

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting  
January 8, 2004

The Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors meeting was held at the United Nebraska Bank Center Meeting Room, Second Floor, West Wing, 111 South Dewey Street, North Platte, Nebraska on January 8, 2004. Mr. Rubenthaler called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. CST (2:05 p.m. MST). A legal notice of the meeting was published in the NORTH PLATTE TELEGRAPH. A news release containing the agenda for the meeting and including the time and place was sent to the news media in the District.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Jeff Baldridge  
Eric Hansen  
Todd Kramer  
James Meisner  
Robert Petersen  
Jim Rubenthaler  
Dennis Schilz  
Douglas Stack  
Joe Wahlgren  
Jerry Weaver  
Robert Wiseman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Jim Goeke, University of Nebraska Conservation & Survey Division  
Larry Kuhlmann  
B J Wilson  
Dan Carl  
Barry Carl  
Neil Betty  
Mike Wheeler, Sargent Irrigation  
Kurt Pieper

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

Jeff Nichols, Range Management Specialist

STAFF PRESENT

Glen Bowers, Water Programs Coordinator  
Bill Carhart, Range Programs Coordinator  
Ann Dimmitt, Water Programs Technician  
Amy Mapes, Administrative Assistant  
Kent O Miller, General Manager

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Report of Directors Excused - Mr. Rubenthaler reported all the Directors were present.

DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Directors Notebooks Containing Information Items Available for Handout - Mr. Rubenthaler reported that each Director has a notebook containing information items that are available for handouts for others attending the meeting.

Other Items - Mr. Rubenthaler reported that notebooks containing the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Conservation Plans signed by the General Manager as the Twin Platte Natural Resources District representative were available for information and that the notebooks would be passed around the Board table for review by each member of the Board of Directors present. Mr. Rubenthaler reported that a notebook containing the Cooperative Agreements between the Nebraska Board of Educational Lands and Funds and Lessees that were signed by the General Manager as the Twin Platte Natural Resources District representative for the District to assist in the development and the application of a complete resources conservation plan was available for information, and that the notebook would be passed around the Board table for review by each member of the Board of Directors present.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Board of Directors has initiated the process for the preparation of a joint action plan for the integrated management of hydrologically connected ground water and surface water, and was proposing a temporary suspension in the drilling of certain new wells in a portion of the district for which the preparation of the joint action plan is proposed. Mr. Rubenthaler reported that if anyone was attending the meeting in regard to the Board of Directors consideration of a temporary suspension of the drilling of ground water wells, the District's recent newsletter is available on the table along the north wall.

The Public Forum of the meeting was opened. There were no comments, and the Public Forum was closed.

AGENDA MODIFICATION

None presented.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Interrelationship of Ground Water & Surface Water – Jim Goeke, Hydrogeologist - University of Nebraska Conservation and Survey Division, answered questions from the Board of Directors in regard to the interrelationship of ground water and surface water.

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Minutes for December 9, 2003 Meeting - Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Minutes for the December 9, 2003 Board of Directors meeting were in the Directors' packet and he asked if there were corrections or additions to the Minutes.

Mr. Wahlgren moved that the Minutes of the December 9, 2003 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Schilz seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #4)

AYE: Baldridge, Hansen, Kramer, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Schilz,  
Stack, Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORTS

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - District Conservationist Report – Mr. Nichols distributed a written report and he reviewed the report.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - Southwestern Keith County Watershed – Mr. Miller reported that representatives of the Western Irrigation District and Keith County met with Marvin Brown – NRCS Watershed Planning Leader, Mary Reece – NRCS District Conservationist, Jay Rezek – NRCS Civil Engineer, and he on December 15, 2003 to discuss the possibility of a Watershed Plan for Southwestern Keith County. Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet for information was a map of the area being considered for a Watershed Plan for Southwestern Keith County. Mr. Miller reported that the representatives of the Western Irrigation District and Keith County asked that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District be a sponsor for a possible Watershed Plan for Southwestern Keith County. Mr. Miller reported that initially, the NRCS would prepare a preliminary plan to identify conservation measures and structural measures within the watershed, and determine if such measures would be feasible considering benefits and cost. Mr. Miller reported that preparation of a preliminary plan would take approximately three years. Mr. Miller reported that there would be no financial commitment for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District during preparation of the preliminary plan. Mr. Miller reported that the District staff might be requested to assist in the development of the preliminary plan, which could reduce the time for the preparation. Mr. Miller reported that if the preliminary plan shows a favorable benefit to costs for conservation and/or structural measures, then the local sponsors would need to determine whether to proceed and what the local costs would be.

