



UPPER NIOBRARA WHITE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

Board of Directors' Meeting
July 19, 2012

In accordance with LB 325, Eighty-fourth Legislature, First Session (1975), the Upper Niobrara White Natural Resources District held a public meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 19, 2012, at the UNWNRD office in Chadron, NE. An agenda for this meeting to be considered at such date, time and place was kept continually current and was available in all UNWNRD NRCS field offices and the NRD office. Seven days prior to the meeting, the agenda was mailed to each member of the Board of Directors and other interested and affected persons. Notice of the meeting was given to the public by publishing a legal notice in the Chadron Record and Alliance Times-Herald on Wednesday, July 11, 2012.

Open Meeting Law Act

Chairman Lees pointed out the Open Meeting Law Act that is displayed on the wall.

Roll Call & Introduction of Guests

Chairman, Jim Lees, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and roll call was taken with the following directors present:

Dale Anderson	Jim Lees
Dale Berdnt	Curt Roth
John Burke	Steve Sandberg
Tod Dorshorst	Larry Teahon
Jim Irwin	Rich Zochol
Dave Kadlecek	

Others present:

Lyndon Vogt, NRD General Manager	Lynn Webster, NRD Assistant Manager
Sheri Daniels, NRD Water Resources Manager	Shar Sapp, NRD Resources Manager
Haley Anders, NRD Resources Technician	Katie Harris, NRD Administrative Assistant
Travis Nitsch, NRD Resources Technician	Shelley Steffl, NG&PC
Robin Foulk, NRCS DC	Cody Gibbons, NRCS
Darby Jespersen	

Emergency Agenda Additions

Hearing none, Chairman Lees continued with the meeting.

NRCS Robin Foulk

Robin introduced Cody Gibbons as a summer employee for NRCS at the Chadron and Alliance field offices. Robin handed out and discussed her written report. Robin pointed out that NRCS will be requiring water on-site to build a terrace or dam. The drought conditions make it too difficult to build a terrace or dam without a water supply.

**Nebraska Forest Service
Doak Nickerson**

Doak was absent from the meeting.

**General Manager's Report
Lyndon Vogt**

Lyndon added the following to his written report:

- Lyndon is updating UNWNRD's Long Range Plan. He will distribute an updated Plan at the August board meeting.
- Lyndon handed out a draft FY2012-2013 Budget. Please call Lyndon with any questions or comments.
- The Nebraska Water Balance Alliance will be meeting with NRD Manager's at the Twin Platte NRD on August 23.
- There is going to be a Niobrara Basin joint study meeting in Valentine on August 8.

**Assistant Manager
Lynn Webster**

Lynn had nothing to add to his written report.

**Water Resources Manager
Sheri Daniels**

Sheri added the following to her written report:

- Sheri will be presenting UNWNRD Conservation Awards in the upcoming weeks.

**Resources Manager
Shar Sapp**

Shar explained what Plantskydd is and how it works. UNWNRD sells three different size packages of Plantskydd to keep animals off of trees.

**Resources Technician
Haley Anders**

Haley had nothing to add to her written report.

**Resources Technician
Travis Nitsch**

Travis had nothing to add to his written report.

Approval of Consent Agenda

John Burke moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion. Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays and (0) absent.

Agency Reports

Nebraska Association of Resources District Curtis Roth

The NARD Committee will meet during the NARD Fall Conference in Kearney on September 24-25.

- Lyndon included the two resolutions that were submitted in the packet.

Nebraska Department of Natural Resources Dave Kadlecek

The Commission met on June 19-20 in Grand Island.

- The Commission approved the 2012-2013 Resource Development Fund for five projects.
- They approved ten projects through the Interrelated Water Management Fund. UNWNRD has a project through this fund that is set to expire on December 31, 2012.

Groundwater Management Act Coalition

There was nothing to report.

Water Committee Report Curt Roth

The Water Committee reported the following:

- Betty Kleensang Family Trust (Lynden Smith) and Vern Terrell are proposing an allocation transfer. Vern has a half-pivot (59 ac) on unit 63 that can be run around on the Kleensang property (59 ac) on unit 62. Because the pivot is not farmed by the same person, they would like to propose an allocation transfer that would be for the remainder of the allocation period (2012-2014) and reconciled annually. Not wanting either party to lose any amount of their allocated water, the water pumped from Vern's well onto the Kleensang land would be transferred back to Vern at the year's end. Meter recordings and irrigation hours will be recorded by landowners and that information will be provided to the District to record and report water use to the landowners. Rich Zochol moved to approve the Kleensang/Terrell allocation transfer; John Burke seconded the motion. Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays and (0) absent.
- Darby Jespersen with Double J Farms is requesting a variance to bring an old well back into production. Darby drilled a replacement irrigation well (G-042795) in 2008 to replace the original well that was rapidly declining in production. He changed the original well to a stock well (G-162561) and began using the new well. Unfortunately, the new well's production has dropped off to about 250 gpm. Darby is requesting to bring his original well back into production and use both wells to irrigate his land. Curt Roth moved to deny Double J Farm's variance request to change his original well from a stock well back into an irrigation well; Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion. Roll call: (9) ayes, (2) abstain – Dale Anderson and Jim Lees, (0) nays and (0) absent.

2011-2012 Audit Proposal

Kristy Dietrich, CPA from Dietrich & Sautter, submitted an audit proposal not to exceed \$4,250. Tod Dorshorst moved to accept Kristy Dietrich's audit proposal; Rich Zochol seconded the motion. Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays, (1) absent from the room at vote – John Burke and (0) absent.

Old or New Business

Nikki Waugh sent many of the directors a letter requesting that UNWNRD form an interlocal agreement with Gordon, Rushville, Hay Springs and the Sheridan County Commissioners to show the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission that the Cowboy Trail West has local support. No action was taken.

Excused Absences

Everyone was present.

Public Comment

No public comments were made.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Jim Lees, Chairman of the Board

Lyndon Vogt, General Manager

Date Signed _____