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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, July 12, 2018, 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 July 4, 2018.

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

Absent: John Burke

Others Present:

Pat O'Brien, NRD General Manager	Lynn Webster, NRD Assistant Manager
Nevin Price, NRD Resource Technician	Tricia Goes, NRD Conservation Prog. Assistant
Kylen Armstrong, NRD Conservation Prog. Coord.	Craig Eddie, NRD Resources Coord.
Robin Foulk, NRCS DC	

Emergency Agenda Additions

None

**NRCS
Robin Foulk**

Robin explained Conservation Reserve Program and the acre changes that are being made. Windbreaks are not an eligible practice for renewal contracts. All renewal contracts are eligible for a one-year extension period.

Robin discussed the 2018 Farm Bill proposed changes and updates including the Conservation Stewardship Program. Discussion has focused on the elimination of the Conservation Stewardship

Program, with one option being to fold all applications and practices into the current Environmental Quality Incentive Program. There are currently 34 pre-approved or approved Conservation Stewardship Program applications in the Area 1 pool (Western third of Nebraska), of those 34, 19 applications are held within the district.

**General Manager
Pat O'Brien**

Pat added the following to his written report:

- Pat discussed the Niobrara Basin Directors Retreat tentatively being held on August 21-22 in Valentine, Nebraska.

**Assistant Manager
Lynn Webster**

Lynn added the following to his written report:

- Lynn discussed Water Well Standards and the change that are being implemented. Water Well Standards will still be part of Department of Health and Human Services; however, the Program Manager and Assistant will be housed within Department of Environment Quality. Dave Miesbach, from DEQ, sits on the Water Well Standards board and will oversee the program
- Lynn also explained the LiDAR training that Haley and he attended. An example of how the data and information can be used will be in measuring field slope. LiDAR will also be helpful in delineating watersheds for certain structures. LiDAR can be used to calculate flood areas with regards of recharge areas.

**Conservation Programs Coordinator
Kylan Armstrong**

Kylan added the following to her written report:

- Kylan discussed working on the budget and conservation awards.

**Water Resource Manager
Haley Anders**

Haley had nothing to add to her written report.

**Resources Technician
Nevin Price**

Nevin had nothing to add to his written report.

**Resources Coordinator
Craig Eddie**

Craig announced his last day being July 13, 2018. He will be returning to fight fire in Wyoming. Craig thanked the board and expressed his appreciation for everything the board has done for him the last three years.

Conservation Programs Assistant

Tricia Goes

Tricia added the following to her written report:

- Tricia discussed the file organization and shredding the old documents as well as the scanning of the old board packets.

Approval of Consent Agenda

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

Agency Reports

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Scott Berndt

Director Dorshorst had nothing to report.

- Directors were asked to let staff know if they will be attending the annual meeting in September.

Niobrara River Basin Alliance Dave Carlson

Director Carlson reported on the following:

Director Carlson and Pat reported on the Alliance meeting held June 28th. Director Carlson explained the meeting was beneficial as Don Blankenau facilitated meeting. The result was the pledge by all parties to improve communication between Nebraska Game & Parks Commission and the five Natural Resources Districts involved.

Water Committee Report Rich Zochol

Director Zochol reported on the following:

- Lynn presented the request by Holmgren Cattle Company to certify acres that were eligible in 2006. The irrigated acres are and have been assessed as irrigated and under the rules and regulations meet the definition of historically irrigated. Holmgren's are requesting that the District certify as irrigated the 47.35 acres eligible.
- Pat reported on the public participation process for the proposed changes to the Groundwater Management Area and Integrated management Area Rules and Regulations. The timeline of events is based on passing of these rules and regulations at the November 2018 regular board meeting. The proposal will include a public hearing and three public information meetings.

*Rich Zochol moved to certify Holmgren Cattle Company acres. Mike Strasburger seconded the motion.
Roll Call: (10) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: JB.*

Operating, Personnel, and Safety Policy Committee Dave Kadlecek

Director Kadlecek reported on the following:

- Nevin has received requests for providing NRD cost-share for weather stations. Staff is recommending weather stations be added as an item eligible for District cost share provided the minimum requirements of collecting: Rainfall, ET readings, temperature and allow the NRD to access the data, are met.

Dave Kadlecek moved approve weather stations as an item that is eligible for NRD cost-share at 50% up to \$1,000 and that the weather station collect precipitation, evapo-transpiration and the data will be made available to the NRD. Allen Rasmussen seconded the motion. Roll Call: (10) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: JB.

**Budget Committee
Nancy Fisher**

Director Fisher reported on the following:

Pat provided and overview of the 2018-2019 Budget and provided a summary of last ten year's budget, income and actual expenses.

Old or New Business

Tod Dorshorst moved to reschedule the August board meeting to August 14, 2018 at 9:00 am. Scott Berndt seconded the motion. Roll Call: (10) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: JB.

Excused Absences

Rich Zochol moved to excuse John Burke from the meeting Kevin Oligmueller seconded the motion. Roll Call: (10) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: JB.


Public Comment

None

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.


Steve Sandberg, Chairman of the Board


Patrick O'Brien, General Manager

Date Signed 8-14-18