Mr. Schilz moved to authorize that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District be the lead sponsor or a joint sponsor with the South Platte Natural Resources District and the Upper Republican Natural Resources District for development, with assistance from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, of the Southwestern Keith County Watershed and to authorize the General Manager to submit a letter and the appropriate applications

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service requesting federal assistance for development of the Southwestern Keith County Watershed. Mr. Meismer seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #2)

AYE: Baldridge, Hansen, Kramer, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Schilz,  
Stack, Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - Soil Surveys – Mr. Miller reported that Luis Hernandez, NRCS State Soil Scientist, met with the Natural Resources District General Managers and the NRCS District Conservationists for the Middle Republican Natural Resources District, the Upper Loup Natural Resources District, and the Twin Platte Natural Resources District on December 10, 2003 to discuss the status of updating the soil surveys in McPherson County and the counties surrounding McPherson County (MLRA 65 Soil Survey Project). Mr. Miller reported that the Managers agreed that the proposal of having a second soil scientist as a Natural Resources District staff member is not acceptable, and they proposed to have a second soil scientist be a staff member of the University of Nebraska Conservation and Survey Division or the NRCS. Mr. Miller reported that Mr. Hernandez would be drafting a new proposal that will be specific on expected contributions from each Natural Resources District, and that the contributions will be estimated according to number of soil survey acres in each Natural Resources District. Mr. Miller reported that the NRCS will continue moving forward in the hiring of one MLRA Soil Survey Project Leader and one Soil Scientist, and that Mary Reece will continue working with the NRCS-State Office to secure office space in North Platte, Nebraska.

Nebraska Natural Resources Commission – South Platte River Basin Caucus – Mr. Miller reported that the current Nebraska Department of Natural Resources was the result of a merger between the agencies named the Natural Resources Commission and the Department of Water Resources. Mr. Miller reported that with this merger the Natural Resources Commission is still a functioning body within the Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Miller reported that three of the 16 members are appointed by the Governor to represent the specific interests of municipal water users, surface water irrigators, and ground water irrigators. Mr. Miller reported that the remaining 13 members are selected for four-year terms at caucuses of the seated Natural Resources Districts Directors within the River Basin to represent Nebraska's river basins. Mr. Miller reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District is within the South Platte, North Platte, and Middle Platte Basins. Mr. Miller reported that the Natural Resources Commission's South Platte Basin representative, Bob Hahn, has notified the Twin Platte Natural Resources District that he would be resigning effective January 31, 2004, as he will be moving out of state. Mr. Miller reported that Mr. Hahn began his current four-year term in January, 2003. Mr. Miller reported that a caucus would need to be scheduled within 30 days of official notification of the resignation. Mr. Miller reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Directors residing in the South Platte River Basin are Mr. Petersen, Mr. Schilz, Mr. Stack, Mr. Weaver, and Mr. Wiseman, and that these

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

Directors are eligible to participate in the South Platte Basin Caucus to select a representative for the Natural Resources Commission. Mr. Miller reported that the South Platte Natural Resources District has six Directors that reside in the South Platte River Basin and are eligible to participate in the South Platte Basin Caucus. Mr. Miller reported that Keith Rexroth is interested in being elected to represent the South Platte River Basin. Mr. Miller reported that Mr. Rexroth resides in the South Platte Natural Resources District and is a current member of the South Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors. Mr. Miller reported that candidates eligible are any resident in the South Platte Basin of majority age of 19. Mr. Miller asked if there were any candidates from within the Twin Platte Natural Resources District.

