

MINUTES
LOWER REPUBLICAN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Lower Republican NRD Meeting Room, 30 North John Street, Alma, NE
April 8th, 2021 at 7:00 pm

Board of Directors Meeting

Vice Chairperson Bill Bose called the meeting of the Lower Republican NRD Board of Directors to order at 7:19pm immediately following the Variance Request hearings. The vice chairperson provided notice that the location of the current copy of the statutes dealing with public meetings laws is located on the south wall. Guests were asked to sign the attendance roster.

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

Agenda

LRNRD Board Meeting Minutes, Index of Decisions, 3/21

LRNRD/RWP Treasurer's Report, 3/21

Staff Report

Variance Request #299 AOL, LLC – Averil Lundeen

Variance Request #300 Kyle Klinkebiel

Variance Request #301 Douglas Palmer/HSW

Variance Request #302 V N Knutson LTD

Excused Absences: Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson.

Directors present at NRD Office: Clark Andrews, David Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Tim Kahrs, Toby tenBensel, Nelson Trambly, Brad Wulf.

Others present at the LRNRD office: Jerry Kovarik, NRCS, Douglas Palmer, Wilsonville, Dallas Palmer, Wilsonville, Vic Knutson, Wilsonville, Steve Shafer, Beaver City, Averil Lundeen, Axtell.

Staff present at LRNRD office: Todd Siel, Shirlee Poyser, Kristen Heft and Mary Goebel.

Comments: There were no comments from the public.

Motion #1 by Tim Kahrs seconded by David Bartels to approve the March Minutes and Variance Request minutes as presented. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2 – Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson.

Motion #2 by Nelson Trambly seconded by Brad Wulf to approve the LRNRD and Rural Water Treasurer's report. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2 – Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson.

There was no Integrated Management Plan update.

NRCS Staff Report: The NRCS staff report was emailed out prior to the board meeting. Jerry Kovarik gave the NRCS update on EQIP and CSP. Jerry also mentioned the Soil Conservation vacancies in Franklin and Red Cloud have been filled pending security and background checks, along with final job offers.

LRNRD Staff Report: The NRD staff report was emailed out prior to the board meeting. The annual Water Jamboree will be held on April 21st and 22nd for area fifth and sixth graders. This will mark the 28th edition of Water Jamboree at Harlan County Reservoir. This event provides an educational day for students located in the Lower Republican NRD, Tri-Basin NRD, and north central Kansas.

Recycling: Trailblazer RC&D has been awarded grants from the Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) for Recycling Events in 2021. There will be three locations within our district that will host collections this summer:

Household Hazardous Waste Recycling:

Red Cloud – May 15th 8:00-10:00

Hildreth – May 15th 11:30-1:30

Alma – May 15th 3:00-5:00pm

Electronic Recycling

Red Cloud – May 19th 8:00 – 12:00

Hildreth – May 21st 8:00 – 12:00

Alma – May 21st 1:00 – 5:00pm

Tree Planting will begin in Webster County this year around April 26th.

TVWMA: Merle Illian, River Project Coordinator is retiring. Zach Jones has been hired to replace Merle.

Variance Requests were presented to the board.

Motion #3 by Clark Andrews seconded by Bill Bose to approve variance request #299 for AOL, LLC, Averil Lundeen. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2 – Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson.

Motion #4 by Brad Wulf seconded by Clark Andrews to approve variance request #301 for Douglas Palmer/HSW. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2 – Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson.

Motion #5 by David Bartels seconded by Clark Andrews to approve variance request #302 for VN Knutson LTD. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2 – Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson.

Motion #6 by Clark Andrews seconded by Terry Hoit to approve variance request #300 for Kyle Klinkebiel. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2 – Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson.

Manager Siel spoke to the board regarding President Biden's the Executive Order 14008 (EO 14008). It appears to encourage agencies of the United States to acquire or exercise control or authority over thirty percent (30%) of the land and water resources of the United States in violation of the Constitution of the United States.

Motion #7 by Nelson Trambly seconded by Tim Kahrs to approve the Resolution to oppose any effort, express or implied, by or through EO 14008, by the United States to acquire or exercise control over any private property within the LRNRD borders. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2 – Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson.

Watershed and Flood Prevention Operation (WFPO) Grants - Request for Proposals (RFP) are due back to the LRNRD office by April 15th, the Project Committee will meet and propose a recommendation.

Manager Siel mentioned that the LRNRD Rules and Regulations will need updating and should be completed before the beginning of our next 5-year allocation period 2023-2027.

Platte Republican High Flow Diversion Project (PRD): Motions were filed with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR) regarding objections to our application. PRD hearing date for Motion to Dismiss is set for July 19th.

NCORPE: The next scheduled NCORPE board meeting is set for Tuesday, April 20 at the LRNRD office in Alma.

NARD: Roger Nelson will be assisting with the virtual 2021 Nebraska State Envirothon held at Lake Wanahoo on April 28th.

Other Business: None.

Motion #8 by Clark Andrews seconded by Terry Hoit to move that the Board go into Closed Session at 8:33pm to discuss Contractual Negotiation, Imminent Litigation, and personnel. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2 – Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson.

Motion #9 by Clark Andrews seconded by Terry Hoit to move that the Board come out of Closed Session at 9:55pm and declare that no actions of the board, official or unofficial, were taken during said Closed Session. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2 – Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson.

Motion #10 by Nelson Trambly seconded by Brad Wulf to approve the LRNRD contribution for Employee's Family Health Coverage be set at 60% effective May 1st, 2021. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2 – Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be May 13th, 2021 at 7:00 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 9:58pm.

Secretary

Date