

MINUTES
Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 9:05 AM
Curtis, Nebraska

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

Board Members Absent: None

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

NRCS Staff: Jason Kennedy

Others: Brad Edgerton

Information Posted to Directors I-Pads:

Agenda – Budget Hearing, Special Hearing, Regular Meeting
August Meeting Minutes Financials
Civil Rights Handout Surface Water Report

Information Distributed at Meeting:

None

REGULAR MEETING

1. The regular monthly board meeting was called to order by Chairman Zink at 9:05 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 August Regular Board Meeting were posted to the Directors iPads.
 - ◆ Schilling moved to approve the minutes of August Regular Board Meeting with corrections. Seconded by Loomis.
Ayes – 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

5. FINANCIAL ACTIONS

- A. The Financial Report was presented by Russell.
 - ◆ Nelsen moved to approve the Financial Report for July and August. Seconded by Rousselle.
Ayes – 10 Nays – Rippen Motion Carried

A copy of this report is filed with the Minutes.

B. Approve Budget.

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to approve the budget as presented, approve the 1% increase in Restricted funds, approve the tax request Resolution MR1-2023 and approve the occupation tax at \$10/acre. Seconded by Schilling.
Ayes – 10 Nays – Rippen Motion Carried

6. OPEN FORUM

Brad Edgerton, Manager FCID, Cambridge. Updated the board on their operations this year and the benefits made for the District.

7. MANAGER’S REPORT

- A. Well Permit.** Will discuss in executive session.

Russell did receive some language from Blankenau on the feedlot rules so will be getting that out to the groundwater committee to review. Did a quick update on the dam issues and where we are currently at. Heather is releasing podcasts now so watch for those. McCrometer has hired an employee in McCook to install meters so Russell will plan on meeting with them to discuss the importance of installing them correctly.

8. NRCS

Kennedy reported that they are getting everything ready for the fiscal year rollover which starts October 1. All CRP contracts were wrapped up last week.

9. NARD

- A. NRD Annual Conference,** September 26-27, Kearney.

10. NRC

Next meeting will be in December.

11. NSIA

Edgerton already talked about the lake levels.

12. N-CORPE

No recent meetings but they did find out that 80% of the wells are non-functional. Next meeting will be in October.

13. LEGAL MATTERS

Will discuss in executive session.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Litigation.**

- ◆ Schilling moved to enter into executive session to discuss litigation and legal matters with Manager and staff. Seconded by McConville.
Ayes - 11 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

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

Entered at 10:05 a.m.

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

Exited at 11:38 a.m.

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

- ◆ Anderjaska moved to appeal the Hauxwell lawsuit to the Supreme Court. Seconded by Messinger.
Ayes - 10 Nays – Rousselle Motion Carried

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, October 10, 2023 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