Mr. Petersen indicated that he was interested in representing the South Platte River Basin.

The Twin Platte NRD Board members residing in the South Platte River Basin indicated their support for Mr. Petersen, and they requested Mr. Miller to report to the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources that Mr. Petersen would be a candidate to represent the South Platte River Basin on the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission, and to request that the South Platte River Basin caucus be held at the beginning of the Twin Platte NRD Board meeting on February 12, 2004.

Other Agencies - No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT  
Land Resources Subcommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT  
Water Resources Subcommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT  
Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT  
Executive Subcommittee

No report presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

Financial Statement - Mr. Meismer reported that the Financial Statement for December 2003 was in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout for information.

Accounts Payable - Mr. Meismer reported that the Accounts Payable report was in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout and that he had reviewed the Accounts Payable and found the report to be in order.

Mr. Meismer moved that the Financial Statement for December 2003 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented on the Accounts Payable report on January 8, 2004 in the amount of \$27,070.68. Mr. Stack seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #3)

AYE: Baldridge, Hansen, Kramer, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Schilz,  
Stack, Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Budget Status – Mr. Meismer reported that the Budget Status report was in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout.

Bids/Proposals – None were presented.

Bids/Proposals Scheduled To Be Presented for Consideration During the February 12, 2004 Board of Directors Meeting – Mr. Miller reported that no bids/proposals were scheduled to be presented for consideration during the February 12, 2004 Board of Directors meeting.

### POLICIES

Operating Policy Number 3: Board of Directors Election Subdistricts – Mr. Miller reported that the Board of Directors, on October 11, 2001, approved election subdistrict boundaries utilizing the 2000 census. Mr. Miller reported that Rebecca Rossell, Lincoln County Clerk, recently notified the Twin Platte Natural Resources District that she had decided to eliminate seven rural precincts and combine them with adjoining precincts due to ADA compliance at polling sites. Mr. Miller reported that due to these changes in Lincoln County, Ms. Rossell has expressed a concern about the ballot splits this would create due to the current Twin Platte Natural Resources District election subdistricts. Mr. Miller reported that Ms. Rossell has requested that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District adjust the District's election subdistrict lines to make them coincide with the new precinct boundaries. Mr. Miller reported that the current Twin Platte Natural Resources District election subdistricts coincide with county election precincts and if the request of Ms. Rossell could be accomplished, it would make filing for office and the ballots less complex for everyone involved in the process and reduce the possibility for error. Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebooks was the letter from Rebecca J. Rossell, Lincoln County Clerk, dated November 5, 2003, a map of the current election subdistrict boundaries in the Twin Platte Natural Resources District, a map of the current election

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

subdistrict boundaries in the City of North Platte, a map of draft election subdistrict boundaries in the Twin Platte Natural Resources District showing revisions, a map of draft election subdistrict boundaries in the Twin Platte Natural Resources District, and a draft - Operating Policy Number 3 – showing revisions.

Mr. Petersen moved to approve the following revisions for Operating Policy Number 3: BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION SUBDISTRICTS (Deletions have a strikethrough line. Additions are underlined):

The District shall have equally populated sub-districts and the members of the Board shall be elected by sub-districts. The ten members of the Board of Directors representing sub-districts shall be elected by the voters in the sub-district and the one at-large member of the Board of Directors shall be elected by the voters of the District.

