



**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 on Thursday, October 14, 2021, at 9:00 am 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 6, 2021.

**Open Meeting Law Act**

Chairman David Carlson pointed out the Open Meeting Law Act that was present in the meeting room.

**Roll Call & Introduction of Guests**

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

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

Absent:

Nancy Fisher

Others Present:

Pat O'Brien, NRD General Manager	Haley Anders, Water Resources Manager
Erin Lee, Groundwater Management Coord.	Robin Foulk, NRCS DC
Chelsea Forehead, Bird Con. of the Rockies	

**Emergency Agenda Additions**

None

**Natural Resource Conservation Service**

**Robin Foulk**

Robin provided a written report and introduced Chelsea Forehead as the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies employee. Robin also explained the current COVID-19 restrictions. Box Butte and Sheridan Counties have to limit staff numbers to 25% occupancy within offices; COVID-19 updates are given weekly.

Chelsea explained her job description and described a bird banding event that was held at Chadron State Park

Pat presented a letter of appreciation that would be sent to NRCS for their assistance with the Emergency Watershed Protection projects in the district.

*Dave Kadlecek moved to approve sending a letter of appreciation to NRCS for the Emergency Watershed Protection projects, Steve Sandberg seconded the motion  
Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent (Nancy Fisher)*

**General Manager  
Pat O'Brien**

Pat mentioned the updated map from LB3 where Senator Erdman covers all of Box Butte County now.  
Pat reported that Gary Fisher's funeral will be October 22 at Chadron Beran Church at 2:00 PM.

**Assistant Manager  
Lynn Webster**

Lynn was absent from the meeting.

**Conservation Programs Coordinator  
Kylan Armstrong**

Kylan was absent from the meeting.

**Water Resource Manager  
Haley Anders**

Haley reported she has been reading meters and will start static water levels within the next few weeks.

**Groundwater Management Coordinator  
Erin Lee**

Erin reported that she has been reading meters and that Subarea XI is now complete and the focus is on Box Butte County.

**Conservation Programs Specialist  
Tricia Goes**

Tricia was absent from the meeting.

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

*Tod Dorshorst moved to approve the consent agenda, Mike Strasburger seconded the motion  
Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent (Nancy Fisher)*

**Agency Reports**

**Nebraska Association of Resources Districts  
Scott Berndt**

Director Berndt reported the contract with Bessey Nursery was renewed. Director Berndt reported the resolution submitted by Tri-Basin NRD passed at the business meeting.

**Niobrara River Basin Alliance  
Dave Carlson**

Director Carlson had nothing to report.

**Water Committee Report  
Rich Zochol**

Director Zochol reported on Bruce Kutschara's water well construction variance request for two wells pumping 700 gpm each to irrigate 430 acres; currently no wells exist.

*Rich Zochol moved to deny Kutschara variance request based on the high capacity well moratorium and no new irrigated acres in Subarea II, John Burke seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent (Nancy Fisher)*

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

Director Kadlecek reported on the following:

- Pat presented the surplus item bid for the tractor; one bid came in for \$3,250.50.
- Pat reported no bids came in for the drill; instead, maybe using the current drill as a trade in for another larger drill for utilization.
- Director Kadlecek reported renewing the interlocal tree agreement with NARD.
- Director Kadlecek reported on the contract with Buskirk's/ Trees R Us. Buskirk's asked for increase up to \$1.00 per tree for planting and fabric installation will go up \$0.40 per linear foot with minimum of \$600 an increase from \$500. .
- Pat presented the 2022 customer costs including the Executive Travel proposal for trees being sold. Each bare root tree sold, until 61,135 trees sold, will receive a \$0.10 discount.

*Dave Kadlecek moved to approve the bid for the Ford tractor of \$3,250.50, Scott Berndt seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent (Nancy Fisher)*

*Dave Kadlecek moved to approve the interlocal tree agreement with NARD, Scott Berndt seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent (Nancy Fisher)*

*Dave Kadlecek moved to approve the three-year contract with Buskirk's/ Tree R Us, Al Rasmussen seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent (Nancy Fisher)*

*Dave Kadlecek moved to approve the proposed 2022 customer charges contingent upon NARD signing the agreement with Executive Travel. Scott Berndt seconded the motion*

*Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent (Nancy Fisher)*

**Old/New Business**

None.

**Excused Absences**

*Steve Sandberg moved to excuse Director Fisher, Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion  
Roll call: (10) ayes, (0) nays (1) absent (Nancy Fisher)*

**Public Comment**

None

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m.



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Dave Carlson, Chairman of the Board



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Patrick O'Brien, General Manager

Date Signed 11-9-21