

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at 7:00 PM
Curtis, Nebraska

Board Members Present: Kevin Fornoff, Joe Anderjaska, James Uerling, Steve Cappel, Brad Randel, John Palic, Shane Rippen, Jay Schilling, Rick McConville

Board Members Absent: Buck Haag, Benjie Loomis

NRD Staff: Jack Russell, Bob Merrigan, Sylvia Johnson, Alex Boyce, Spencer Campbell & Stacie Owens

NRCS Staff: Jason Kennedy

Others: Aaron Thompson, Brad Edgerton, Ralph Scott, Tony Leiding, Craig Scott, Jesse Bradley, William M. Barger,

Information Mailed to Directors:

Agenda	Public Hearing Minutes
Regular Meeting Minutes	Financial Report
Legal Summary WS	Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
2014-2015 Audit	Civil Rights Handout
NRC News Release	Fall Water Level Changes WS

Information Distributed at Meeting:

Proposed NRC Application Options
MRNRD Press Releases (2) dated 10/26/15
Master Agreement w/Brown & Caldwell
Cost Share Summary

Information E-mailed

2011 Study – Impacts of Non-Federal Reservoirs Land Terracing
Legal Summary from September
E-mail from Russell re: Compact Compliance

REGULAR MEETING

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman McConville at 7:13 pm.
 - a. Verify Quorum.
 - b. Excused Absences. None.
2. The agenda and roster were circulated to those present.
 - a. Items added to the Agenda since mailing: None.
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 October Rules and Regulations Hearing and Board Meeting were mailed to Directors.

- ◆ Uerling moved to approve the Minutes from the October Rules and Regulations Hearing and Board Meeting. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes - 9 Nays - 0 Motion Carried

5. CONSIDER VARIANCE REQUEST

None.

6. FINANCIAL ACTIONS

A. The October Financial Report was presented by Russell. The taxes received were \$279,764.51.

- ◆ Cappel moved to approve the October Financial Report. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes - 9 Nays - 0 Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

B. Accept Audit.

The accounting company will present the audit and answer any questions in the next couple of months.

- ◆ Palic moved to recognize that the audit has been received. Seconded by Rippen.
Ayes - 9 Nays - 0 Motion Carried

7. OPEN FORUM

None.

8. REPORTS – AGENCIES, ASSOCIATIONS, OTHERS

A. NRCS

1. District Conservation Report – Kennedy stated the USDA announced that the Middle Republican NRD has qualified for Ogallala Aquifer Initiative funds of \$750,000. Applications will primarily target water quality which includes irrigation practices like drip tape, pivots and other efficiency types which will be the highest priority.

B. NARD

1. Report – Uerling.
None.

C. NNRC

1. Report – Fornoff reported they will be taking applications for funds from December 16-30.

2. Application for NRC Funds.
Johnson went over the 2 projects that would be available to look at

submitting and requested direction from the Board as to which one to pursue. Discussion held.

- ◆ Palic moved to approve submitting an application on the Medicine Creek Basin Model. Seconded by Cappel.
Ayes - 9 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

D. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

1. Report – Johnson reported on the two news releases that were done. The Board Luncheon in December will begin at 11:30 a.m. It will be catered this year. She requested direction from the Board on how to handle the Southwest Water Conference. Discussion was held last year about possibly doing it every other year instead of every year. She suggested teaming up with the McCook Chamber to get involved with some of their events on the off years and hold the conference every other year. She will talk further with the chamber to see what possibilities are out there.

E. NeRRMDA

1. Report – Cappel. None.

F. RRCA

None.

G. LEGISLATION

1. 1098 – Basin Planning.
There will be a meeting in Holdrege next week and then one in Cambridge in December.

H. N-CORPE

1. Status Report.
Randel reported that pumping began a couple of weeks ago which is planned to run until April to deliver the remaining amount of 2015 shortage and the estimated 2016 shortage for compact compliance. Discussion held.

2. Other.

Russell requested the Board allow him to sign a retainer agreement with Brown and Caldwell which would allow them to provide him with a quote on projects we may be interested in pursuing.

- ◆ Palic moved to approve Russell to sign a retainer agreement with Brown & Caldwell allowing them to provide a quote on potential future projects. Seconded by Fornoff.
Ayes - 9 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

I. OTHERS

None.

9. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

1. REPORTS

(a) WELL PERMITS

None.

(b) SURFACE WATER

None.

(c) METER PROGRAM

Technicians are reading and servicing meters now.

(d) GROUND WATER COMMITTEE

Russell plans to set up a meeting on December 3rd.

(e) FRENCHMAN VALLEY COMMITTEE.

Russell will plan on including a FV Committee meeting the same day as the GW Committee meeting.

(f) MODELING – BROWN & CALDWELL

Russell reported that after discussions, they made some adjustment to the scope of the Medicine Creek model so the delivery timeframe is going to change a bit and the cost will be a little higher. They also suggested having another department within their company do a quality check of their work for an additional cost. Russell will discuss it in more detail with them.

Boyce discussed things he has been working on and learning so he can start working with Brown & Caldwell closer.

2. RULES AND REGULATIONS

None.

3. IMP

a. Action on Changes.

- ◆ Uerling moved to table any decision on the IMP until the December 8th meeting. Seconded by Cappel.

Ayes - 9 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

Schilling expressed his concerns over the IMP as he will be unavailable to be at the December meeting. Discussion held.

4. NOTICES OF NON-COMPLIANCE ISSUED

None.

5. CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

None.

B. GROUND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA

None.

C. OTHER GROUND WATER ACTIVITY

None.

10. PROGRAMS

A. COST-SHARE FUNDS – LCP/NSWCP.

1. Approve Applications. Merrigan went over the report.

◆ Uerling moved to approve the cost share report. Seconded by Palic.

Ayes - 9 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

B. WATERSHEDS.

None.

C. EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL ACT.

None.

D. COMPLAINTS.

None.

E. CHEMIGATION.

None.

F. TREE PLANTING.

Merrigan stated that they put in their first tree order for next year.

G. BUFFER STRIPS.

None.

H. LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL APPLICATIONS.

None.

11. GENERAL OPERATIONS.

A. PERSONNEL.

Russell reported he has a meeting set up with Craig Dierksen on Thursday to discuss the Trenton Office vacancy.

B. SALES AND RENTAL EQUIPMENT.

None.

12. LEGAL MATTERS

A. Compact Issues.

Russell stated that he has signed the agreement with DNR to receive the 1 million dollars to be used toward compact compliance and we will start submitting bills for reimbursement from 2013 and 2014.

B. Other.

None.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at the Community Center at 201 Garlic Ave., Curtis, Nebraska with the Board Luncheon beginning at 11:30 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Stacie M. Owens, Board Secretary