The election subdistrict boundaries for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District are:

Sub-District 1 (Population 2000 Census 8,418 ~~8,605~~)

VOTING PRECINCT

McPherson County

McPherson County (Part)

The precinct area west of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District eastern boundary (west of the township line between Range 31 West and Range 32 West)

Arthur County

Arthur County

Lincoln County

~~Garfield~~

Hall

Rosedale

~~Antelope~~

North Platte - 1

North Platte - 2

North Platte - 12

Keith County

Whitetail

Sub-District 2 (Population 2000 Census – 9,212 ~~8,785~~)

VOTING PRECINCT

Lincoln County

Brady

The precinct area north of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District southern boundary (north of the north border of Sections 22, 23, and 24, Township 9 North, Range 26 West; east of the east border of Sections 4, 9, and 16, Township 9 North, Range 26

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

West; north of the north border of Sections 4, 5, and 6, Township 9 North, Range 26 West; east of the east border of Sections 24, 25, and 36, Township 10 North, Range 27 West; north of the north border of Sections 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24, Township 10 North, Range 27 West; east of the east border of Sections 1, 12, and 13, Township 10 North, Range 28 West; east of the east border of Sections 24, 25, and 36, Township 11 North, Range 28 West; and north of the north border of Sections 23 and 24, Township 11 North, Range 28 West)

~~Peckham (Part)~~

~~The precinct area north of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District southern boundary (north of the north border of Sections 22, 23 and 24, Township 9 North, Range 26 West; east of the east border of Sections 4, 9 and 16, Township 9 North, Range 26 West; and north of the north border of Sections 4, 5 and 6, Township 9 North, Range 26 West)~~

~~Gaslin (Part)~~

~~The precinct area north of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District southern boundary (north of the north border of Sections 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24, Township 10 North, Range 27 West; east of the east border of Sections 1, 12, and 13, Township 10 North, Range 28 West; east of the east border of Sections 24, 25 and 36, Township 11 North, Range 28 West; and north of the north border of Sections 23 and 24, Township 11 North, Range 28 West)~~

~~Maxwell (Part)~~

~~The precinct area north of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District southern boundary (north of the north border of Sections 19, 20, 21, and 22, Township 11, North, Range 28 West)~~

~~Payne (Part)~~

~~The precinct area north of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District southern boundary (north of the north border of Sections 22, 23 and 24, Township 11 North, Range 29 West)~~

~~Well (Part)~~

~~The precinct area north of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District southern boundary (north of the north border of Sections 19, 20 and 21, Township 11 North, Range 29 West; and north of the north border of Sections 21, 22, 23 and 24, Township 11 North, Range 30 West)~~

~~Sellers (Part)~~

~~The precinct area north of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District southern boundary (north of the north border of Sections 19, 20, and 21, Township 11 North, Range 29 West; north of the north border of Sections 19, ~~and~~ 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24, Township 11 North, Range 30 West; and north of the north border of~~

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

Sections 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24, Township 11 North, Range 31 West)

Osgood (Part)

The precinct area north of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District southern boundary (north of the north border of Sections 22, 23, and 24, Township 11 North, Range 29 West)

North Platte - 7A

North Platte - 7B

North Platte - 8

North Platte - 10

Sub-District 3 (Population 2000 Census - 8,425)

VOTING PRECINCT

Lincoln County

North Platte - 3

North Platte - 4

North Platte - 5

North Platte - 6

North Platte - 11

North Platte - 15

North Platte - 16

Sub-District 4 (Population 2000 Census – 8,493 ~~8,733~~)

VOTING PRECINCT

Lincoln County

Hinman

Hershey

Sutherland

~~Miller~~

Wallace (Part)

The precinct area north of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District southern boundary (north of the north border of Sections 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24, Township 11 North, Range 33 West; and north of the north border of Sections 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24, Township 11 North, Range 34 West)

North Platte - 9

North Platte - 13

North Platte - 14

Sub-District 5 (Population 2000 Census - 8,549)

VOTING PRECINCT

Keith County

Ogallala 1

Ogallala 2

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

Ogallala 3  
Ogallala 4  
Ogallala 5  
Rural Ogallala  
Paxton  
Brule  
Logan  
Lonergan

Mr. Stack seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #4)

AYE: Baldridge, Hansen, Kramer, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Stack,  
Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

