

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting  
June 10, 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 June 10, 2004. Mr. Rubenthaler called the meeting to order at 7:39 p.m. CDT (6:39 p.m. MDT). 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  
James Meisner  
Robert Petersen  
Jim Rubenthaler  
Douglas Stack  
Joe Wahlgren  
Jerry Weaver  
Robert Wiseman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Todd Kramer  
Dennis Schilz

OTHERS PRESENT

Bob Broweleit, Sandhills RC&D  
Jim Goeke, University of Nebraska Conservation & Survey Division  
Matt Lindburg, Nebraska Public Power District  
Mike Wheeler, Sargent Irrigation

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

Jose E. Idrach  
Mary Reece, District Conservationist

STAFF PRESENT

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Report of Directors Excused - Mr. Rubenthaler reported that Mr. Kramer and Mr. Schilz were excused.

DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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 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.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Rubenthaler opened the Public Forum.

There were no comments.

Mr. Rubenthaler closed the Public Forum.

AGENDA MODIFICATION

None presented.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Sandhills RC&D Council – Bob Broweleit, Coordinator, distributed an information sheet and reported on the Resource Conservation & Development Program. Mr. Broweleit reported on the current activities of the Sandhills RC&D Council.

NPPD Gerald Gentleman Station Wells - Matt Lindburg, Nebraska Public Power District, reported on the ground water wells being installed at the Nebraska Public Power District Gerald Gentleman Station located south of Sutherland, Nebraska. Mr. Lindburg and Mr. Bowers reported on the locations selected and other information for the dedicated monitoring wells, which will have continuous recorders that will be installed around the Gerald Gentleman Station. Mr. Lindburg and Mr. Bowers reported that NPPD will install the monitoring wells and the continuous recorders and the Twin Platte Natural Resources District will assume ownership of the monitoring wells. Mr. Bowers reported on the irrigation wells around the Gerald Gentleman Station that the District staff selected for spring and fall well levels monitoring.

NE Rain Project - Mr. Bowers presented a report on the NE Rain Project, in which Natural Resources Districts are setting up a network of volunteers to collect daily rainfall. Mr. Bowers reported that wherever possible, the project is seeking to locate one collection site in a township. Mr. Bowers reported that the cost of the rain gauges is funded by a Nebraska Environmental Trust grant.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

Minutes for May 13, 2004 Meeting - Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Minutes for the May 13, 2004 Board of Directors meeting were in the Directors' packet and he asked if there were corrections or additions to the Minutes.

Mr. Petersen moved that the Minutes of the May 13, 2004 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Stack seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #1)

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Kramer, Schilz, Wahlgren

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORTS

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - District Conservationist Report – Mrs. Reece distributed a written report and she reviewed the report. Mrs. Reece reported that in the Directors’ notebook and available as a handout was a report on the allocation of EQIP funds in Nebraska for Fiscal Year 2004.

Other Agencies - No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Water Resources Subcommittee

Mr. Meismer, Water Resources Subcommittee Chairperson, reported that the Water Resources Subcommittee met on June 7, 2004 and he presented a report.

Legislative Bill 962 (Water Policy Task Force Legislation) – Mr. Meismer reported that in the Directors’ notebook and available as a handout was a Nebraska Department of Natural Resources publication titled “LB962 Enacted Into Law”, April 2004. Mr. Meismer reported that Jim Cook, Legal Counsel, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, by phone, had reviewed with the Subcommittee Legislative Bill 962 and specifically discussed issues and timelines related to the Twin Platte Natural Resources District.

Ground Water Management - Ground Water Management Plan – Mr. Meismer reported that the staff would be preparing draft revisions for the Ground Water Management Plan for a future meeting of the Subcommittee. Mr. Meismer reported that the revisions are to allow the Board of Directors the option to implement a Ground Water Management Area for the entire District. Mr. Meismer reported that a Ground Water Management Area for the entire District would allow the Board of Directors the option to require permits for drilling new wells. Mr. Meismer reported that a Ground Water Management Area for the entire District would allow the Board of Directors the option to manage ground water use and to designate additional areas with a moratorium for drilling new wells if needed.

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Integrated Management of Ground Water & Surface Water - Temporary Well Drilling Suspension – Mr. Meisner reported that the Subcommittee reviewed the area for suspension of drilling new wells that will take effect July 1, 2004.

Integrated Management of Ground Water & Surface Water - Integrated Management Plan (IMP) - Mr. Meisner reported that for the District to begin discussions of the timeline and activities required by Nebraska Statutes for the preparation of an Integrated Management Plan, the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources personnel would conduct a work session with the full Board of Directors during the July 8, 2004 Board of Directors meeting.

Integrated Management of Ground Water & Surface Water - Over Appropriated Basins & Fully Appropriated Basins – Mr. Meisner reported that the Subcommittee discussed the options provided for in LB962, which takes effect July 16, 2004, in regard to Over Appropriated Basins & Fully Appropriated Basins. Mr. Meisner reported that the Subcommittee discussed six options for revising the current area in the Twin Platte Natural Resources District for a temporary well drilling suspension that takes effect July 1, 2004.

Mr. Meisner moved the Water Resources Subcommittee recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the following:

- The Twin Platte Natural Resources District believes it is appropriate to include the Stream Depletion Factor (SDF) area (28%/40 years) for the flowing tributaries to the North Platte, South Platte, and Platte Rivers within the Twin Platte Natural Resources District in a temporary suspension of drilling new wells and a temporary stay on new irrigated acres
- Based on current information, the Board of Directors recommends that the Director of Natural Resources include the SDF area for Whitetail Creek and Birdwood Creek in a temporary suspension of drilling new wells and a temporary stay on new irrigated acres
- The Board of Directors requests the Director of Natural Resources to establish the effective date for a temporary suspension of drilling new wells and a temporary stay on new irrigated acres within the SDF area for Whitetail Creek and Birdwood Creek to be on or as close as possible to September 15, 2004 as provided for in over appropriated basins
- The Twin Platte Natural Resources District intends to allow, until at least July 1, 2005, acres not previously irrigated with ground water within the SDF area for Whitetail Creek and Birdwood Creek to be developed for irrigation through the use of legal water wells constructed within nine months of the effective date of the temporary suspension of drilling new wells
- If other tributaries and the SDF areas within the Twin Platte Natural Resources District are identified by the Director of Natural Resources, the Board of Directors will consider recommending that the Director of Natural Resources include the SDF

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area in a temporary suspension of drilling new wells and a temporary stay on new irrigated acres within those areas, and if the Board of Directors recommends inclusion of those areas, the recommendation would include requesting the Director of Natural Resources to establish the effective date of on or as close as possible to September 15, 2004 and the Twin Platte Natural Resources District would intend to allow, until at least July 1, 2005, acres not previously irrigated with ground water within the SDF area to be developed for irrigation through the use of legal water wells constructed within nine months of the effective date of the temporary suspension of drilling new wells

Mr. Petersen seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #2)

AYE: Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Stack, Weaver

NAY: Baldrige, Hansen, Wahlgren, Wiseman

ABSENT: Kramer, Schilz

Nebraska Department of Natural Resources Cooperative Agreement Funds - Interlocal Cooperation Agreement – Mr. Miller reported that the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources has funds available for Natural Resources Districts in the Platte River Basin to develop and carry out programs for administration of a Platte River Cooperative Agreement New Depletions Plan. Mr. Miller reported that \$600,000.00 is available for the 2005 Fiscal Year and that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District allocation would be \$162,109.34. Mr. Miller reported that the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources plans to continue to request \$400,000.00 annually for Natural Resources Districts in the Platte River Basin to develop and carry out programs for administration of a Platte River Cooperative Agreement New Depletions Plan. Mr. Miller reported that based on the current allocation, the Twin Platte Natural Resources District could receive in the future \$108,072.89 annually. Mr. Miller reported that the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources is currently developing an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for the Natural Resources Districts. Mr. Miller reported that the tasks that have been identified for inclusion in an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Twin Platte Natural Resources District are to develop and carry out programs for administration of a Platte River Cooperative Agreement New Depletions Plan and an Integrated Management Plan within the Twin Platte Natural Resources District, in cooperation with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources and the Natural Resources Districts within the Platte River Basins in Nebraska. Mr. Miller reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District would provide 50% match of State of Nebraska Funds used for these programs. Mr. Miller reported that the programs would include data collection and analysis, information assimilation and analysis, plans development, rules & regulations development, incentives development, and management of the plans, incentives, and rules & regulations.

Mr. Miller reported that the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement would provide for the following use of the State of Nebraska funds:

Year 1 (2004-05 Fiscal Year)

- Placement and training of personnel (2 FTE)

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- Water Programs Regulatory Coordinator
- Global Information Systems Coordinator
- Begin development of New Depletions Plan
- Begin development of Integrated Management Plan
- Develop methodology and processes utilizing aerial photography and Global Information Systems technology for identifying land use and irrigated acres within a portion of the basin for the 2004 growing season

Year 2 (2005-06 Fiscal Year)

- Implementation of the New Depletions Plan
- Continue development of Integrated Management Plan
- Establish baseline for land use and irrigated acres for the 2005 growing season
- Maintenance of personnel (2 FTE)
  - Water Programs Regulatory Coordinator
  - Global Information Systems Coordinator

Year 3 and beyond

- Implementation of the New Depletions Plan
- Implementation of Integrated Management Plan
- Maintenance of personnel (2 FTE)
  - Water Programs Regulatory Coordinator
  - Global Information Systems Coordinator

Mr. Miller reported that if approved, Ann Dimmitt, the District's Water Programs Technician, would be re-assigned to the new Water Programs Regulatory Coordinator position, effective July 1, 2004, and the Global Information Systems Coordinator would be a new hire. Mr. Miller reported that Mrs. Dimmitt's position has been fully funded by an EPA 319 Project grant the 6 ½ years she has worked for the District.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee recommendation to the Board of Directors

- To approve the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Participating in an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources to develop and carry out programs for administration within the Twin Platte Natural Resources District for a Platte River Cooperative Agreement New Depletions Plan and for an Integrated Management Plan
- To authorize the General Manager to sign the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources as the Twin Platte Natural Resources District representative
- To designate the General Manager as the District representative for the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

Mr. Wahlgren seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #3)

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Kramer, Schilz

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Nebraska Department of Natural Resources Cooperative Agreement Funds - Budget for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District – Mr. Miller distributed and reviewed a draft budget, which he has submitted to the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources for use of the State of Nebraska funds for the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement.

Mr. Meisner moved the Water Resources Subcommittee recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the following budget for utilizing State of Nebraska Funds available for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District for implementation of the tasks provided for in the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, to develop and carry out programs for administration within the Twin Platte Natural Resources District of a Platte River Cooperative Agreement New Depletions Plan and for an Integrated Management Plan

	<u>2005FY</u>	<u>2006FY</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Personnel - Direct Costs (Salary and Benefits)	\$80,395.66	\$84,148.62
- Water Programs Regulatory Coordinator (1.0 FTE)		
- Global Information Systems Coordinator (1.0 FTE)		
Personnel - In-Direct Costs (2.0 FTE)	\$15,550.00	\$15,550.00
- Insurance		
- Personnel Expense		
- Mileage (\$0.375 @ 30,000 miles)		
- Meals, Lodging, Continuing Education, Miscellaneous)		
- Cell Phones		
Office and Field Supplies	\$3,250.00	\$3,250.00
- Supplies		
- Brochures		
- Postage		
Special Projects and Capital Outlay	\$62,900.00	\$5,000.00
- Infrared Photography (2005FY)		
- Electric Logging Tape (2005FY) - One for Data Collection		
- iPAC PDA with ArcPad (2) (2005FY) - Two for Data Collection		
- Computer Equipment (2005FY) - GIS Workstation		
- Computer Software (2005FY) - GIS Software		
- Computer Software (2006FY) - GIS Software		
- Power Point Projector (2005FY) - Public Meetings		
- Office Furniture (2005FY) - GIS Coordinator		
TOTAL	\$162,095.66	\$107,948.62
<u>REVENUE</u>		
State Grants and Funds	\$162,109.34	\$108,072.89
- Cooperative Agreement Funds		
TOTAL	\$162,109.34	\$108,072.89

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

AYE: Baldridge, Hansen, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Stack, Wahlgren,  
Weaver, Wiseman  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: Kramer, Schilz

Nebraska Department of Natural Resources Cooperative Agreement Funds - Aerial Photography Contract – Mr. Miller reported that the Central Platte Natural Resources District in 2003 developed the methodology of using infrared photography and GPS points in the film for determining land use and irrigated acres and that they plan to expand the area in their District in 2004 using this methodology. Mr. Miller reported that the Natural Resources Districts must be able to certify irrigated acres in 2004 for administration of an Integrated Management Plan and in 2005 for administration of a Cooperative Agreement New Depletions Plan if approved. Mr. Miller reported that the Global Information Systems Coordinator would be using the photography and specialized software. Mr. Miller reported that the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement provides for developing the methodology and processes utilizing the aerial photography and the Global Information Systems technology for identifying land use and irrigated acres within a portion of the basin in the Twin Platte Natural Resources District for the 2004 growing season. Mr. Miller reported that the photography is estimated to cost \$29,791.13 for the SDF area along the North Platte River, South Platte River, and Platte River, and \$7,281.70 for the SDF area along the Birdwood Creek and Whitetail Creek. Mr. Miller reported that the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement budget provides for \$29,000.00 of state funds for the photography.

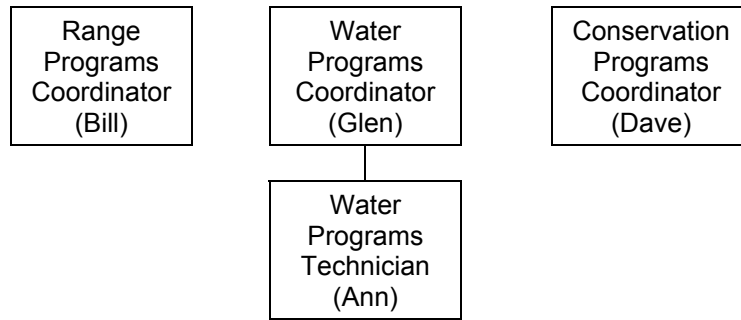
Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the Twin Platte Natural Resources District entering into a contract for aerial photography for the SDF area along the North Platte River, South Platte River, Platte River, Birdwood Creek, and Whitetail Creek with Cornerstone Mapping – Lincoln, NE for work to be performed during the summer of 2004 for a cost not to exceed \$37,000.00 and to authorize the General Manager to execute the contract as the Twin Platte Natural Resources District representative. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #5)

AYE: Baldridge, Hansen, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Stack, Wahlgren,  
Weaver, Wiseman  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: Kramer, Schilz

Nebraska Department of Natural Resources Cooperative Agreement Funds - Personnel –

Mr. Miller reported that the current District staffing structure is as follows:

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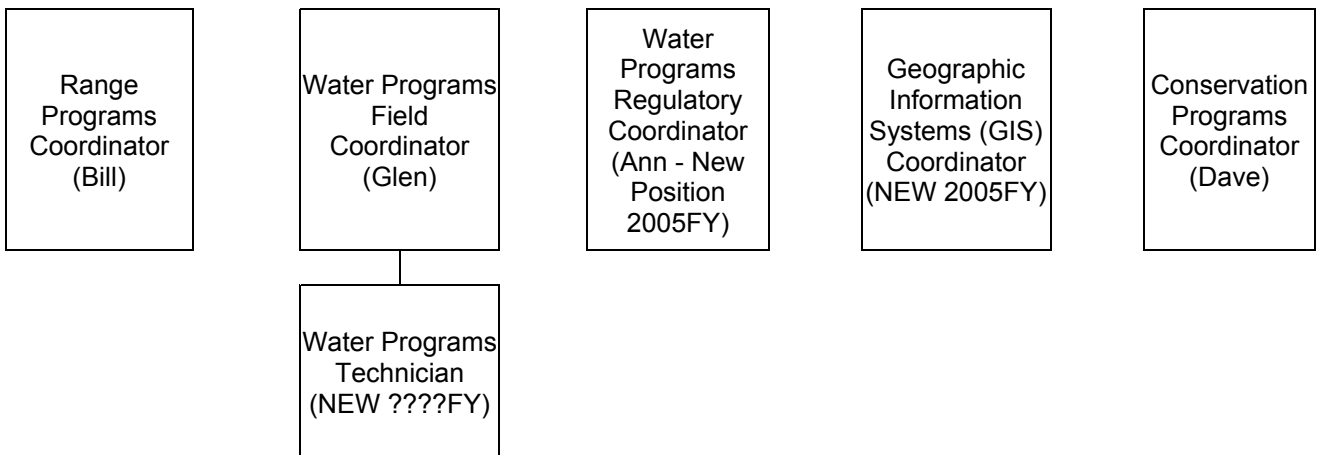


Water Programs Coordinator

Administration of Water Programs  
 Data Collection - Quality & Quantity  
 Data Compilation  
 Data Analysis - Quality & Quantity  
 Ground Water Management Plan Administration  
 Assist Water Programs Coordinator

Water Programs Technician

Mr. Miller reported that he was recommending the following District staffing structure:



Water Programs Field Coordinator

Data Collection - Quality & Quantity  
 Data Analysis - Quality

Water Programs Regulatory Coordinator

Integrated Management Plan Development  
 Integrated Management Plan Administration  
 Data Analysis - Quantity

Geographic Information Sys Coordinator

Data Entry and Compilation  
 Assist Water Programs Field Coordinator  
 Assist Water Programs Regulatory Coordinator  
 Assist Water Programs Field Coordinator

Water Programs Technician

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the following revisions for the Personnel Policies effective July 1, 2004: (Deletions have a strikethrough line. Additions are underlined)

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**Personnel Policy Number 4: AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL**

Full-Time

- General Manager (*Kent O. Miller*)
- Conservation Programs Coordinator (*Dave Slattery*)
- Range Programs Coordinator (*Bill Carhart*)
- Water Programs Field Coordinator (*Glen Bowers*)
- Water Programs Regulatory Coordinator (*Ann Dimmitt*)
- Global Information Systems (GIS) Coordinator (*New Hire*)
- Administrative Assistant (*Amy Mapes*)
- Secretary - North Platte USDA-NRCS Field Office (*Kathy Clark*)
- ~~Water Programs Technician~~

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

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Kramer, Schilz

Legal Counsel - Water Issues – No report presented.

South Platte River - South Platte River Coalition – Mr. Miller reported that the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement has been signed by all of the sponsors and the first organizational meeting has been held. Mr. Miller reported that the Western Irrigation District has received a Nebraska Environmental Trust grant for research and analysis of Nebraska's water supply possibilities from the South Platte River, and to perform and pursue other matters related to the South Platte River. Mr. Miller reported that the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement is to carry out the Trust's grant. Mr. Miller reported that the South Platte Group sponsors are Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District, Central Platte Natural Resources District, Nebraska Public Power District, South Platte Natural Resources District, State of Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, Twin Platte Natural Resources District, and Western Irrigation District. Mr. Miller reported that Dennis Schilz (Western Irrigation District Board Member) was elected Chair, Rod Horn (South Platte Natural Resources District – General Manager) was elected Secretary/Treasurer, and he was elected Vice-Chair.

NPPD Gerald Gentleman Station Wells - NPPD Advisory Committee – Mr. Meismer reported that the NPPD Advisory Committee had met twice at the Twin Platte Natural Resources District's offices to facilitate communication and discuss options for mitigation for damages that the NPPD Gerald Gentleman Station Wells may cause. Mr. Meismer reported that the three NPPD representatives on the Advisory Committee were Bill Fehrman, President & CEO; Ralph Holzfafter, Member Board of Directors; and Frank Kwapnioski, Water Resources. Mr. Meismer reported that the three Twin Platte Natural Resources District representatives on the Advisory Committee were Mr. Wiseman, Mr. Miller, and himself. Mr. Meismer reported that six producers have been

participating.

NPPD Gerald Gentleman Station Wells - Twin Platte Natural Resources District Monitoring – Reported on earlier in the Board meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT  
Land Resources Subcommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT  
Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT  
Executive Subcommittee

Mr. Rubenthaler, Executive Subcommittee Chairperson, reported that the Executive Subcommittee met prior to the Board of Directors meeting and he presented a report.

Personnel Salaries for 2005 Fiscal Year – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Subcommittee reviewed the authorized positions, reviewed the salary schedules, reviewed the cost-of-living, and reviewed the General Managers salary.

Mr. Meismer moved the Executive Subcommittee recommendation to the Board of Directors that the salary schedule steps for each position be increased 2.5% for the 2005 Fiscal Year in recognition of the cost-of-living to maintain the value of the salary compensation and that the General Manager's salary be set at \$64,500.00 for the 2005 Fiscal Year. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #7)

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

NAY: Baldrige

ABSENT: Kramer, Schilz

Personnel Policy Revisions - Personnel Policy Number 3: TERM OF EMPLOYMENT –

Mr. Stack moved the Executive Subcommittee recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the following revisions for the Personnel Policies: (Deletions have a strikethrough line. Additions are underlined)

**Personnel Policy Number 3: TERM OF EMPLOYMENT**

All employees serve at the will of the District. An employee may be terminated for any reason or no reason at all. Management's decision to terminate an employee shall

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be final. Any employee terminated shall have the opportunity for an exit interview with his or her Supervisor or the General Manager.

All employees are expected to be law-abiding citizens and their conduct on the job and outside of employment shall not cause the District difficulties or hinder the District in carrying out the purposes of the District.

The Twin Platte Natural Resources District shall not employ a person if any member of the person's immediate family is a member of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors. Immediate family shall mean father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, or spouse. The Twin Platte Natural Resources District shall not employ a person if an individual permanently residing in his or her personal residence is a member of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors. The Twin Platte Natural Resources District shall not employ a person if there is a legal guardianship arrangement between the person and a member of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors.

Mr. Meisner seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #8)

AYE: Baldridge, Hansen, Meisner, Petersen, Stack, Wahlgren, Weaver,  
Wiseman

NAY: None

ABSENT: Kramer, Rubenthaler, Schilz

Legal Counsel - Water Issues – No report presented.

Board of Directors - Vacancy in Election Sub-District One – January 2005 – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Nebraska Statutes govern vacancies in the office of a Director and authorizes the Board to fill such vacancies. Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the District's current policy when a vacancy on the Board of Directors occurs is the Executive Subcommittee will seek persons interested in filling the vacated Director position, and recommend one or more persons to the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy no later than the second regular meeting of the Board of Directors following the occurrence of the vacancy. Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Subcommittee agreed that they did not wish to recommend any change in the current policy. Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Subcommittee agreed that they would like to begin this fall seeking persons interested in filling the vacated Director position such that they could possibly have a recommendation for the January 2005 Board of Directors meeting of one or more persons to fill the vacancy.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statement - Mr. Meisner reported that the Financial Statement for May 2004 was in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout for information.

Accounts Payable - Mr. Meisner reported that the Accounts Payable report was in the

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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 May 2004 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented on the Accounts Payable report on June 10, 2004 in the amount of \$31,552.41. Mr. Wahlgren seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #9)

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Kramer, Schilz

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 July 8, 2004 Board of Directors Meeting – Mr. Miller reported that the District Policy provides that “The staff will notify the Board during the Board meeting immediately prior to the Board meeting at which bids will be presented for consideration”. Mr. Miller reported that the staff plans to present bids/proposals for consideration during the July 8, 2004, August 12, 2004, or September 9, 2004 Board of Directors meeting for the purchase of a vehicle, computer equipment, computer software, and a electric logging tape. Mr. Miller reported that these items were to implement the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources to develop and carry out programs for administration within the Twin Platte Natural Resources District for a Platte River Cooperative Agreement New Depletions Plan and for an Integrated Management Plan approved in Motion #3 and that the Budget provides for the purchase of these items.

Audit for 2004 Fiscal Year - Mr. Miller reported that the District has received a proposal from the accounting firm of McChesney, Martin and Sagehorn to audit the financial statements of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District for the 2004 Fiscal Year, which ends June 30, 2004. Mr. Miller reported that the audit of the financial statements of the District is required by Nebraska Statutes. Mr. Miller reported that the firm had prepared the audit for the District in previous years. Mr. Miller reported that the estimated fee in previous proposals had never been exceeded, and that the estimated fee in the proposal for the 2004 Fiscal Year was \$2,850.00.

Mr. Petersen moved that the proposal received from the accounting firm of McChesney, Martin and Sagehorn to audit the financial statements of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District for the 2004 Fiscal Year be accepted and to authorize the General Manager to sign the proposal as the District representative. Mr. Meismer seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #10)

AYE: Baldridge, Hansen, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Stack, Wahlgren,

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Weaver, Wiseman  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: Kramer, Schilz

DIRECTORS REPORTS

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Board of Directors Meetings – Mr. Meismer reported that the next Board meeting would be June 21, 2004 in South Sioux City, NE and that the Nebraska Association of Resources District Missouri River Basin Tour would be June 21-22, 2004.

