

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
November 13, 2008

The Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board (TPNRD) of Directors meeting was held at the TierOne Bank Center Meeting Room, Second Floor, 111 South Dewey Street, North Platte, Nebraska on November 13, 2008. Mr. Stack called the meeting to order at 3:28 pm CST (2:28 pm 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

Eric Hansen
Jim Meisner
Bob Petersen
Dennis Schilz
Doug Stack
Shane Storer
Jerry Weaver

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Dale Margritz
Jim Rubenthaler
Joe Wahlgren
Bob Wiseman

OTHERS PRESENT

Brad Johnson, Sargent Irrigation

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

Mary Reece, District Conservationist
Jay Rezek, Engineer

STAFF PRESENT

Bill Carhart, Range Programs Coordinator
Ann Dimmitt, Water Programs Regulatory Coordinator
Amy Mapes, Administrative Assistant
Kent Miller, General Manager

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nebraska Open Meeting Act – Mr. Stack reported that the Nebraska Open Meeting Act requires public bodies to make available at least one current copy of the Open Meeting Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public, and at the beginning of the meeting the public shall be informed about the location of the posted information. Mr. Stack reported that the current Open Meeting Act was posted on the wall of the meeting room and accessible to members of the public.

Report of Directors Excused – Mr. Stack reported that Operating Policy Number 4: BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENCES provides that a Director will be considered excused if the Director notifies the office prior to the meeting that he will be absent and

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that the minutes will reflect whether an absent Director is excused or unexcused. Mr. Stack reported that Mr. Margritz, Mr. Rubenthaler, Mr. Wahlgren, and Mr. Wiseman had notified the office prior to the meeting that they would be absent and are therefore excused.

Distribution of Information – Mr. Stack reported that handouts were available for the public in the back of the meeting room.

Other Announcements – Mr. Stack reported that the monthly summary report of Natural Resources Conservation Service conservation plans was available for information and that the report would be passed around the Board table for review by each member of the Board of Directors present.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Stack opened the Public Forum. There were no comments. Mr. Stack closed the Public Forum.

AGENDA MODIFICATION

None presented.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

Minutes for October 9, 2008 Meeting – Mr. Stack reported that the Minutes for the October 9, 2008 meeting were in the Directors packet and he asked if there were any corrections or additions.

Mr. Meismer moved that the Minutes of the October 9, 2008 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #1)

Aye: Hansen, Meismer, Petersen, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Weaver
Nay: None
Absent & Excused: Margritz, Rubenthaler, Wahlgren, Wiseman

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

None presented.

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORT

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service – District Conservationist Report – Mrs. Mary Reece distributed and reviewed a written report for information.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Land Resources SubCommittee

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No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
Water Resources SubCommittee

Mr. Meismer, Water Resources Subcommittee Chairperson, presented a report for the Water Resources Subcommittee meeting held on November 13, 2008.

Ground Water Management – Variances – Requests – Nevens Ranch, Inc. – Mr. Meismer reported that the District has received a request for a variance from the Nevens Ranch, Inc. Mr. Meismer asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that on August 30, 2006 the TPNRD received a request from the Nevens Ranch Inc of Keystone, Nebraska for a new well permit. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the rules for abandoning replacement wells at that time were for the original water well to be decommissioned within one year of construction of the new water well. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that on September 29, 2008 our office received a phone call from Nevens Ranch inquiring about a letter that was sent out regarding the replacement well permit TPR-5.22 issued in August of 2006. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that upon further research it was found that the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NE DNR) had sent out letters to persons who have not complied with the rules for decommissioning a well. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that people have received this letter stating that their replacement well is illegal and no longer can be used, and must contact their local NRD office to obtain a new well permit. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that for this particular well, the well driller did drill a replacement well but the landowner was to install a modified pump in the old well to be used as a stock well within the one-year time frame, which did not occur, so this well is no longer legal. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the NE DNR constitutes that this is now considered a new well. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that Nevens Ranch is now requesting a new well permit for what was originally supposed to be a replacement well. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that pumping from this well will not cause a new depletion to the river, because it is not a new well since the original well was decommissioned. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the Water Resources Subcommittee, during the last meeting on October 9, 2008, agreed to request the TPNRD staff to contact NE DNR on this matter to determine how a new type of permit could be allowed to prove that there is no new depletion or consumptive use from such a permit or use of such a permit.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that on October 14, 2008, Jennifer Schellpeper of NE DNR was contacted and it was decided that a new type of permit will be allowed. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that VA will represent variances, which will need to include further explanations on the annual reporting forms since the department will not know what exactly the variance is for. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the explanation will allow the TPNRD to prove that there is no new depletion or consumptive use from this permit, or use of the permit.

