

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 10:00 AM
Curtis, Nebraska

Board Members Present: Tracy Zink, Benjie Loomis, Kevin Fornoff, Joe Anderjaska, Shane Rippen, Travis Rousselle, Jay Schilling, Rose Weskamp, Jolene Messinger, Daniel Nelsen

Board Members Absent: Rick McConville

NRD Staff: Jack Russell, Alex Boyce, Sylvia Johnson and Stacie Owens

NRCS Staff: Jason Kennedy

Others: Karen Labenz

Information Posted to Directors I-Pads:

Agenda – Regular Meeting

Financials

Surface Water Report

Meeting Minutes – Regular Mtg

Civil Rights Handout

Information Mailed:

Financial Statements

Information E-Mailed:

NARD Summary's: 3-8-24; 2-23-24; 2-15-24

NARD Leg Summary

Information Handed Out

Audit Presentation

REGULAR MEETING

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Zink at 10:00 a.m.

a. Verify Quorum.

b. Excused Absences.

2. The agenda and roster were circulated to those present.

3. Notice of the regular monthly meeting was published in the **North Platte Telegraph** and the **McCook Daily Gazette** and was posted at the **MRNRD Office** and on the District website at **www.mrnrd.org**. As a courtesy it was also provided to local radio stations. Guests should also note the location of a current copy of the statutes dealing with public meetings and the booklet with the information provided to directors.

4. The Minutes for the February Board Meeting were posted to the Directors IPads.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the Minutes from the February Board Meeting. Seconded by Loomis.

Ayes – 10

Nays – 0

Motion Carried

5. FINANCIAL ACTIONS

A. The Financial Report was presented by Russell.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the February Financials. Seconded by Nelsen.
Ayes – 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

B. Auditor Report. Labenz went over her handout in detail and answered questions of the board.

6. OPEN FORUM

None.

7. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Governor Meeting. Russell, Johnson, Loomis and Anderjaska went to Lincoln to meet with the Governor. They provided a report of the outcome to the Board.

B. DNR Meeting. Russell reported on discussions they had with DNR regarding uses for wells that producers want to decommission.

C. Outreach. Russell updated the board on the event that he has given presentation at as well as upcoming event that he and Zink will be presenting.

8. NRCS

Kennedy went over continuous CRP signup deadline of July 31st and other general CRP deadlines.

- ◆ Schilling moved to direct Russell let NRCS know that the Board supports the NRCS requirement to require irrigation flow meters on any NRCS cost-shared project with no exception. Seconded by Nelsen.
Ayes – 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

9. NARD - ANDERJASKA

A. Basin Tour. June 10-11th which will headquarter out of McCook. Additional details will be released soon.

Had a meeting in Lincoln earlier so he went over what occurred there.

10. NRC - FORNOFF

Fornoff went over their meeting discussions in February. The director gave an update on the Perkins Canal which 90% of the easements have now been completed.

11. NSIA – SCHILLING

A. Water Leaders Academy Funding.

- ◆ Zink moved to approve an additional education sponsorship amount of \$1,000 to NSIA for the Water Leaders Academy.

Motion died for lack of a second.

- ◆ Fornoff moved to approve an additional education sponsorship amount of \$500 to NSIA for the Water Leaders Academy. Seconded by Anderjaska.
Ayes – 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

12. N-CORPE - LOOMIS

Nothing new. Wells should all be repaired and operational except one.

13. LEGAL MATTERS

Russell reminded the Board that it was always agreed that we would not charge the producer for the new meters but any pipe work that had to be completed to fit the specs would have to be paid for by the producer.

There are a few cease and desists that need to be taken care of so they will be sent out here very shortly.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Litigation.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to enter into executive session to discuss litigation with Manager and staff. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes - 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

Chairman Zink restated, for the record, the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session.

Entered at 11:31 a.m.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to exit the executive session. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes - 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

Exited at 11:38 a.m.

Chairman Zink reminded everyone that entered executive session that the discussions held within that timeframe were private and should not be discussed.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Middle Republican NRD Office in Curtis, Nebraska.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary