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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, June 13, 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 June 5, 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
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.	Doak Nickerson, Nebraska Forest Service
Fred McCartney, Nebraska Forest Service	Missy Jech, NRCS Contract Employee
Anna Ferguson, NRCS Soil Con.	Glenda Cushing, NRCS District Secretary

Emergency Agenda Additions

Glenda Cushing was recognized on her scheduled retirement and dedication to the NRD for the last 44 years.

**Nebraska Forest Service
Doak Nickerson**

Doak shared with the directors the sprouting Honey Locust pods he has and emphasized this is still a good time of year to plant trees. Doak and others NFS personnel attended the NRCS State Technical Committee Meeting in Lincoln to defend use of the Eastern Red Cedar in windbreaks. Doak commented that the Local Working Group's feedback wasn't thought of when recommendations were made by the

State Tech Committee. The elimination of Eastern Red Cedar in conservation plantings will be a continuous battle to be fought. Discussion was held on the individuals who are opposing the use of the Eastern Red Cedar and the need to view the use of all trees statewide.

Director Berndt announced that Doak will be awarded the Conservation Tree Planter of the Year award at the NRD's Annual Conference in Kearney in the fall of 2019.

*Tod Dorshorst moved to formally invite several individuals who oppose the use of Eastern Red Cedar to visit the Panhandle of Nebraska to observe use of Eastern Red Cedar in the Region, Scott Berndt seconded the motion
Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays*

**General Manager
Pat O'Brien**

Pat had nothing to add to his written report.

**Assistant Manager
Lynn Webster**

Lynn added the following to his written report:

- Lynn provided the 2019 static water level measurement reports and addressed questions from the Directors.
- Lynn reported that three applications have been submitted for new wells and irrigated acres in sub-area three. The review and recommendations will be completed at the July board meeting.

**Conservation Programs Coordinator
Kylene Armstrong**

Kylene reported that Director expense sheets need to be signed and completed.

**Water Resource Manager
Haley Anders**

Haley reported that she has been sampling several domestic wells.

**Resources Coordinator
Nevin Price**

Nevin reported that 84,000 trees were sold during this year's tree season and statewide numbers were down by 300,000. Nevin mentioned that the cooler will be cleaned out this week and any remaining trees will be disposed of unless otherwise claimed. Nevin reported that all 3-stripe fabric has been sold and that Buskirks have completed their plantings. Nevin reported that Ray Ward and Don Day Jr. have been asked to speak at Range Day.

**Resource Technician
Maria Baglieri**

Maria reported that the first Crop Water Use Report would be completed next week. Maria has been working with Haley on sealing meters. Maria attended the Lower Loup NRD Tech Training with Nevin and Tricia the beginning of June.

**Conservation Programs Assistant
Tricia Goes**

Tricia attended the Lower Loup Tech Training with Nevin and Maria earlier in June. Tricia has been working on chemigation permits and reported that around 70 permits were not submitted and are now considered new permits for those specific landowners.

Approval of Consent Agenda

*John Burke moved to approve the consent agenda, Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion
Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays*

Agency Reports

**Nebraska Association of Resources Districts
Scott Berndt**

Director Berndt attending the last meeting held in Ord, Nebraska on June 9-10. Scott reported Megan Grimes will be the new Public Relations Director for NARD. Director Berndt gave a legislative update and reported that the Washington D.C. trip will be March 14-18 2020. Since 1972 96 million trees have been planted in the state of Nebraska, thanks to the NRDs. Director Berndt reported that the Risk Pool went from negative numbers back to positives due to the reinsurance checks that have recently been received. Medical and dental insurances will increase by 5% each respectively. Director Berndt reported that NARD is still looking for volunteers to the National Envirothon, to be held in Lincoln next summer; St. Paul was this year's state winner.

**Niobrara River Basin Alliance
Dave Carlson**

Director Carlson had nothing to report.

**Water Committee Report
Rich Zochol**

Director Zochol reported on the following:

- Pat reported that UNWNRD will be looking in the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations Program administered by NRCS to address flooding issues on Box Butte Creek.
- Pat reported that work has been done and will continue to be done with Thad, ARI on the super positioning groundwater model with a presentation being made at the July meeting

Operating, Personnel, and Safety Policy Committee
Dave Kadlecek

Director Kadlecek reported on the following:

- Insurance Policy for 2019-2020 proposal by Gregory's Insurance
- Audit Proposal went up \$200 by Dietrich and Sauter
- Salary increase: General Manager \$3,000 with \$15,000 to be distributed at the discretion of the General Manager.
- 457 Plan Contribution
- NSWCP allocations

*Dave Kadlecek moved to renew the insurance policy with Gregory's Insurance for 2019-2020, Kevin Oligmueller seconded the motion
Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays*

*Dave Kadlecek moved to approve the Audit bid by Dietrich and Sauter, Al Rasmussen seconded the motion
Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays*

*Dave Kadlecek moved to approve a \$3,000 increase in the General Manager's salary and increase the total payroll by \$15,000 to be distributed by the General Manager, Scott Berndt seconded the motion
Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays*

Dave Kadlecek moved to approve a \$500 contribution to the NARD's 457 Plan for employees with greater than 1 year of service provided the employee provide a \$200 match, Al Rasmussen seconded the motion

*John Burke moved to amend the motion to require a one to one match for the contribution with the maximum being \$500, Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion
Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays*

*The amended motion was voted on
Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays*

*Dave Kadlecek moved to approve 2019-2020 NSWCP allocations, Kevin Oligmueller seconded the motion
Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays*

Information & Education Committee
Allen Rasmussen

Director Rasmussen reported on the following:

- Director Rasmussen reported on the selection of each Conservation Award recipient:
 - Forest Management: Walt Montague- Dawes County
 - Soil Conservation: Neilson Ranch Company- Sheridan County
 - Outdoor Recreation: JAKES Day: Dawes County Shooting Sports, NW Nebraska NWTF & Sheridan County 4-H Shooting Sports (Kevin & Donna Jech)- Sheridan County
 - Tree Planting: John Nadobny- Sheridan County
 - Range Management: Derek & Lisa Schwanebeck- Sheridan County

- o Wildlife Habitat/ Natural Resources Education: Dan Anderson-Box Butte County

Al Rasmussen moved to approve the 2019 Conservation Award recipients, Dave Kadlecek seconded the motion

Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays

Old/New Business

Budget Committee meeting will be held July 8, 2019 at 9:00 A.M.

Excused Absences

None

Executive Session

Kevin Oligmueller moved to enter executive session at 10:21, Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion.

Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays

Rich Zochol moved to exit executive session at 10:41, Dave Kadlecek seconded the motion

Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays

Dave Carlson moved to give Glenda Cushing a \$1,000 bonus for 44 years of dedicated service,


Nancy Fisher seconded the motion. Roll Call: (11) ayes, (0) nays.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.



Steve Sandberg, Chairman of the Board



Patrick O'Brien, General Manager

Date Signed 7-11-19