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Mr. Petersen moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to the Nevens Ranch Inc of Keystone, NE to issue a new well permit TP.VA.9.06 for a new well in the NE1/4 of Section 16, Township 14 North, Range 36 West, Keith County, Nebraska due to the fact that the use of the new well will remain the same, and there will be no new depletions to the stream or consumptive uses. Mr. Schilz seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #2)

Aye: Hansen, Meismer, Petersen, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Weaver

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Margritz, Rubenthaler, Wahlgren, Wiseman

Ground Water Management – Variances – Requests – City of North Platte - Mr. Meismer reported that the District has received a request for a variance from the City of North Platte. Mr. Meismer asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that on December 15, 2005, a replacement well permit was requested by the City of North Platte, Nebraska. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the rules for abandoning replacement wells at that time were for the original water well to be decommissioned within one year of construction of the new water well. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that on September 29, 2008, the TPNRD received a phone call from Jerry Deal with the City of North Platte inquiring about a letter he received from the NE DNR in regard to his replacement well permit TPR-5.09 issued in December 2005. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that upon further research it was found that the NE DNR had sent out letters to persons who have not properly decommissioned the original wells. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that people have received this letter stating that their replacement well is illegal and no longer can be used, and must contact their local NRD office to obtain a new well permit. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that for this particular well, Mr. Deal believed that he had unlimited time to install the pumping equipment once the replacement well was drilled. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the one year deadline passed and no equipment was installed, so this well is no longer legally considered a replacement. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the NE DNR constitutes that this is now considered a new well. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the City of North Platte is now requesting a new well permit for what was originally supposed to be a replacement well. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that pumping from this well will not cause a new depletion to the river since the original well was decommissioned. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that on October 9, 2008 the Water Resources Subcommittee agreed to request the TPNRD staff to contact NE DNR on this matter to determine how a new type of permit could be allowed to prove that there is no new depletion or consumptive use from such a permit or use of such a permit.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that on October 14, 2008, Jennifer Schellpeper of NE DNR was contacted and it was decided that a new type of permit will be allowed. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that VA will represent variances, which will need to include further explanations on the annual reporting forms since the department will not know what exactly the variance is for. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the explanation will allow the TPNRD to prove that there is no new depletion or consumptive use from this permit, or use of the permit.

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Mr. Meisner moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to the City of North Platte, NE to issue a new well permit TP.VA.9.06 for a new well in the NE1/4 of Section 16, Township 14 North, Range 36 West, Lincoln County, Nebraska due to the fact that the use of the new well will remain the same, and there will be no new depletions to the stream or consumptive uses. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The Motion carried. (Motion #3)

Aye: Hansen, Meisner, Petersen, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Weaver

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Margritz, Rubenthaler, Wahlgren, Wiseman

Ground Water Management – Variances – Requests – Nevens Ranch, Inc. – Mr. Meisner reported that the District has received an additional request for a variance from the Nevens Ranch, Inc. Mr. Meisner asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the TPNRD received a request from the Nevens Ranch Inc of Keystone, Nebraska to transfer 17.0 certified ground water irrigated acres from Section 7, Township 14 North, Range 36 West, Keith County, Nebraska, approximately one-half mile east to Section 16, Township 14 North, Range 36 West, Keith County, Nebraska. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the Nevens Ranch is obtaining certified irrigated acres from their neighbor, Tim Holzfafter, so they can add another tower to an existing pivot system. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the 17.0 acres will be de-certified by Tim Holzfafter so that Nevens Ranch will be allowed to irrigate an additional 16.5 acres at his location.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that in the Directors’ Board meeting notebook was a map of the acre and a COHYST map of the stream depletion factors. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the COHYST model was run and there is a slight increase in stream depletion percentage at the new location, so the Nevens Ranch will have to de-certify 16.5 acres to be able to irrigate 17.0 acres. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that there will be no new depletions.

