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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 Thursday, August 17, 2017, 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 August 9, 2017.

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	John Burke
Mike Strasburger	Al Rasmussen
Tod Dorshorst	Dave Carlson
Nancy Fisher	Dave Kadlecck
Rich Zochol	Kevin Oligmueller
Steve Sandberg	

Others Present:

Pat O'Brien, NRD General Manager	Lynn Webster, NRD Assistant Manager
Kylen Armstrong, NRD Office Manager	Sheri Daniels, NRD Conservation Programs Coord.
Jack Arterburn, UNL Extension	Robin Foulk, NRCS Conservationist

Emergency Agenda Additions

None

**NRCS
Robin Foulk**

Robin discussed the hiring freeze and noted that she would need to re-advertise the Soil Conservation Technician position. Kaitlin Pedersen will be leaving September 1st, but Robin will have three new CSC student interns to help with the work load.

Robin also discussed the Pollinator Habitat Programs NRCS is offering.

Nebraska Forest Service

None

**UNL Extension
Jack Arterburn**

Jack discussed Fair season noting that 4H numbers are up this year.

The Extension office has been busy with Alfalfa Renovation Programs.

There will be a range judging practice day before the Range Judging Competition on September 20th.

**General Manager
Pat O'Brien**

Pat added the following to his written report:

- There will be a Gudmundsen Sandhills Laboratory Open house on August 23rd.
- Pat discussed inviting Senator Erdman and Senator Brewer to an upcoming board meeting to discuss current legislature. It was recommended the Senator be invited to a board meeting prior to the start of the 2018 Legislative Session

**Assistant Manager
Lynn Webster**

Lynn added the following to his written report:

- The annual IMP meeting October 6th at the UNWNRD office at 8:30 a.m. and a Niobrara Compact Meeting will be held November 7th in Torrington.

**Conservation Programs Coordinator
Sheri Daniels**

Sheri added the following to her written report:

- Tree Planter of the Year was awarded to Jim and Ann Mapes at the Dawes County Fair. Director Rasmussen was there to present the award.

**Office Manager
Kylan Armstrong**

Kylan discussed budget preparation, NSWCP, and Fall Conference reservations.

**Water Resources Manager
Haley Anders**

Haley was not present but provided a written report.

**Natural Resources Coordinator
Craig Eddie**

Craig was not present and did not provide a written report.

Lynn, at Craig's request, commented on the success of the recently held Forestry Workshop which was hosted by the UNWNRD. Participants were grateful for staff hosting the meal and there were many positive comments about the sawmill tour.

**Resources Technician
Nevin Price**

Nevin was not present but provided a written report.

Approval of Consent Agenda

*Steve Sandberg moved to approve the consent agenda, Rich Zochol seconded the motion.
Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays.*

Agency Reports

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Tod Dorshorst

Director Dorshorst reported on the following:

- Pat discussed two resolutions received that the Association members will discuss at Annual Conference. The deadline for resolution submittal is August 18th.
- The Board will need to elect NARD Voting Delegates for Annual Conference. Director Dorshorst volunteered to be the NARD Voting Delegate and Scott Berndt volunteered to be the Alternant.

Steve Sandberg moved to appoint Tod Dorshorst as the NARD Voting Delegate and Scott Berndt as the Alternant, Al Rasmussen seconded the motion. Roll Call: (11) ayes, (0) nays.

Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

No report was given.

Niobrara River Basin Alliance Dave Carlson

Director Carlson had nothing to report.

Water Committee Report Rich Zochol

Director Zochol reported on the following:

- Pat discussed two chemigation violations that Haley discovered recently for Anden Van Beek and Western Land & Cattle. These are the second violations for the systems. The committee discussed the two options of sending the violations Sheridan County or requiring emergency permits for the two violations. A discussion ensued on the two options.

Rich Zochol moved to require emergency permits for the two pivots in violation, Steve Sandberg seconded the motion. Roll Call: (11) ayes, (0) nays.

Operating, Personnel, and Safety Policy Committee Dave Kadlecek

Director Kadlecek reported on the following:

- Lynn discussed the NSWCP allocation for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 noting a \$20,000 cut in funding.
- Lynn proposed \$40,000 for NC-12 practices, \$50,000 for NC-14 practices, \$10,000 for NC-17 practices, and \$1,200 for NC-other practices as well as a \$20,000 over allocation for a total of \$101,200.

Dave Kadlecek moved to approve the FY 2017-2018 NSWCP Allocation for \$101,200, Scott Berndt seconded the motion. Roll Call: (11) ayes, (0) nays.

Budget Committee

Pat discussed the final budget with the Directors including a projected income of \$1,270,000 and projected expenses of 1,495,940 with a tax asking of \$627,300.

*Dave Carlson moved to send the budget to hearing on September 14th, 2017, Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion.
Roll Call: (11) ayes, (0) nays.*

Old or New Business

Mike Strasburger discussed a request from a neighbor to install a new irrigation well on his property to pump some water away from a meadow that is now under water. The Directors discussed this possibility deciding that a variance would be required but may not fit into the current rules and regulations for the UNWNRD. The Water Committee will be discussing changes to the rules and regulations over the next several months with this item being one of the topics.

Excused Absences

None

Public Comment

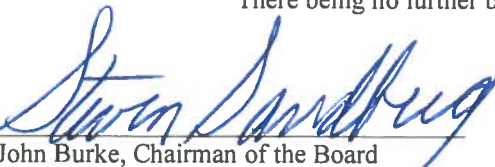
None

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:51 a.m.


John Burke, Chairman of the Board


Patrick O'Brien, General Manager

Date Signed 9-14-17