NAY: None

ABSENT: Schilz

DIRECTORS REPORTS

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Legislative Conference, January 27-28, 2004 – Mr. Meismer reported that the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts annual Legislative Conference will be held January 27-28, 2004 in Lincoln, NE and that in the Directors’ packet was information and the tentative agenda. Mr. Miller reported that Senator Pederson will have a private dinner with representatives of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District attending the conference on Tuesday evening, January 27, 2004 following the reception. Mr. Miller reported that the panhandle Natural Resources Districts have a formal dinner, which Senator Erdman participates, and the Loup River Basin Natural Resources Districts have a formal dinner, which Senator Jones participates. Mr. Meismer, Mr. Rubenthaler, Mr. Wahlgren, Mr. Weaver, and Mr. Wiseman indicated that they plan to attend.

Mr. Miller reported that the Board would need to select a voting representative for the business session. Mr. Miller reported that Mr. Meismer is chair of the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Legislative Committee and that he will be chairing the business sessions.

Mr. Petersen moved that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Voting Delegate for the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Legislative Conference January 27-28, 2004 be Joe Wahlgren. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #5)

AYE: Baldridge, Hansen, Kramer, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Stack,  
Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

NAY: None

ABSENT: Schilz

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Board of Directors Meeting – No report presented.

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Water Policy Task Force – Mr. Meisner reported on recent activities of the Water Policy Task Force.

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Washington DC Meetings – Mr. Miller reported that the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts annual Washington DC meetings would be held March 22-24, 2004.

Platte River Citizens Advisory Council – No report presented.

Sandhills Resources, Conservation & Development Council – Mr. Hansen reported on recent activities of the Sandhills Resources, Conservation & Development Council.

Board of Directors Elections 2004 – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the deadline for incumbents filing for re-election is February 17, and the deadline for Non-Office Holders filing for election is March 1. Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Directors seats up for election in 2004 are Todd Kramer in Subdistrict 1, Bob Petersen in Subdistrict 2, Jerry Weaver in Subdistrict 3, Bob Wiseman in Subdistrict 4, and Dennis Schilz in Subdistrict 5.

Requests for Authorization to Travel - No requests were presented.

#### DISTRICT REPORT

Requests for Assistance – No requests for assistance were presented.

Cost-Share Programs - Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program – Mr. Miller reported on the following Twin Platte Natural Resources District guidelines for the Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program:

- Funding adjustments shall go back to the reserved category established by the Board of Directors that the funds came from.
- Applications will be considered in the order the producers sign them.
- From July 1 – January 30, applications shall be considered for funding only when funds are available to fully fund the contract.
- From January 31 – June 30, the funds from each reserved category shall be merged and applications on file shall be considered for funding in the order they are signed by the producer, and only one application may be approved for partial funding at any time.
- On June 30, all applications not approved by the Board of Directors shall be cancelled.

Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout was the monthly report. Mr. Miller reported that \$41,966.91 was available.

Mr. Wahlgren moved to approve the January 8, 2004 report as presented and to approve

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

the following new contracts:

<u>Cont#</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>App Amt</u>	<u>Prop Amt To Fund</u>
PROPOSED NEW CONTRACTS:				
04-024	NC-12	Trees	\$ 491.40	\$ 491.40
04-025	NC-12	Trees	\$ 99.00	\$ 99.00
04-026	NC-14	Planned Grazing System	\$ 1,581.00	\$ 1,581.00
04-027	NC-12	Trees	\$ 819.00	\$ 819.00
04-028	NC-12	Trees	\$ 811.58	\$ 811.58
04-029	NC-12	Trees	\$ 204.75	\$ 204.75
04-030	NC-12	Trees	\$ 39.60	\$ 39.60
04-031	NC-12	Trees	\$ 366.08	\$ 366.08
04-032	NC-12	Trees	\$ 51.98	\$ 51.98
04-033	NC-12	Trees	\$ 409.50	\$ 409.50
04-034	NC-12	Trees	\$ 819.00	\$ 819.00
04-035	NC-12	Trees	\$ 99.00	\$ 99.00
04-036	NC-12	Trees	\$ 550.35	\$ 550.35
04-037	NC-12	Trees	\$ 509.40	\$ 509.40
04-038	NC-12	Trees	\$ 773.10	\$ 773.10
04-039	NC-17	Irrigation Water Management	\$ 5,306.00	\$ 5,306.00
04-040	NC-17	Irrigation Water Management	\$ 1,848.00	\$ 1,848.00
Total Amount Of New Contracts				\$ 14,778.74
FUNDS AVAILABLE: Practice NC-12, Windbreaks				\$ 13,042.64
Practice NC-14, Planned Grazing				\$ (3.06)
Practice NC-17, Irrigation				\$ 13,147.11
Other available practices				\$ 1,001.48

