

MINUTES
LOWER REPUBLICAN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Lower Republican NRD Meeting Room, 30 North John Street, Alma, NE
September 10, 2020 at 7:00 pm

Board of Directors Meeting

A Notice of Budget Hearing & Summary Hearing, and Public Meeting Notice was published in the Harlan County Journal on September 3rd, 2020 and on the District Website at www.lrnrd.org.

FY2021 BUDGET HEARING & SUMMARY PUBLIC HEARING

The Lower Republican NRD FY21 Budget Hearing was called to order by Chairperson Marlin Murdoch at 7:00 p.m. The notice to this hearing was published in the District newspapers on September 3, 2020. Highlights of the LRNRD FY21 budget were presented by Todd Siel. Copies of the budget were available for review. County Valuations were reviewed, and the amount of property tax asking is set at \$1,349,340; levy is 0.034738 cents per \$100 of assessed value. There were no questions or comments from the public.

Excused Absences: Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Directors present: Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel.

Others present: Jerry Kovarik, NRCS, John Lush, Wilcox, Gale Lush, Wilcox, Alexander Lush, Wilcox, Jay Spearman, Piper Sandler & Co. Omaha, NE.

Staff present at LRNRD office: Todd Siel, Scott Dicke, Shirlee Poyser and Kristen Heft

LRNRD BOARD MEETING

Chairperson Marlin Murdoch called the meeting of the Lower Republican NRD Board of Directors to order with an invitation to prayer at 7:14 pm. Guests were asked to sign the attendance roster. The chairperson provided notice that the location of the current copy of the statutes dealing with public meetings laws is located on the south wall.

Excused Absences: Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Directors present: Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel.

Others present: Jerry Kovarik, NRCS, John Lush, Wilcox, Gale Lush, Wilcox, Alexander Lush, Wilcox, Jay Spearman, Piper Sandler & Co. Omaha, NE.

Staff present at LRNRD office: Todd Siel, Scott Dicke, Shirlee Poyser and Kristen Heft

MATERIAL E-MAILED OUT PRIOR TO THE MEETING & AVAILABLE AT THE MEETING

Agenda

Variance Request Alexander Lush, #286

LRNRD Board Meeting, Index of Decisions, 8/20

LRNRD/RWP Treasurer's Report, 8/20

Staff Report, NRCS & LRNRD

FY2021 Budget Breakdown

Comments from the Public: None

Motion #1 by Roger Nelson seconded by Terry Hoit to approve the LRNRD Board Minutes from the August board meeting. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, absent 2 – Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Motion #2 by Clark Andrews seconded by Bill Bose to approve the August treasurer's report. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, absent 2 – Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

NRCS Report: Jerry Kovarik gave the NRCS report. Jerry discussed EQIP, RCPP, CStwP and staffing in the LRNRD NRCS Field Offices. A copy of this report is in the Minute book.

LRNRD Staff Report: The NRD staff report was emailed out prior to the meeting. The Platte-Republican Diversion project has been discussing and working on changes to the Water Services Agreement (WSA). The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR) requested clarification on language in the document. The Water Service Agreement (WSA) has been approved by the Central Public Power and Irrigation District (CNPPID), and Tri-Basin NRD.

The Republican NRD's are preparing for the annual Basinwide Plan meeting in mid-November. In addition, to the meeting, the Republican NRDs, are working on modifications to each of their Integrated Management Plans (IMPs). Updates to the IMPs are required in order to adopt the Basinwide Plan into the individual IMPs. Additional IMP changes are being discussed so that the IMP's are consistent and streamline with each other.

The LRNRD offered a letter of support to the Nebraska Recycling Council, which is seeking a Nebraska Environmental Trust grant for a grain bag recycling program in 2021.

Variance Request #286 for Alexander/Gale Lush was presented to the board.

Motion #3 by Tim Kahrs seconded David Bartels to approve Variance Request #286 for Alexander Lush/Gale Lush. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, absent 2 – Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Jay Spearman, Piper-Sandler, presented the NCORPE Bond Refunding Analysis for Series 2015 & 2017 bonds. Discussion was held on the redemption of the Series 2015 & 2017 bonds by issuing limited obligation 2020 series bonds.

Motion #4 by Tim Kahrs seconded by Bill Bose to approve Resolution #N-90102020-1 authorizing redemption of all or a portion of the limited obligation occupation tax supported River Flow Enhancement Refunding bonds, Series 2015, and Series 2017. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, absent 2 – Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Motion #5 by David Bartels seconded by Clark Andrews to approve Resolution #N-09102020-2 authorizing the issuance of a limited obligation occupation tax supported River Flow Enhancement Refunding Bond Series 2020. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, absent 2 – Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Motion #6 by Clark Andrews seconded by Toby tenBensel to approve the increase in Restricted Funds Authority by an additional 1%. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, absent 2 – Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Motion #7 by Toby tenBensel seconded by Roger Nelson to approve the LRNRD FY21 budget as presented. Motion carried. Ayes 7, Nays 2 - Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, absent 2 – Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Motion #8 by Bill Bose seconded by Terry Hoit to approve Resolution LR-09102020 as required by the Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1601-02. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, absent 2 – Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Insurance proposals were received from Harry A. Koch and League Association of Risk Management (LARM).

Motion #9 by Tim Kahrs seconded by Bill Bose to approve League Association of Risk Management as the LRNRD insurance provider for FY21. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, absent 2 – Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Motion #10 by Bill Bose seconded by Matt Harrison approve to allow the General Manager the authority to review and approve, and our Chairman authority to sign an Interlocal Agreement and Resolution, with the League Association of Risk Management (LARM) for one year. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, absent 2 – Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Platte-Republican Diversion Project (PRD) Update: None

NARD Update: The NARD Annual Meeting in Kearney on September 27-29, 2020 has been changed due to COVID-19 pandemic. The business session as well as NARD committee meetings and board meeting will go forward in-person. Lower Platte South will introduce a bill on climate change. Roger Nelson is the LRNRD

voting member/representative at the annual meeting. The awards ceremony has been rescheduled during the Legislative Conference in January 2021.

NCORPE Update: Next meeting is September 16, in Curtis, NE.

Other Business: None.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be October 8th, at 7 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Secretary

Date

Recorded and Distributed by: Shirlee Poyser, Administrative Assistant
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