Mr. Meisner moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting an additional variance to the Nevens Ranch Inc of Keystone, Nebraska to de-certify 17.0 acres in Section 7, Township 14 North, Range 36 West, Keith County, Nebraska, and to transfer those certified ground water irrigated acres to Section 16, Township 14 North, Range 36 West, Keith County, Nebraska, to irrigate an additional 16.5 acres subject to Nevens Ranch Inc LLC providing the Twin Platte Natural Resources District proof of ownership. Mr. Schilz seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #4)

Aye: Hansen, Meisner, Petersen, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Weaver

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Margritz, Rubenthaler, Wahlgren, Wiseman

Ground Water Management – Variances – Requests – Oppliger Farms, LLC. – Mr. Meisner reported that the District has received a request for a variance from Oppliger Farms, LLC. Mr. Meisner asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

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Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the TPNRD received a request from Oppliger Farms LLC to transfer 93.58 certified ground water irrigated acres from Section 13, Township 14 North, Range 35 West, Keith County, Nebraska, to Section 34, Township 15 North, Range 35 West, Keith County, Nebraska. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that Oppliger Farms would like to move their pivot they have next to the North Platte River that has been certified to a different location. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the 93.58 certified ground water irrigated acres at the current location will be de-certified and will no longer be allowed to be irrigated. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that this request will be taking certified acres from the valley and moving them away from the river and there will be no new depletions. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that this request also is to drill a new irrigation well at the new pivot location, and to be allowed to modify the existing irrigation well to pump less than 50 gpm so it may be used to water livestock.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that in the Directors' Board meeting notebook was a map of the acre and a COHYST map of the stream depletion factors. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the COHYST model was run and there is a decrease in stream depletion percentage for the new location, so there will be no new depletions.

Mr. Meisner moved the Water Resources Subcommittee's recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to Oppliger Farms LLC to move 93.58 certified ground water irrigated acres in Section 13, Township 14, North, Range 35 West, Keith County, Nebraska, to Section 34, Township 15 North, Range 35 West, Keith County, Nebraska subject to Oppliger Farms LLC providing the Twin Platte Natural Resources District proof of ownership. Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #5)

Aye: Hansen, Meisner, Petersen, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Weaver
Nay: None
Absent & Excused: Margritz, Rubenthaler, Wahlgren, Wiseman

Ground Water Management – Violations – No report presented.

Ground Water Management – Municipalities Reporting Requirements – Mr. Meisner reported that municipalities are required (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 46-740) to report ground water use to the Natural Resources Districts. Mr. Meisner asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the status.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that on September 11, 2008 the Board of Directors approved purchasing municipal reporting software from Integrated Computers of North Platte, Nebraska. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that due to additional information being required by the NE DNR, that there may be additional costs from Integrated Computers.

Mr. Meisner reported that the NE DNR may be able to fund this additional cost.

Ground Water Management – Certified Irrigated Acres – Mr. Meisner asked Mrs.

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Dimmitt to report on the status for the TPNRD providing information of the certified irrigated acres on the TPNRD website.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the Central Platte Natural Resources District provides information of the certified irrigated acres on their website and that the TPNRD staff is preparing a recommendation for the TPNRD Board of Directors for providing information of the certified irrigated acres on the TPNRD website.