Mr. Meismer seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #6)

AYE: Baldridge, Hansen, Kramer, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Stack,  
Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

NAY: None

ABSENT: Schilz

Cost-Share Programs - District Conservation Program – Sealing Abandoned Wells – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout for information was a report for information. Mr. Miller reported that nine contracts have been approved for cost-share, and that \$7,744.61 was available for additional contracts.

Cost-Share Programs – NE Buffer Strip Program - No report presented.

Tree Program – No report presented.

Range Programs – No report presented.

Soil Conservation Programs – No report presented.

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

Wildlife Habitat Programs – No report presented.

Water Programs – Ground Water Program – District Programs – No report presented.

Water Programs – Ground Water Program – Joint Action Plan for the Integrated Management of Ground Water and Surface Water – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors’ notebook for information was the District’s newsletter, Winter 2004, mailed December 17, 2003. Mr. Miller reported that included in the newsletter was “Questions & Answers Concerning the Proposed Temporary Suspension of the Drilling of New Wells”. Mr. Miller reported that the newsletter is mailed to all rural residents of the District and that approximately 5,700 newsletters were mailed. Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors’ notebook for information was the Legal Notice for the Public Hearings on a proposed temporary suspension in the drilling of certain new wells in a portion of the district that was published in the North Platte Telegraph on December 23 and 30, 2003 and January 6, 2004, and in the Keith County News on December 24 and 29, 2003 and January 5, 2004. Mr. Miller reported that the Nebraska statutes provide that “Notice of the hearing shall be published at the expense of the district in a newspaper published or of general circulation in the area involved at least once each week for three consecutive weeks, the last publication to be not less than seven days prior to the hearing”, and that “The notice shall provide a general description of the contents of the plan and of the area which will be considered for inclusion in the management area and a general description of all controls proposed for adoption or amendment by the district and shall identify all locations where a copy of the full text of the proposed controls may be obtained”. Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors’ notebook for information was the schedule and agenda for Public Hearings. Mr. Miller reported that the hearings will be transcribed and the transcription will be provided to each member of the Board of Directors.

Discussion occurred in regard to the procedure for the Board of Directors consideration of actions following the Public Hearings.

Water Programs – Ground Water Program – 319 Project – No report presented.

Water Programs – Ground Water Program – Ground Water Management Coalition – No report presented.

Water Programs – Watershed Program – No report presented.

Water Programs – Platte River Activities – No report presented.

Irrigation Districts – Western Irrigation District – No report presented.

Regulatory Programs – No report presented.

Trails – Lake Maloney – Mr. Miller reported that on April 10, 2003 the Twin Platte

