



UPPER NIOBRARA WHITE
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

Board of Directors' Meeting
June 6, 2016

In accordance with LB 325, Eighty-fourth Legislature, First Session (1975), the Upper Niobrara White Natural Resources District held a public meeting at 9 a.m. on Monday, June 6, 2016, at the Upper Niobrara White NRD Office, 430 East 2nd Street, Chadron, NE. An agenda for this meeting to be considered at such date, time and place was kept continually current and was available in 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 on the UNWNRD website and The Chadron Record and Alliance Times Herald on June 1, 2016.

Open Meeting Law Act

Chairman John Burke pointed out the Open Meeting Law Act that was present in the meeting room.

Roll Call & Introduction of Guests

Chairman Burke called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and roll call was taken with the following Directors present:

| | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Scott Berndt | Rich Zochol |
| Dave Kadlecek | Kevin Oligmueller |
| Tod Dorshorst | Dave Carlson |
| Nancy Fisher | Allen Rasmussen |
| John Burke | Steve Sandberg |

Absent: Mike Strasburger

Others Present:

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Pat O'Brien, NRD General Manager | Lynn Webster, NRD Assistant Manager |
| Haley Anders, NRD Water Resources Manager | Doak Nickerson, NFS |
| Nevin Price, NRD Resources Technician | Fred McCartney, NFS |
| Robin Foulk, NRCS Conservationist | Seth Peterson, NFS |

Emergency Agenda Additions

None

NRCS
Robin Foulk

Molly Lakin has resigned her position in Rushville so there will be a vacancy there. Robin mentioned that because the federal hiring process can be very slow they may contract out some of the work until the position can be permanently filled.

Audrey Holland has also resigned her position effective May 31st. Pat and Robin are working to fill her position as well.

The NRCS has a college student as an intern right now who will be helping with CRP tree survival checks.

Regular Board of Directors' Meeting
June 6, 2016

Robin discussed a new area of soil health management pertaining to cover crops. There will be cost share incentives through EQIP. Robin is working on ranking priorities for these contracts.

**Nebraska Forest Service
Doak Nickerson, Fred McCartney & Seth Peterson**

Doak discussed the logging operation that is happening on Dave Kadlecsek's property including some of the equipment and encouraged everyone to come out and see the operation.

Seth mentioned he is working with JEO on fuels reduction planning as wildfire season arrives. He is working with the SIM table to show how specific fuels treatments can be effective in real world situations.

**General Manager
Pat O'Brien**

Pat added the following to his written report:

- Pat discussed the draft budget and noted that unless there are some significant changes made in the committee meetings, the tax asking should remain the same.
- Along with the draft budget, the State Department of Revenue average county valuations was distributed and discussed.
- Over the next few months, the four legislative candidates will be invited to attend a Board Meeting during their campaign to speak for a few minutes and answer questions. Senator Al Davis will be attending the July meeting.

**Assistant Manager
Lynn Webster**

Lynn added the following to his written report:

- The drilling of the new monitoring wells will begin this week.
- Across some of the district there are some discrepancies in certified acres and assessed acres. Lynn will be working with the county assessors to correct some of these discrepancies.

**Conservation Programs Coordinator
Sheri Daniels**

Sheri was not present but provided a written report.

**Office Manager
Kylene Armstrong**

Kylene was not present but provided a written report.

**Water Resources Manager
Haley Anders**

Haley added the following to her written report:

- Haley is working to get chemigation inspections lined up.
- She will also be working in the field overseeing the drilling of the monitoring wells this week.

**Natural Resources Coordinator
Craig Eddie**

Craig was not present but provided a written report.

**Resources Technician
Nevin Price**

Nevin added the following to his written report:

- He has been working with producers on ET gages and soil moisture probes and will be incorporating the information into the Crop Water Use. The UNWNRD will also be preparing a grant application to be used in providing cost share for soil monitoring equipment to the district producers.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Steve Sandberg moved to approve the consent agenda, Scott Berndt seconded the motion. Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: Mike Strasburger.

Agency Reports

**Nebraska Association of Resources Districts
Tod Dorshorst**

Director Dorshorst had nothing to report. The next meeting will be held in York on June 13th.

**Nebraska Natural Resources Commission
Dave Kadlecek**

Director Kadlecek had nothing to report. The next meeting will be held in Kearney on June 27th.

**Niobrara River Basin Alliance
Dave Carlson**

Director Carlson had nothing to report.

**Water Committee Report
Rich Zochol**

Director Zochol reported on the following:

- Lynn discussed a modification for John Hoffman. John has two adjacent pivots both in the same parcel; the south pivot makes a complete rotation but to do so the pivot crosses a neighbor's property, which he has an easement to do, the north pivot is a wiper pivot. For long term planning John is proposing to modify the field boundaries by putting stops on the south pivot so it no longer crosses onto the neighboring property, in doing so he will decertify some acres in the south pivot and proposes to irrigate most of them with the north pivot by installing an end gun on the pivot and a remaining acre of gravity irrigated ground by the south pivot point to plant trees in. The modification proposal will allow John to irrigate the same number of acres certified.

Rich Zochol moved to approve the modification for John Hoffman, Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion. Roll Call: (10) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: Mike Strasburger.

**Operating, Personnel, and Safety Policy Committee
Dave Kadlecek**

Director Kadlecek reported on the following:

- The insurance quote for 2016-2017 was distributed and there will be an approximate \$500 increase from last year.

Dave Kadlecek moved to accept the insurance quote from Gregory's Insurance, Al Rasmussen seconded the motion. Roll Call: (10) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: Mike Strasburger.

- Kristy Dietrich has submitted a bid for the 2015-2016 Audit for \$4700. The Directors discussed the bid and compared it to other NRD's.

Dave Kadlecek moved to accept the Audit Bid of \$4700 from Kristy Dietrich for the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year, Kevin Oligmueller seconded the motion. Roll Call: (10) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: Mike Strasburger.

- Director Kadlecek discussed the salaries for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, proposing a roughly 3% raise for staff and increasing Pat's Salary to \$85,000.

Dave Kadlecek moved to approve the proposed salary increases for 2016-2017, Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion. Roll Call: (10) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: Mike Strasburger.

Old or New Business

None

Excused Absences

Dave Carlson moved to excuse Mike Strasburger from the meeting, Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion. Roll Call: (10) ayes, (0) nays.

Public Comment

None

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:54 a.m.



John Burke, Chairman of the Board



Patrick O'Brien, General Manager

Date Signed 7-14-16