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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, October 12, 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 October 5, 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	Dave Carlson
Nancy Fisher	Dave Kadlecik
Al Rasmussen	Mike Strasburger
Rich Zochol	Steve Sandberg
Tod Dorshorst	Kevin Oligmueller

Absent: John Burke

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
Rob Lawson, NRCS State Conservationist	Mary Reece, NRCS West Area Conservationist
Steve Erdman, District 47 State Senator	

**Emergency Agenda Additions**

None

**Natural Resource Conservation Service State Conservationist**

**Rob Lawson**

Rob shared that Nebraska has received an additional \$29 million in Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) dollars.

He also shared that NRCS has submitted a Joint Chief's application with the U.S. Forest Service and is waiting to hear for an approval.

**Natural Resource Conservation Service  
Robin Foulk**

Robin introduced her supervisor Mary Reece, West Assistant Area Conservationist, located in North Platte and went over her written report

**Senator Steve Erdman**

Senator Erdman shared information from the 2023 Legislative Session, the EPIC consumption tax and answered questions from the directors.

**General Manager  
Pat O'Brien**

Pat reported that the Niobrara Compact Meeting will be held October 26<sup>th</sup> in Torrington and the NWRA/NSIA Annual Meeting will be held on November 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> in Kearney.

**Assistant Manager  
Lynn Webster**

Lynn reported that they got through the NSWCP Cost Share applications and reported that he has been busy reading meters.

**Conservation Program Coordinator  
Kylene Armstrong**

Kylene reported that the newsletter went to print and will be able to mail them out the following week.

**Water Resource Manager  
Haley Anders**

Haley reported that she is busy reading meters and taking static water level measurements.

**Resources Coordinator  
Eli Goff**

Eli reported that Range Day is scheduled for January 16, 2024.

**Groundwater Management Coordinator  
Robbin Randall**

Robbin reported that she is busy reading meters.

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

*Scott Berndt moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Dave Carlson seconded the motion  
Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent-John Burke*

## **Agency Reports**

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

Director Berndt reported on the September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. The next meeting is going to be held on November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in Grand Island.

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

Pat shared that the Niobrara Basin NRDs and Nebraska Game and Parks Commission staff met with NPPD to discuss the water rights subordination process that was utilized prior to the Spencer Dam failure.

### **Water Committee Rich Zochol**

Pat shared that the proposed rules and regulations have been submitted to the Departments of Natural Resources and Environment and Energy for review and comment.

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

Pat shared the proposed 2024 customer charges.

*Kevin Oligmueller moved to approve the Proposed Customer Charges; Mike Strasburger seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent-John Burke*

### **Old/New Business December Board Meeting**

Pat requested a change in the December board meeting time and location to accommodate the holiday gathering.

*Kevin Oligmueller moved to change the December Board Meeting starting time to 3 pm and the meeting location to Hemingford; Rich Zochol seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent-John Burke*

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Excused Absences**

*Rich Zochol moved to excuse Director Burke, Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent-John Burke*

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

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David Kadlecek, Chairman of the Board

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Patrick O'Brien, General Manager

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