

**MINUTES**  
**LOWER REPUBLICAN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**  
30 John Street, Alma, NE  
Immediately following the Variance Hearing  
December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014 @ 2PM

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL MAILED OUT PRIOR TO THE MEETING**

1. Agenda, 12/14
2. LRNRD Board Meeting, Variance Hearing Minutes, & Index of Decisions, 11/14
3. Treasurer's Report, 11/14
4. Assistant Manager's Report
5. Variance Request –
  - a.) **ROB HINRICH #224 & #225**
6. Change in Location of Certified Acres on Contiguous Property
  - A.) **DALE ASCHE**
  - C.) **KEO RANCH, LLC**
  - B.) **LYLE MERTENS**
  - D.) **PETERSON LIVESTOCK, INC.**
7. N-CORPE Budget Comparison & Treasurer's report 11/14
8. Rural Water District Treasurer Report, 11/14

**MATERIALS HANDED OUT AT THE MEETING:**

1. Agenda, 12/14
2. Manager's Report & NRCS Report

Chairperson Marlin Murdoch called the meeting of the Lower Republican NRD Board of Directors to order at 2:00PM. Murdoch noted that guests should sign the attendance roster and noted the location of a current copy of the statutes dealing with public meetings laws and the booklet with the information provided to directors.

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

Absent: Bill Bose, Terry Hoit.

Others present: Jerry Kovarik, NRCS, Troy Fletcher, Oxford, Andy Raun, Hasting Tribune, Robin Hinrichs, Axtell, Tammy Fahrenbruch, Tri-Basin NRD. Staff present: Mike Clements, Scott Dicke, Shirlee Poyser and Kristi Heft.

**Motion #1 by Nelson Trambly seconded by Clark Andrews to go into executive session at 2:03pm to discuss Bostwick Lawsuit. Motion carried.** Ayes 9 – Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf. Nays 0. Absent 2 - Bill Bose, Terry Hoit.

**Motion#2 by Toby tenBensel seconded by Clark Andrews move that the Board come out of Executive session at 2:14pm and declare that no actions of the board, official or unofficial, were taken during said Closed Session. Motion carried.** Ayes 9 – Dave Bartels, Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews. Nays 0. Absent 2 - Bill Bose, Terry Hoit.

**Motion #3 by Brad Wulf seconded by Matt Harrison to approve the November Board, and Variance Minutes as presented. Motion carried.** Ayes 9 – Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels. Nays 0. Absent 2 - Bill Bose, Terry Hoit.

**Motion #4 by Matt Harrison seconded by Roger Nelson to approve the LRNRD Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.** Ayes 9 – Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels. Nays 0. Absent 2 - Bill Bose, Terry Hoit.

Mike Clements manager's report was distributed at the meeting. Mike briefly discussed the Legislative Conference coming up in January and encouraged the directors to attend.

Scott Dicke gave his Assistant Manager's report. He attended the Climate Resilient Agriculture meeting in Holdrege, The Republican River Restoration Partnership meeting in Oberlin, KS and the Nebraska Water Resources Association

(NWRA) and Nebraska State Irrigation Association (NSIA) conference in Kearney. Technicians update: The flow meters are read with a few stragglers to be reviewed. Soon the technicians will be working flow meter maintenance and soil moisture sensors for the winter. Water samples in the SPA have been collected and Dick Chrisman is transitioning to the rural water.

The NRCS report was distributed at the meeting. A copy of this report is in the minute book.

Mike discussed the Field Technician vacancy with the board. Mike reported that we had six applicants and they were interviewing four. Interviews were also completed in Franklin for the Field Office Secretary position. The position has been filled by Gina Welsh.

Mike inquired purchasing new desks for the Manager, Assistant Manager and the I&E Secretary.

**Motion #5 by Clark Andrews seconded by Roger Nelson to approve purchasing new desks for the Manager, Assistant Manager and the I&E Secretary. Motion carried.** Ayes 9 –Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Matt Harrison. Nays 0. Absent 2 - Bill Bose, Terry Hoit.

**Motion #6 by Nelson Trambly seconded by Brad Wulf to approve all Change in Location of Certified Acres on Contiguous Property for: Dale Asche, KEO Ranch, LLC, Peterson livestock, Inc. and to approve Lyle Mertens with the request that there is a pivot stop installed so that the acres converted to dry are not watered. Motion carried.** Ayes 9 – Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Matt Harrison. Nays 0. Absent 2 - Bill Bose, Terry Hoit.

Mike Clements requested additional time for the board to gather more data and that these variances be tabled for another month.

**Motion #7 by Clark Andrews seconded by Tim Kahrs to table Variance Requests #224 & 225 for Robin Hinrichs until the January board meeting. Motion carried.** Ayes 9 – Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs. Nays 0. Absent 2 - Bill Bose, Terry Hoit.

Dave Bartels gave a brief update on the NCORPE project. NRD Managers interviewed four candidates for the NCORPE Manager's position. A candidate was selected but turned down the opportunity. Interviews will be conducted again by the NCORPE board. There was discussion on coming up with a formula for each NRD who is using the project. Most of the usage out of the project was for the LRNRD this last year. Some maintenance in the shop is needed as the heater went out. They are looking at installing radiant heat to be more efficient. The house is in need up some updates also.

There were no comments from the public.

Roger Nelson gave the NARD update. Roger said that we need to do more to get people better informed on what the NRD's do. Roger also updated the board on health insurance and stated that the NARD is charged between \$40,000 - \$50,000 per year for the Obama Care Belly Button tax. The NARD health insurance brings in around \$450,000-\$470,000 per month.

There were no Rural Water updates. Mike thanked Scot Lennemann for his work on the Rural Water Project the last few years.

**Motion #8 by Brad Wulf seconded by Matt Harrison to approve the Rural Water Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.** Ayes 9 – Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch. Nays 0. Absent 2 - Bill Bose, Terry Hoit.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45PM.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be January 8<sup>th</sup> at 2PM at the Lower Republican NRD office.

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Secretary

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Date