

**MINUTES**  
**Middle Republican Natural Resources District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Curtis, Nebraska**

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

**Board Members Absent:** None

**NRD Staff:** Jack Russell, Sylvia Johnson and Stacie Owens

**NRCS Staff:** Jason Kennedy

**Others:** William M. Barger

**Information Posted to Directors I-Pads:**

Regular Meeting Agenda

Regular Meeting Minutes

Financial Report

Profit vs Loss Budget vs Actual

Civil Rights Handout

Personnel Policy (Draft)

**Information Distributed at Meeting:**

Request for Pooling Variance Request

**REGULAR MEETING**

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Zink at 9:00 a.m.

a. Verify Quorum.

b. Excused Absences.

c. June Meeting. Some members will be attending the NARD Basin Tour. The meeting will be advertised as a Zoom meeting to allow them to join from the tour location.

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

a. Items added to the Agenda since mailing: 7.d. Purchase 2<sup>nd</sup> Vehicle.

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 April Regular Board Meeting were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ Fornoff moved to approve the minutes of the April Regular Board Meeting with spelling correction. Seconded by Messinger.

Ayes - 10    Nays – 0    Abstain – Nelsen

Motion Carried

**5. FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

**A.** The April Financial Report was presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$145,573.18.

- ◆ Schilling moved to approve the April Financial Report. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 11    Nays – 0                    Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

Anderjaska arrived at 9:08 a.m.

**6. OPEN FORUM**

None.

**7. MANAGER’S REPORT**

**A. METER PROGRAM**

Russell reported at we did receive 1.1 million in WaterSmart Grant and Water Resource Cash funds which will allow us to finishing off installation of all remaining meters in the district. Agreement was signed with Logitude 103 for the dashboard which they hope to have a base setup by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**B. RULES AND REGULATIONS UPDATE**

Waiting on only 13 outstanding signatures to come in.

**C. POOLING REQUEST**

Variance request was handed out. Johnson went over the conversation with the individual.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to deny Variance Pooling Request #1. Seconded by Schilling.  
Ayes - 10            Nays – Rippen                    Motion Carried

**D. PURCHASE 2<sup>ND</sup> VEHICLE.**

Discussion held. Decided if we can get a 2023 for \$30-35 with trade-in then do it. If not, budget replacement for next year.

**8. PROGRAMS & PERSONNEL**

**A. INSURANCE – PERSONNEL POLICY**

Draft policy with the addition of the 65% family insurance being paid by the district was handed out.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to proceed with offering the 65% family insurance clause to the personnel policy as presented. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 11            Nays – 0                    Motion Carried

**9. NRCS – KENNEDY**

Update the board on their current workload and the obligation of contracts.

**10. NARD - ANDERJASKA**

Basin tour is coming up for anyone interested in attending.

**11. NRC – FORNOFF**

Next meeting will be in July.

**12. NSIA – SCHILLING.**

None.

**13. N-CORPE - LOOMIS**

Last meeting was in Alma on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Nothing of importance to report.

**14. LEGAL MATTERS**

Russell provided a brief update on where all the cases currently stand.

**15. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**A. POTENTIAL LITIGATION AND PERSONNEL.**

**B. PERSONNEL – COLA - POSITION**

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to enter into executive session to discuss legal matters and personnel with Board and Manager. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 11      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

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

Entered at 9:55 a.m.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to exit the executive session. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 11      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

Exited at 11:17 a.m.

- ◆ Rippen moved to table salary, wages and staff until next the meeting next month. Seconded by Rousselle.  
Ayes - 2      Nays – Zink, Weskamp, Anderjaska, Fornoff, McConville, Nelsen, Schilling, Messinger, Loomis      Motion Failed

**Rippen left meeting at 11:20 a.m.**

- ◆ Anderjaska moved budget new employee with Manager’s recommended salary and timeframe. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 10      Nays – 0      Motion Carried
  
- ◆ McConville moved to implement a 4.5% COLA salary increase. Seconded by Fornoff.  
Ayes - 9      Nays – Rousselle      Motion Carried
  
- ◆ Anderjaska moved budget a \$10,000 bonus to be distributed at Russell’s discretion. Seconded by Loomis.  
Ayes - 10      Nays – 0      Motion Carried
  
- ◆ Fornoff moved to do a budget comparison adjustments to wages at Russell’s discretion. Seconded by Weskamp.  
Ayes - 10      Nays – 0      Motion Carried

The Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. via zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

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Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary