

**MINUTES**  
**LOWER REPUBLICAN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**  
Lower Republican NRD Meeting Room, 30 North John Street, Alma, NE  
November 12, 2020, at 2:00 pm

**Board of Directors Meeting**

Chairperson Marlin Murdoch called the meeting of the Lower Republican NRD Board of Directors to order with an invitation to prayer at 2:00 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: Clark Andrews, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Nelson Trambly.

Directors present: Dave Bartels, Terry Hoit, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf.

Others present: none

Staff present at LRNRD office: Todd Siel, Scott Dicke, Shirlee Poyser.

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

Agenda

LRNRD Board Meeting, Index of Decisions, 10/20

LRNRD/RWP Treasurer's Report, 10/20

Staff Report, NRCS & LRNRD

LRNRD Audit Presentation – Dana F. Cole, LLP

Piper-Sandler RW Bond presentation and Resolutions

**Comments from the Public:** None

**Motion #1 by Toby tenBensel seconded by Terry Hoit to approve the LRNRD Board Minutes and the Variance Request minutes from the October board meeting. Motion carried.** Ayes 6, Nays 0, Absent 5 – Clark Andrews, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Nelson Trambly.

**Motion #2 by Brad Wulf seconded by David Bartels to approve the October Treasurer's report. Motion carried.** Ayes 6, Nays 0, Absent 5 – Clark Andrews, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Nelson Trambly.

**NRCS Report:** The NRCS report was available at the board meeting. 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 Annual Republican River Forecast meeting was held on November 9<sup>th</sup> to review our Integrated Management Plan (IMP) obligations related to compact compliance. At the meeting, the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR) indicated that 2021 is not projected to be a "compact call year". The final decision on that designation will be made on January 1, 2021.

Scott Dicke and Mark Bantam met last week with JEO Consulting Group to discuss future plans for our flow meter program and how we may best utilize telemetry in the LRNRD.

A copy of the Staff Report is in the minute book.

Karen Labenz, CPA, Dana F. Cole presented a summary of the FY2020 financial information to the board.

**Motion #3 by David Bartels seconded by Roger Nelson to approve the FY2020 financial report presented by Karen Labenz, CPA, Dana F. Cole & Company LLP. Motion carried.** Ayes 6, Nays 0, Absent 5 – Clark Andrews, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Nelson Trambly.

**Rural Water:** Jay Spearman from Piper-Sandler provided a presentation to the board regarding the USDA Loan Refinancing of the Series 2005 Water Revenue Bonds.

**Motion #4 by Brad Wulf seconded by Toby tenBensel to approve Resolution RW-11122020-1 authorizing the redemption of the district's outstanding water revenue bond, Series 2005, dated June 17, 2005. Motion carried.** Ayes 6, Nays 0, Absent 5 – Clark Andrews, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Nelson Trambly.

**Motion #5 by Brad Wulf seconded by Toby tenBensel to approve Resolution RW-11122020-2 authorizing the issuance of water revenue refunding bonds, Series 2021 of the Lower Republican Natural Resources District, in the principal amount of not to exceed Four Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand dollars. (\$475,000). Motion carried.** Ayes 6, Nays 0, Absent 5 – Clark Andrews, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Nelson Trambly.

**The Platte-Republican Diversion Project:** NeDNR agreed that the amended Water Services Agreement (WSA) with CNPPID is sufficient. NeDNR has issued an Order to affirm the amended application is in compliance with the Department's Order dated February 26, 2020. The previously filed objections, requests for hearing, and motion to dismiss on the original application and WSA have been rendered moot because of this recent Order from NeDNR.

**NCORPE:** The October 21, 2020 NCORPE board meeting was held at the Upper Republican NRD office in Imperial. The hearing for the FY2021 Budget was conducted immediately preceding the regular meeting. The directors set the board meeting schedule for 2021 on a quarterly basis. There have been ongoing discussions regarding the current easement providing access to our out-fall structure and pipeline at the south end. NCORPE management is working on disposing the eleven grain bins on property by listing them for sale online. The first check for the renewable energy lease was received.

**NARD Update:** None.

**Other Business:** None.

Scott Dicke presented information on water trends in the District.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be December 10, 2020 at 2p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 pm.

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Secretary

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Date