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

Natural Resources District Board of Directors enacted the following motion “That the Twin Platte Natural Resources District be the sponsor for a grant application for federal funds and state funds for the first segment, South Maloney Trail, of the Lake Maloney trail system provided that the Lake Maloney Home Owners Association commits in writing that they can successfully secure the required local matching funds, that the Lake Maloney Home Owners Association will acquire Nebraska Public Power District approval of a detailed plan that is all inclusive for the any of the trail system occupying Nebraska Public Power District property at Lake Maloney prior to beginning construction, and that the Lake Maloney Home Owners Association enters into a written agreement with the Twin Platte Natural Resources District that the Association will provide full maintenance and the Twin Platte Natural Resources District will contribute \$3,500.00, provided funds are available, for the first segment, South Maloney Trail, of the Lake Maloney trail system”. Mr. Miller reported that the Lake Maloney Home Owners Association is currently seeking funding for the required 20% local matching funds of \$98,131.00 for the first segment, South Maloney Trail, of the Lake Maloney trail system. Mr. Miller reported that the Association is utilizing the Mid-Nebraska Community Foundation to house the local matching funds for the Association. Currently, the Foundation has funding or pledges totaling \$17,720.00. Mr. Miller reported that the Consulting Engineering firm, Kirkham Michael, prepared a grant application for funding from the Federal Transportation Enhancement Program, which is administered in Nebraska by the Nebraska Department of Roads, for the first segment, South Maloney Trail, of the Lake Maloney trail system, for \$392,526.00, which is 80% of the estimated project cost. Mr. Miller reported that on December 11, 2003, the Nebraska Department of Roads Select Committee heard presentations and reviewed applications submitted for the Federal Transportation Enhancement Program funds. Mr. Miller reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District application for the first segment, South Maloney Trail, of the Lake Maloney trail system was not approved for funding in 2004. Mr. Miller reported that many of the applications approved for funding in 2004 were denied last year and that the District’s application will be re-submitted for funding in 2005. Mr. Miller reported that to assist the Lake Maloney Home Owners Association in securing the required local matching funds, the Kirkham Michael Consulting Engineering firm prepared a grant application from the Twin Platte Natural Resources District for funding from the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission Trail Development Assistance Fund. Mr. Miller reported that the grant application, which requested \$20,000.00, was approved and that he had notified the Commission that due to the denial of federal funds, that the project will not be able to proceed in 2004 and that the District would not be able to utilize the grant. Mr. Miller reported that the District’s application for these funds would be re-submitted for funding in 2005, and that there is a good chance that these funds will again be approved. Mr. Miller reported that to assist the Lake Maloney Home Owners Association in securing the required local matching funds, the District submitted a grant application to the Peter Kiewit Foundation requesting \$20,000.00. Mr. Miller reported that this application has been denied for 2004 and that this application will be re-submitted for funding in 2005.

Information & Education Programs – No report presented.

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

Legislation – No report presented.

Requests for Authorization to Travel – No requests were presented.

Meetings and Dates of Interest – Mr. Miller reported that various items of information were in the Directors' packet and in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout.

Miscellaneous Information – Mr. Miller reported that various items of information were in the Directors' packet and in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Rubenthaler asked Mr. Miller to Chair the meeting for the election of Chairperson.

Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer – The Board agreed that they would like to consider a motion to elect the current Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Mr. Petersen moved to elect Mr. Rubenthaler Chairperson, Mr. Stack Vice-Chairperson, Mr. Weaver Secretary, and Mr. Meismer Treasurer. Mr. Wahlgren seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #7)

AYE: Baldridge, Hansen, Kramer, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Stack,  
Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

NAY: None

ABSENT: Schilz

Mr. Rubenthaler resumed chairing the meeting.

SELECTION OF NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION  
OF RESOURCES DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Kramer moved that for the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Board of Directors, the Twin Platte Natural Resources District 2004 representative be Mr. Meismer. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #8)

AYE: Baldridge, Hansen, Kramer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Stack, Wahlgren,  
Weaver, Wiseman

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Meismer

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2004

SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Wiseman requested to serve on the Water Resources Subcommittee.

Chairperson's Report – Mr. Rubenthaler announced the following appointments for the Subcommittees for 2004:

Water Resources Subcommittee

Jim Meisner - Chairperson  
Robert Petersen  
Dennis Schilz  
Joe Wahlgren  
Robert Wiseman

Land Resources Subcommittee

Jeff Baldrige - Chairperson  
Eric Hansen  
Todd Kramer

Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee

Jerry Weaver - Chairperson  
Jim Rubenthaler  
Douglas Stack

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m. CST (4:58 p.m. MST).

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Jerry Weaver, Secretary

KOM:Minutes:Bmin0104