

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at 9:00 AM
Curtis, Nebraska

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

Board Members Absent: Jolene Messinger

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

NRCS Staff: Jason Kennedy

Others:

Information Posted to Directors I-Pads:

Agenda – Regular Meeting

Financials

Civil Rights Handout

Meeting Minutes – Regular Mtg

NARD Basin Tour

Surface Water Reports

Information Mailed:

None

Information E-Mailed:

NARD Summary's: 4/12/24

Watershed Rehab

Watershed Dam Maps

Information Handed Out

Management Plans – May

NE On Tap Worldwide Map Hits

By Andre Brooks

Figures B-2: Dry Creek & Blackwood Creek

AEM Survey Map

NE Statewide GW Level Monitoring 2023

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.

♦ Fornoff moved to excuse the absence of Messinger due to illness. Seconded by Loomis.

Ayes - 10

Nays – 0

Motion Carried

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 April Board Meeting were posted to the Directors IPads.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the Minutes from the April Board Meeting. Seconded by Rousselle.
Ayes – 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

5. FINANCIAL ACTIONS

- A. The Financial Report was presented by Russell.
- ◆ Nelsen moved to approve the March Financials with Manager’s corrections. Seconded by Loomis.
Ayes – 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

6. OPEN FORUM

None.

7. MANAGER’S REPORT

A. PL 566 Watershed Dams. Russell went over the packet of information he had handed out.

B. Cost of Living. Russell sent out his recommendation via e-mail prior to meeting.
CHAIRMAN MOVED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION.

C. Safety Deposit Box Signatory Change.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved update the signatories for the WNB Safety Deposit Box to reflect the following: Jack Russell, Sylvia Johnson, Alex Boyce, Stacie Owens and Chris Martin. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes - 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

D. Other. Russell stated that Kathy Barger is planning on retiring this month. Jack Miller has been nominated for a cover crop reward. Johnson updated the Board on the status of mailing out water reports. Russell went over the map provided with hits for those listening to Dizmang’s podcast of NE On Tap. Went over the email from Sam Capps and other discussions that occurred relating to the 2 and 5 year averaging.

8. NRCS

Kennedy reported that he has sent in a request for additional EQIP funds on the federal level. FSA approved their second continuous CRP projects but have put a hold on the grassland CRP for now. Diane Hidy has announced her retirement as well.

9. NARD - ANDERJASKA

A. Basin Tour. June 10-11th. Owens reported who has got in contact with her to attend and requested anyone else let her know prior to Friday so she can get them registered.

10. NRC - FORNOFF

None.

11. NSIA – SCHILLING

None.

12. N-CORPE - LOOMIS

Loomis reported that there are 24 surge protectors that are going bad which equates to around \$100,000 to replace. Fire Department is still requesting access through the property. No action has been taken yet.

13. LEGAL MATTERS

None.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Cost of Living.

- ◆ McConville moved to enter into executive session to discuss cost of living with Board Members only. Seconded by Fornoff.
Ayes - 10 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

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

Entered at 10:00 a.m.

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

Exited at 10:38 a.m.

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

- ◆ Loomis moved to approve a 5.2% COLA with a cap set at \$3,000. Seconded by Anderjaska.
Ayes - 7 Nays – Rippen, Rousselle, Schilling Motion Carried

Discussion held regarding the date of the June 11th meeting and the basin tour in our district at the same time.

- ◆ McConville moved to skip the June meeting due to the basin tour conflict. Seconded by Weskamp.
Ayes - 9 Nays – Anderjaska Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary