

**MINUTES**  
**LOWER REPUBLICAN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**  
Lower Republican NRD Meeting Room, 30 North John, Alma, NE  
November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**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. 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 and Variance Minutes, 9/21 & 10/21

LRNRD/RWP Treasurer's Report, 9/21 & 10/21

NRCS Staff Report, 11/21

LRNRD Staff Report, 11/21

WaterSMART Water & Energy Efficiency Grant Program Resolution 11102021

Excused Absences: Terry Hoit, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf.

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

Others present at the LRNRD office: Everett and Anna Hunter, Carl Wolfe, and Evelyn Rehtus - all from Republican City, NE.

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

**Comments from the Public:** Everett and Anna Hunter, and Evelyn Rehtus spoke to the board about Republican City rezoning land north of Taylor Manor. A possible development is being considered in this area and the Hunters & Rehtus are concerned that this will cause issues with nearby domestic wells, contamination of existing wells, and availability of water. Carl Wolfe spoke his concerns with the water in our watershed.

**Motion #1 by Tim Kahrs seconded by Nelson Trambly to approve the September and October board meeting minutes and Variance Request from September as presented. Motion carried. Ayes 8, Nays 0, Absent 3 – Terry Hoit, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf.**

**Motion #2 by Nelson Trambly seconded by Roger Nelson to approve the LRNRD and Rural Water Treasurer's reports for September and October. Motion carried. Ayes 8, Nays 0, Absent 3 – Terry Hoit, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf.**

**NRCS Staff Report:** Jerry Kovarik emailed the NRCS report. The report provided updates on CSP and EQIP renewal and deadline dates. A copy of this report is in the minute book.

**LRNRD Staff Report:** Technicians are in full swing with over 2,100 of the 3,143 meters read. Managers will be busy with upcoming meetings: the Annual Basin-wide Plan meeting on November 15<sup>th</sup>, along with Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) meetings for Turkey Creek and Thompson Creek will be held on November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

**WaterSMART Grant Resolution:** The WaterSMART grant was submitted to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Simonson spoke to the board about Resolution LR11102021 and entering into an agreement with the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation to execute provisions of the WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Program. The anticipated selection of top-ranking proposals is the spring of 2022 but that is contingent on final 2022 budget appropriations and those have not been completed by the federal government at this time.

**Motion #3 by Bill Bose seconded by Roger Nelson to enter into an agreement with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to execute provisions of the WaterSMART Water & Energy Efficiency Grant Resolution No. 11102021. Motion carried. Ayes 8, Nays 0, Absent 3 – Terry Hoit, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf.**

**LRNRD Price & Conditions for Resale Stock & Customer Charges:** Simonson is revising the LRNRD price list and restructuring charges on the tree program.

**Census Redistricting:** Per Nebraska Revised Statutes 32-513 and 2-3213 and 2-3214, Staff recommended that the LRNRD keep our boundaries as they are, as there was not sufficient change in population to update the subdistrict boundaries for the NRD.

**Platte Republican High Flow Diversion Project (PRD) Update:** State land judging was held at the PRD site.

**NCORPE Update:** NCORPE entered into an agreement with Nebraska Game and Parks (NGPC). This agreement is for \$90,000, distributed over a three-year period or \$30,000 per year for three years. This agreement is for any jointly approved projects that may be done on the NCORPE property. One of the projects is for reseeding. Game and Parks will pay 75% of the cost for reseeding, as it is a benefit to habitat and wildlife. Discussion was held regarding the need for a permanent access easement on the Bruce McDermott property. This property includes the point where the pipeline delivers water into Medicine Creek and flows downstream across the property. Bruce McDermott attended the meeting to offer suggestions regarding the easement across his property.

**NARD Update:** The NARD celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The NARD Foundation donated \$5,000 to the FFA and \$3,000 to the Nebraska Ag Youth programs.

**Other Business:** None.

**Motion #4 by Clark Andrews seconded by Nelson Trambly to move that the Board go into Closed Session at 3:23pm to discuss Contractual Negotiation, Imminent Litigation, and personnel. Motion carried. Ayes 8, Nays 0, Absent 3 – Terry Hoit, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf.**

**Motion #5 by Clark Andrews seconded by Bill Bose to move that the Board come out of Closed Session at 4:25pm and declare that no actions of the board, official or unofficial, were taken during said Closed Session. Motion carried. Ayes 8, Nays 0, Absent 3 – Terry Hoit, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf.**

**Motion #6 by David Bartels and seconded by Nelson Trambly to authorize and direct the LRNRD Chairperson to execute any and all documents necessary, including, but not limited to a purchase agreement and closing documents with John Burkholder Sr., et al, to acquire title for the described real estate, as stated in the legal description attached to the Purchase Agreement for the purpose of a water transmission and distribution pipeline and their appurtenances. Motion carried. Ayes 8, Nays 0, Absent 3 – Terry Hoit, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf.**

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 2pm.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25pm.

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Secretary

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Date