

MINUTES
LOWER REPUBLICAN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Lower Republican NRD Meeting Room, 30 North John Street, Alma, NE
November 8th, 2018 at 7:00 pm

Board of Directors Meeting

A notice of the meeting was published on the District Website at www.lrnrd.org.

Chairperson Marlin Murdoch called the meeting of the Lower Republican NRD Board of Directors to order with prayer at 7:00 PM. Guests were asked to sign the attendance roster. The chairman 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: Dave Bartels, Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Roger Nelson, Marlin Murdoch, Toby tenBensel, Nelson Trambly.

Absent: Clark Andrews, Bill Bose, Terry Hoit, Brad Wulf.

Others present: Jerry Kovarik, NRCS, Carl Wolfe, Republican City, RaeEllen Syverson. Staff present: Todd Siel, Scott Dicke, Kristen Heft.

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

Agenda
LRNRD Board Meeting and Index of Decisions
LRNRD/RWP Treasurer's Report
LRNRD Staff Report
NCORPE Budget

Comments from the Public: Carl Wolfe, presented a Proposal to Rejuvenate Harlan County Reservoir. A copy of this proposal is in the minute book.

Motion #1 by Tim Kahrs seconded by Roger Nelson to approve the October Board minutes. Motion carried.
Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 4.

Motion #2 by Toby tenBensel seconded by Nelson Trambly to approve the LRNRD and RWP Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried. Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 4.

Jerry Kovarik gave the NRCS report. NRCS is working on CSP renewals, and RCPP.

Managers Todd Siel and Scott Dicke reviewed the written staff report. Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Toby tenBensel, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf, and Roger Nelson were all up for re-election. Roger Nelson had the only contested position in the election and all six Directors were re-elected to the LRNRD board. The LRNRD Public Hearing for the proposed Republican River Basin-Wide Plan will be held November 14th, 2018 at 4:00 PM in the LRNRD office at Alma. The Department of Natural Resources, along with the four Republican Basin NRDs, are conducting public hearings to provide an opportunity for any interested person to present written or oral testimony concerning the proposed Basin-Wide Plan.

Nebraska Bostwick's automated gate project is in the final stages of construction. Rubicon and Bostwick staff are on pace to complete installation of the remaining gates before December 31, 2018. A total of 74 gates

will be installed on the Franklin Canal when completed and we are pleased to play a part in a project which will improve water conditions in our district and help meet compact obligations.

There was a Republican River Compact Administration (RRCA) special meeting in Denver, CO. It was to approve an amendment regarding the Colorado Compliance Pipeline and Accounting for Colorado's Compliance efforts in the South Fork of the Republican River basin. Colorado has been working with the Farm Service Agency on CREP as part of their compliance with Kansas and RRCA. They are trying to retire 25,000 acres through CREP: 10,000 acres of retirement in 2024 and then another 15,000 acres retired by 2029. Currently with that resolution, it acknowledges a little bit of time changes that were originally set out in the 2016 resolutions. Since there is no Farm Bill, this allows for flexibility. New business was to assign an Engineering committee to take the accounting procedures that were agreed upon in the 2016 resolution and formally move those into the rules and regulations for accounting into the RRCA permanently.

Phelps County Museum applied and received a grant to host a Smithsonian traveling exhibit November 18th – December 21, 2018. The title of the exhibit is: "Water/Ways" – a comprehensive look at all things related to water as an essential component of life on our planet.

The WaterSmart Grant kickoff meeting was held on November 7th. This is for remote read flow meters and a real time remote hand app for irrigators. By having this information available, it would reduce the number of calls and questions Kristi receives on "how much water have I used".

Maclane Scott is working on a Grain Bag Recycling Grant. An online survey will be done, helping us to collect information necessary for a recycler to come and help assess what needs to be done. Information would also be put in the newsletter.

Tire recycling was held in Hildreth and Red Cloud on Friday, November 2nd. Then held again on Monday, November 5th in Alma. Over 75 tons of tires were received in Alma and Champlin Recycling, of Concordia, KS picked them up on November 7th and 8th. They will pick up at the other sites next week.

South Central Water Conference will be February 5th, 2019.

Todd Siel reviewed the details on the three (3) Village of Hardy Wells. The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), owns the land where the Village of Hardy wells are located, neither have records of an agreement for an easement or ingress and egress access to those wells. In order to, obtain an agreement, with the Village of Hardy, that states that the LRNRD is going to buy these three (3) wells, we spoke to our local attorney to come up with an agreement. We will execute an agreement that will address the easement or ingress and egress. This will only be an assignment, if anyone finds documentation, they will know that these wells have been assigned to the LRNRD. The BOR supports the LRNRD and will come up with an agreement regarding access to the wells.

IT Service Contract: Nex-Tech is currently our IT service provider and the current IT Service Contract with them has expired. NexTech has submitted a quote to continue the Technology As A Service (TaaS) Contract and this new contract will provide new hardware, new server, and computers at the current price of \$1,339 per month with a five-year commitment. The FY2019 budget, included the Service Contract and 3 new computers. We have a separate contract for our 3 Surface Pro tablets, at \$300 per month, which will be rolled into the TaaS agreement.

NCORPE: The FY2019 draft budget was approved by the NCORPE board at the October meeting. It was requested that each NRD board also approve the draft budget and then at the November 15th NCORPE board meeting, the final version will be approved. The LRNRD in-kind balance is \$386,837.

Motion #3 by Tim Kahrs seconded by Roger Nelson to approve the NCORPE FY2019 budget as presented. Motion carried. Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 4.

NARD Report: Roger Nelson reported that there will be a NARD Board Meeting on November 12th, in Holdrege.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be December 13th, 2018 at 2p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Secretary

Date

Recorded and Distributed by: Shirlee Poyser, Administrative Assistant
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