



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 at 9 a.m. on Thursday, May 9, 2019, 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, The Chadron Record and Alliance Times Herald on May 1, 2019.

Open Meeting Law Act

Chairman Steve Sandberg pointed out the Open Meeting Law Act that was present in the meeting room.

Roll Call & Introduction of Guests

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

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

Absent

Kevin Oligmueller

Others Present:

Pat O'Brien, NRD General Manager	Lynn Webster, NRD Assistant Manager
Kylen Armstrong, NRD Conservation Prog. Coord.	Tricia Goes, NRD Conservation Prog. Assistant
Haley Anders, Water Resources Manager	Nevin Price, Resources Coordinator
Maria Baglieri, NRD Resource Tech.	Robin Foulk, NRCS DC
Fred McCartney, Nebraska Forest Service	

Emergency Agenda Additions

None

NRCS

Robin Foulk

Robin discussed the Emergency Disaster Meeting that was held at the UNWNRD Office. This meeting was coordinated to get information on disaster relief options to producers and other entities that suffered damage from the recent blizzard and flooding. NRD staff will be compiling information to submit for a request with the Emergency Watershed Program. Dawes and Sheridan County have been approved for

Emergency Conservation Program monies to assist fixed damages done by the flooding and heavy snowfall.

Robin also presented a pie chart that showed what practices have been applied within the District and monies spent per program, roughly \$1.2 million.

**Nebraska Forest Service
Fred McCartney**

Fred discussed the Ponderosa Pine Forest Restoration Program tree planting that took place in mid -April. Fred provided a demonstration of the tree planting using a Hoedad

**General Manager
Pat O'Brien**

Pat added the following to his written report:

- Pat provided an update and photos of the now destroyed Spencer hydroelectric generating facility.
- Pat reported that following inspections, two of the watershed structures received some damage from the recent high-water events. These structures will be submitted for evaluation under the Emergency Watershed Protection Program.
- Pat provided a Legislature update and that the budget hasn't been finalized.
- Pat mentioned the Basin Tour; contact the office if you'd like to attend for arrangements to be made.

**Assistant Manager
Lynn Webster**

Lynn added the following to his written report:

- Lynn reported that static water levels are complete and data will be entered soon. An overview will be given at next month's meeting.

**Conservation Programs Coordinator
Kylan Armstrong**

Kylan reported that the Wahlgren Lake field trip, set for today, has been canceled. Kylan helped out with Conservation Festival. Kylan mentioned the Conservation Awards applications will be reviewed at next month's meeting.

**Water Resource Manager
Haley Anders**

Haley reported that static water levels are complete and data will be entered soon to produce hydrographs.

**Resources Coordinator
Nevin Price**

Nevin gave an update on trees sold this season; 73,600. Nevin reported that all machines have been rented out and used by producers.

Resource Technician

Maria Baglieri

Maria helped with Conservation Festival. Maria has also been working on certification update maps and is about half way done.

**Conservation Programs Assistant
Tricia Goes**

Tricia reported that she has been working on Chemigation Permits and a reminder to everyone to get them submitted. Tricia also reported that the website has went live and asked for suggestions. Tricia reported on Conservation Festival and the success with 250 5th graders present in spite of the rainy weather. Tricia mentioned ACE Camp and Range Camp applications to be submitted to the NRD. Tricia mentioned attending Lower Loup Tech Training in June. Tricia also mentioned assisting at the State Envirothon with Maria in April.

Approval of Consent Agenda

*Scott Berndt moved to approve the consent agenda, Mike Strasburger seconded the motion
Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent (Kevin Oligmueller)*

Agency Reports

**Nebraska Association of Resources Districts
Scott Berndt**

Director Berndt had nothing to report.

**Niobrara River Basin Alliance
Dave Carlson**

Director Carlson had nothing to report.

**Water Committee Report
Rich Zochol**

Director Zochol reported on the following:

- Lynn presented a review of the certified acres on land recently purchased by Nick Janssen from Mattson Family Farms LLC. Nick was inquiring about transferring acres to have the same number of certified acres for what has historically been watered under pivot. After reviewing the certification, it was determined that correcting the certification would be the appropriate action for the matter.
- Pat presented the work done by HDR and Flatwater Group on the Recharge Analysis.
- Aaron Sanford and Bob Atkeson presented information to the Water and OPP committee on options for flood control in the Box Butte Creek drainage. Mr. Atkeson suggested the watershed may be a good candidate for a watershed plan.

*Al Rasmussen moved to recertify acres for Nick Janssen, Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion.
Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent (Kevin Oligmueller)*

John Burke moved to authorize NRD staff to work with NRCS for a watershed analysis, Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion.

Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent (Kevin Oligmueller)

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

Director Kadlecek had nothing to report.

Old/New Business

Director Rasmussen thanked the Board, Pat and Kylen for the hospitality in Washington D.C.

Excused Absences

Tod Dorshorst moved to excuse Director Oligmueller, John Burke seconded the motion.

Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent (Kevin Oligmueller)

Executive Session

Tod Dorshorst moved to enter executive session at 10:04, Scott Berndt seconded the motion.

Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent (Kevin Oligmueller)

Excused Absences

Rich Zochol moved to exit executive session at 10:20, Al Rasmussen seconded the motion.

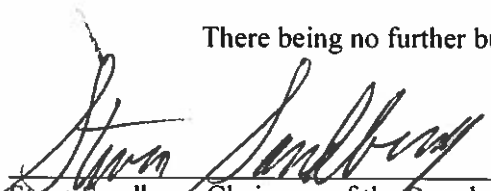
Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent (Kevin Oligmueller)

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.



Steve Sandberg, Chairman of the Board



Patrick O'Brien, General Manager

Date Signed 6-13-19