



***Serving Box Butte, Dawes, Sheridan and Sioux Counties***

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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 on Thursday, August 10, 2023, at the Upper Niobrara White NRD office, 430 East 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, The Chadron Record and Alliance Times Herald on August 3, 2023.

**Open Meeting Law Act**

Chairman David Kadlecik pointed out the Open Meeting Law Act that was present in the meeting room.

**Roll Call & Introduction of Guests**

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

Scott Berndt	John Burke
Nancy Fisher	Dave Kadlecik
Al Rasmussen	Mike Strasburger
Rich Zochol	Steve Sandberg

Absent: Dave Carlson  
Tod Dorshorst

Others Present:

Pat O'Brien, NRD General Manager	Lynn Webster, NRD Assistant Manager
Kylen Armstrong, NRD Conservation Prog. Coord.	Haley Anders, NRD Water Resource Manager
Eli Goff, NRD Resources Coordinator	Robbin Randall, NRD Groundwater Coordinator
Jordan Grasis, Administrative Assistant	Robin Foulk, NRCS DC
Bryce Gurlock, Nebraska Forest Service	

**Emergency Agenda Additions**

None

**Natural Resource Conservation Service  
Robin Foulk**

Robin shared that the minimum rental rate in America is \$13.00 an acre while most people in this region got an additional 25 points by reducing their rental rate to \$12.35. She also shared that landowners in Alliance are using cover crops in growing their corn.

**Nebraska Forest Service  
Bryce Gurlock**

Bryce explained that this year has been an early fire season, especially on the east side of the state. Bryce also explained that with all of the rain there has been good survival on the windbreaks and pines that were planted for the reforestation this spring. He also shared that the Wildland Urban Interface program received two new grants that results in a 75% reimbursement to landowners.

**General Manager  
Pat O'Brien**

Pat shared that the Good Money Sandhills Laboratory is doing their open house on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. He also shared that the Senator and Rob Lawson will be in town for the October meeting.

**Assistant Manager  
Lynn Webster**

Lynn reported that he has been busy with rules and regulations. He shared that WFPO met remotely, and they are looking into a design change for dams as they want to put a diversion in the channel to put it into a structure that's off channel. Lynn also shared information about the Schiff's feedlot south of Alliance as they are planning on doubling their facility in size.

**Conservation Program Coordinator  
Kylene Armstrong**

Kylene reported that they have recognized their conservation award winners in Dawes County.

**Water Resource Manager  
Haley Anders**

Haley reported that she has been busy in the field doing domestics and chemigation inspections.

**Resources Coordinator  
Eli Goff**

Eli was absent for the meeting.

**Groundwater Management Coordinator  
Robbin Randall**

Robbin reported that she is doing chemigation inspections on her own.

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

*John Burke moved to approve the consent agenda; Steve Sandberg seconded the motion  
Roll call: (9) ayes, (0) nays (2) absent-Dave Carlson, Tod Dorshorst*

**Agency Reports**

**Nebraska Association of Resources Districts  
Scott Berndt**

Director Berndt reported that conference is coming up if anyone wants to sign up. Pat continued with picking delegates.

*Steve Sandberg moved to vote Scott Berndt and Tod Dorshorst as our delegates; Al Rasmussen seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (9) ayes, (0) nays (2) absent-Dave Carlson, Tod Dorshorst*

**Niobrara River Basin Alliance  
Dave Carlson**

Dave was absent for the meeting.

**Water Committee  
Rich Zochol**

Director Zochol reported that there was a meeting in Alliance. Pat continued that Haley discovered four chemigation violations, Eli discovered two as well. An email has been sent to the Department of Environment and Energy and have yet to hear back from them. Pat then discussed the proposed changes to the rules and regulations. As well as the UNWNRD's Groundwater Model's grant was a success and will be working on it in the next three years.

**Operating, Personnel, and Safety Policy Committee  
Kevin Oligmueller**

Pat shared a summary of the changes to the Long-Range Plan.

*Scott Berndt moved to approve Long-Range Plan changes; Al Rasmussen seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (9) ayes, (0) nays (2) absent-Dave Carlson, Tod Dorshorst*

**Information and Education Committee  
Al Rasmussen**

Director Rasmussen had nothing to report.

**Budget Committee  
Nancy Fisher**

Director Fisher reported that the 2023-2024 proposed budget to be announced at a public hearing.

*Nancy Fisher moved to present the 2023-2024 budget to the public; John Burke seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (9) ayes, (0) nays (2) absent-Dave Carlson, Tod Dorshorst*

**Public Comment**

None

**Excused Absences**

*Rich Zochol moved to excuse Director Carlson and Director Dorshorst, Kevin Oligmueller seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (9) ayes, (0) nays (2) absent-Dave Carlson, Tod Dorshorst*

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

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David Kadlecek, Chairman of the Board

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Patrick O'Brien, General Manager

Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_