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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, July 11, 2024, 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 July 3, 2024.

### **Open Meeting Law Act**

Chairman Kevin Oligmueller pointed out the Open Meeting Law Act that was present in the meeting room.

### **Roll Call & Introduction of Guests**

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

Scott Berndt	John Burke
Tod Dorshorst	Nancy Fisher
Dave Kadlecek	Al Rasmussen
Mike Strasburger	Rich Zochol
Steve Sandberg	Kevin Oligmueller

Absent: Dave Carlson

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
Robbin Randall, NRD Groundwater Mgmt Coordinator	Robin Faulk, NRCS DC
Paul Strommen, Legislative Candidate Dist. 47	

### **Emergency Agenda Additions**

None

### **Legislative Candidate District 47**

**Paul Strommen**

Mr. Strommen introduced himself discussed why he was running for the legislature, explained his platform and answered questions that were asked by the Board Directors.

### **Natural Resource Conservation Service**

**Robin Faulk**

Robin reported that the Women in NRCS (WIN) has selected Nancy Fisher as the Conservationist of the Year. Nancy will be presented with the award at the International Soil and Water Conservation Society meeting. Robin also reported that the State NRCS leadership team will be meeting in Chadron and touring the UNWNRD, the Joint Chiefs Project was funded for a third time and emphasis will be placed on projects in Sheridan County. Robin also mentioned that federal assistance may be available for landowners impacted by the Schiff fire.

**Nebraska Forest Service  
Bryce Gerl**

No report

**General Manager  
Pat O'Brien**

Pat reported on Governor Pillen's Water Summit meeting that he and Director Berndt will be attending on July 30<sup>th</sup> in Lincoln, NE and the Governor's Ag and Economic Summit.

**Assistant Manager  
Lynn Webster**

Lynn provided information on the NSWCP program and that NDNR has not distributed funds for 2024-2025.

**Conservation Program Coordinator  
Kylene Armstrong**

Kylene reported an update on the income, expense reports and accounts payable. She also shared that there have been approximately 200 photos submitted for the photo contest.

**Water Resource Manager  
Haley Anders**

Haley reported she has been busy with water quality assessments, domestic samples and has been assisting with chemigation inspections.

**Resources Coordinator  
Eli Goff**

Eli was absent from the meeting

**Groundwater Management Coordinator  
Robbin Randall**

Robbin reported she is collecting information from 16 locations for the crop water use report and is staying busy with chemigation permits.

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

*John Burke moved to approve the consent agenda; Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion  
Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays; Absent-Dave Carlson*

### **Agency Reports**

#### **Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Scott Berndt**

Director Berndt reported that he would be attending the July 30<sup>th</sup> meeting with Governor Pillen

#### **Niobrara River Basin Alliance Dave Carlson**

No Report

#### **Water Committee Rich Zochol**

Lynn reported on an application for a well and acres in ground water management sub-area III that would be brought to the board in August, when the application is finalized.

#### **Operating, Personnel, and Policy Committee Al Rasmussen**

Director Rasmussen reported on a three-year audit proposal submitted by RJ Meyer & Associates, CPA; requested board meeting change resolution and the NARD 414 participation resolution.

*Rich Zochol moved to accept the Audit Proposal from RJ Meyer & Associates; Al Rasmussen seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays; Absent – Dave Carlson*

*Scott Berndt moved to accept the resolution to change NRD meeting requirements and submit to NARD for consideration at the Annual meeting, Al Rasmussen seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays; Absent – Dave Carlson*

*Scott Berndt moved to adopt the NARD 414(c) resolution, Al Rasmussen seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays; Absent – Dave Carlson*

#### **Budget Committee Tod Dorshorst**

Pat provided an overview of the FY23-24 financials and the proposed FY 24-25 budget.

*Rich Zochol moved to accept the preliminary proposed FY 2024-2025 budget; Al Rasmussen seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays; Absent – Dave Carlson*

**New/Old Business**

*Steve Sandberg moved to pay for Nancy Fisher's travel expenses for attendance at the International Soil and Water Conservation Society Meeting; Al Rasmussen seconded the motion  
Roll call: (9) ayes, (0) nays, (1) abstain – Nancy Fisher; Absent – Dave Carlson*

**Public Comment**


None

**Excused Absences**

*Tod Dorshorst moved to excuse Dave Carlson; John Burke seconded the motion  
Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays; Absent – Dave Carlson*

**Adjournment**

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

  
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Kevin Oligmüller, Chairman of the Board

  
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Patrick O'Brien, General Manager

Date Signed 8/8/24