11 Jim Moore, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Brian Holtze. Nays – 0. Absent - 0.

Roger Nelson attended an NARD meeting in Lincoln. Roger feels the relationships of the NRD's are lots better. Issues of the LRNRD are now becoming other NRD's issues. NRD's are starting to realize what the LRNRD has been through. Husker Harvest Days was discussed as well as the Envirothon. The NARD November board meeting will be at the LRNRD.

The Executive Committee met and has been working on the AWEP Proposal.

Bryan Lubeck reported that groundwater testing in the Groundwater Management Area will start next week.

There was no Groundwater Management Committee report.

There was one approved Application for a Permit to Construct a Well.

There were no Wild NE Applications.

Mike Clements was asked by Trailblazer RC&D if he would be the voting alternate for the LRNRD. This is if LRNRD representatives are not able to attend Mike can vote for the district.

Motion #8 Jim Moore seconded by Brad Wulf to approve Mike Clements as the Trailblazer Alternate. Motion carried. Roll Call – 11 Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Brian Holtze, Jim Moore. Nays – 0. Absent - 0.

Motion #9 by Marlin Murdoch seconded by Bill Bose to approve the Cost Share Time Extensions as presented. Motion carried. Roll Call – 11 Roger Nelson, Nelson Trambly, Brad

Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Matt Harrison, Bill Bose, Terry Hoit, Brian Holtze, Jim Moore, Marlin Murdoch,. Nays – 0. Absent - 0.

H576	Terry Woollen	May 12, 2009
H579	George McNiel	May 27, 2009
W460	Francis Schroer	June 16, 2009
W458	Doris L. Kosse	May 28, 2009
H581	Donald Christensen	June 12, 2009
W454	Victor R. Thayer	June 12, 2009

Other business: Roger Nelson asked if it would possible to start meetings at 7 p.m. instead of 8 p.m.

Motion #11 by Marlin Murdoch seconded by Bill Bose to go into Executive Session at 9:17 p.m. to discuss possible Litigation on the Republican River Settlement Agreement and Possible Litigation for Rules Violations. Motion carried. Roll Call – 11 Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Matt Harrison, Bill Bose, Terry Hoit, Brian Holtze, Jim Moore, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Nelson Trambly. Nays – 0. Absent - 0.

Motion #12 Jim Moore seconded by Matt Harrison to come out of executive session at 9:48 p.m. and declare that no actions of the board, official or unofficial, were taken during said Closed Session. Motion carried. Roll Call – 11 Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Matt Harrison, Bill Bose, Terry Hoit, Brian Holtze, Jim Moore, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf. Nays – 0. Absent - 0.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be April 9th at 7 p.m.

Chairperson Nelson Trambly adjourned the meeting at 9:48 p.m.

Secretary

Date