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Water Policy Task Force – No report presented.

Platte River Citizens Advisory Council – No report presented.

Sandhills Resources, Conservation & Development Council – No report presented.

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 that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout was the monthly report. Mr. Miller reported that \$4,553.38 was available.

Mr. Meismer moved to approve the June 10, 2004 report as presented and to approve the following new contracts:

<u>Cont#</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>App Amt</u>	<u>Prop Amt To Fund</u>
<u>PROPOSED NEW CONTRACTS:</u>				
04-078 NC-14		Planned Grazing System	\$ 804.00	\$ 804.00
Total Amount Of New Contracts				\$ 804.00
FUNDS AVAILABLE: Available practices				\$ 3,749.38

Mr. Baldrige seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #11)

AYE: Baldrige, Hansen, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Stack, Wahlgren,  
Weaver, Wiseman  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: Kramer, 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 20 contracts have been approved

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for cost-share, and that \$4,663.36 was available for additional contracts.

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

Tree Program – Mr. Miller reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District and several other Natural Resources have experienced a problem with the Eastern Red Cedar stock purchased from the Halsey Nursery. Mr. Miller reported that it appears that we have experienced a total loss of the 18,000 trees we received. Mr. Miller reported that although the District does not guarantee trees, when there is a total loss of a species that was of no fault of the customer, the staff believes that the trees should be replaced and that the customer needed to be informed of this immediately. Mr. Miller reported that the staff was attempting to obtain replacement trees from the Halsey Nursery at no cost to the District. Mr. Miller reported that if this is not successful, the Board can consider adjusting the cost for trees next year to fund the cost for the replacement trees. Mr. Miller reported that the Land Resources Subcommittee will receive a full report during the September 9 meeting of the Subcommittee and if necessary, the Subcommittee can develop options at that time to fund the cost of the replacement trees.

Range Programs – No report presented.

Soil Conservation Programs – No report presented.

Wildlife Habitat Programs – WILD Nebraska Program – No report presented.

Wildlife Habitat Programs – Corners for Wildlife Program – No report presented.

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

Water Programs – Ground Water Program – Integrated Management of Ground Water & Surface Water – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet for information was the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources newsletter, “Nebraska Resources - Summer 2004”, which contains a special report on LB962.

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 - Brule – No report presented.

Water Programs – Watershed Program – Western Irrigation Watershed – Mr. Miller reported that during the January 8, 2004 Board meeting, a motion was approved 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

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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 to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service requesting federal assistance for development of the Southwestern Keith County Watershed. Mr. Miller reported that the name of the watershed has since been changed to the Western Irrigation Watershed. Mr. Miller reported that the Board of Directors of the South Platte Natural Resources District and the Board of Directors of the Upper Republican Natural Resources District recently took action to be joint sponsors.

Water Programs – Platte River Activities - Cooperative Agreement – Mr. Miller reported on the status of the Cooperative Agreement.

Water Programs – Platte River Activities - Cooperative Hydrology Study – Mr. Miller reported on the status of the Cooperative Hydrology Study.

Water Programs – Platte River Activities – Nebraska Habitat Conservation Coalition – No report presented.

Water Programs – Platte River Activities – Economic Coalition – No report presented.

Water Programs – Platte River Activities – North Platte River – No report presented.

Water Programs – Platte River Activities – South Platte River – No report presented.

Regulatory Programs - Chemigation – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet for information was a summary report of chemigation program activities in Nebraska for 2003.

Regulatory Programs – Erosion and Sediment Control - No report presented.

Regulatory Programs – Ground Water Runoff - No report presented.

Trails – Lake Maloney – No report presented

Information & Education Programs – 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.

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BUDGET FOR 2005 FISCAL YEAR

Preparation Schedule - Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet was a schedule for preparing the 2005 Fiscal Year Budget for the District. Mr. Miller reported that the schedule provides for Board review of the first draft of the Budget during the June Board meeting and provides the Board four opportunities to review and discuss the Budget prior to final approval.

Review Draft #1 - Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout was the first draft of a budget for the 2005 fiscal year. Mr. Miller reviewed the information for the proposed budget for the 2005 fiscal year.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:29 p.m. CDT (9:29 p.m. MDT).

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Jerry Weaver, Secretary

KOM:Minutes:Bmin0604