

MINUTES
LOWER REPUBLICAN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Lower Republican NRD Meeting Room, 30 North John, Alma, NE
July 8th, 2021 immediately following the
6pm Integrated Management Plan Public Hearing

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 6:34pm. 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. 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, 6/21
LRNRD/RWP Treasurer's Report, 6/21
NRCS Staff Report, 7/21
LRNRD Staff Report, 7/21
Nebraska Game and Parks, South Central Focus on Pheasants
NRD Project/Progress LR23 Report

Excused Absences: Terry Hoit, Nelson Trambly.

Directors present at NRD Office: Clark Andrews, David Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf.

Others present at the LRNRD office: PJ Holmes, NRD Water Resources Technician, John Laux, NGPC, Chelsea Erickson, Stockton, KS.

Staff present at LRNRD office: Nick Simonson and Shirlee Poyser.

Comments from the Public: none

Motion #1 by Roger Nelson seconded by Tim Kahrs to approve the June Board Meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2 – Terry Hoit, Nelson Trambly.

Motion #2 by Toby tenBensel seconded by Matt Harrison to approve the LRNRD and Rural Water Treasurer's report. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2 – Terry Hoit, Nelson Trambly.

NRCS Staff Report: The NRCS staff report was emailed out prior to the board meeting. A copy of this report is in the minute book.

LRNRD Staff Report: Assistant General Manager Nick Simonson gave the LRNRD Staff Report. Nick read a thank you letter from Evan Lutkemeier for the scholarship money he received to go to ACE Camp. Water Resources Technician, PJ Holmes was introduced to the Directors. We are moving forward on the Flowmeter Pilot Grant and have ordered five (5) telemetry meters with the digital registers through McCrometer. PRD Motion to Dismiss hearing is June 19th, 2021, in Lincoln.

South Central Focus on Pheasants, NGPC: John Laux NGPC, gave a presentation on the Berggren Plan Priority Area. The main emphasis of the Berggren Plan is to create habitat and increase hunting access. John also discussed CRP Programs (New and Reenrolled CRP, CCRP, and CREP), Cropland and Grassland management activities.

Legislative Resolution 23 (LR23): The NRD Project/Progress LR23 Report purpose is to assess the progress of the natural resources districts relative to the purpose(s) for the creation and existence of the 23 NRDs

throughout Nebraska. Nick Simonson prepared the Lower Republican LR23 interim study report and presented the report to the board. A copy of this report is in the minute book.

Motion #3 by Bill Bose seconded by Tim Kahrs to submit the responses to the questionnaire, as presented, to the Natural Resources Committee for the Legislative Resolution 23 interim study. Motion carried. Ayes 9, Nays 0, Absent 2 – Terry Hoyt, Nelson Trambly.

Rules and Regulations: Simonson spoke to the board regarding possible revisions to the LRNRD Rules and Regulations. A workshop will be planned for 2022 and if there are any updates needed, it will be addressed at that point.

Flow Meter Pilot Program: Moving forward with the Flowmeter Pilot Grant, we have ordered five (5) telemetry meters with the digital registers through McCrometer. McCrometer provided additional training for the technicians to be certified to work on the meters with the new technology. Todd, Nick, and Marlin Murdoch, sat in on the informative meeting. We will be installing the meters as soon as they arrive and getting them on the system so we can evaluate this new technology.

Watershed & Flood Prevention Operations Environmental Assessment Plan and Design (WFPO EA): Todd and Nick met with Olsson on the WFPO projects. They will be working with Brian Dunnigan and Tony Baumert to get the projects rolling. This was the initial meeting to go over the contract and agreement, but also to go over the timeline and how to expect the projects to progress. They were also able to go over the MAO tool and meet Colby Osborn, who works with Jim Schneider on the MAO tool and WFPOs. There will also be a meeting for the preliminary investigation on the Flag Creek WFPO proposal. This is a new requirement for projects that the NRCS will now follow in order for the proposal to be forwarded by a state to the National Water Management Center.

Platte Republican High Flow Diversion Project (PRD): PRD hearing date addressing the Motion to Dismiss is set for July 19th in Lincoln. Both managers will attend the hearing which will be held at the Cornhusker Marriott, Grand Ballroom ABC at 9:00 am.

NCORPE: The next NCORPE meeting will be on July 21, 2021 in Curtis.

NARD: The NARD Fall Conference will be in Kearney September 26-28th, 2021.

Integrated Management Plan: There will be a zoom meeting on Monday, July 12, to discuss the hearings.

Rural Water District: Jim Zimmerman has been getting familiar with the Rural Water system and is on his own this week with Dave on vacation.

Other Business: None. Send rain!

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be August 12th.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

Secretary

Date