Ground Water Management – Ground Water Levels – Mrs. Meisner reported that in the Directors’ Board meeting packet were maps showing Ground Water Level Changes in the TPNRD – Spring 2000 to Spring 2008, Ground Water Level Changes in the TPNRD – Predevelopment to Spring 2008, Ground Water Level Changes in the TPNRD – Spring 2007 to Spring 2008, and Ground Water Level Changes in Nebraska – Spring 2007 to Spring 2008.

Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Program – Eligible Practices – Mr. Meisner reported that the Natural Resources Commission has approved an addition to the current Irrigation Water Management Practice (NC-17) to allow cost-share on soil moisture sensors and data readers. Mr. Meisner reported that the Board of Directors, during the July 10, 2008 Board meeting, agreed to continue the current policy of the TPNRD which provides that the following practices are not available for cost-share in the TPNRD:

- Practice NC-12, Windbreaks, parts F & G
- Practice NC-14, Planned Grazing Systems, part C
- Practice NC-16, Windbreak Renovation
- Practice NC-17, Irrigation Water Management, selected components in part B and part D
- Practice NC-19, Repair of Practices

Mr. Meisner reported in the Directors’ Board meeting notebook for information was the TPNRD Eligible Practices and the Natural Resources Commission Advisory No. 26.

Mr. Meisner reported that during the October 9, 2008 Board meeting, action was taken as follows “for the Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program Irrigation Water Management Practice (NC-17), that soil moisture sensors and data readers not be available for cost-share in the District at this time” to allow the Water Resources Subcommittee an opportunity to obtain additional information.

Mr. Meisner asked Mrs. Reece, NRCS District Conservationist and Mr. Rezek, NRCS Civil Engineer, to provide a report on soil moisture sensors and data readers which was done.

Mr. Meisner moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to rescind Motion #8, October 9, 2008 “for the Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program Irrigation Water Management Practice (NC-17), that soil moisture

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sensors and data readers not be available for cost-share in the District at this time” and for the Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program, Irrigation Water Management Practice (NC-17), to allow cost-share on soil moisture sensors and data readers for three applications based on Natural Resources Commission Advisory No. 26 per year per producer and to require that an end of season report by the producer be submitted to the Twin Platte Natural Resources District for ten years. Mr. Schilz seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #6)

Aye: Hansen, Meismer, Petersen, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Weaver

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Margritz, Rubenthaler, Wahlgren, Wiseman

Integrated Management Plan – Twin Platte Natural Resources District – Nebraska Department of Natural Resources – No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan – Twin Platte Natural Resources District – Stakeholders Meetings – Mr. Meismer reported that the next meeting of the TPNRD Stakeholders is scheduled for November 17, 2008 at 7:00 pm CDT.

Mr. Meismer reported that following discussions last week between personnel from the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources and the TPNRD staff, it was determined that the TPNRD did not need to proceed with action to approve a Fully Appropriated Integrated Management Plan (IMP) at this time. Mr. Meismer reported that the NE DNR no longer is encouraging the TPNRD to take this interim step. Mr. Meismer reported that all agreed that it would make more sense to do one hearing and one set of actions later in 2009 for an Over Appropriated IMP and a Fully Appropriated IMP and the associated Rules and Regulations. Mr. Meismer reported that the Subcommittee would resume discussions in January in regard to finalizing the details in regard to soils and fees for the Fully Appropriated IMP. Mr. Meismer reported that Mrs. Dimmitt would be meeting with personnel from the NE DNR later this month and in December to prepare a draft Over Appropriated IMP, as requested by the Stakeholders, with a first draft to be available later in December.

Mr. Meismer reported that the Subcommittee agreed that the November and December Stakeholders meetings be cancelled, as the next task for the Stakeholders was to review the first draft of an Over Appropriated IMP.

Mr. Meismer reported that Mr. Weaver recommended that a retreat be held for the Board of Directors when the draft Fully Appropriated IMP's and draft Over Appropriated IMP's are nearing completion to allow adequate time for a presentation and discussion of the draft Fully Appropriated IMP's and draft Over Appropriated IMP's which the Subcommittee agreed should be done.

Integrated Management Plan – Twin Platte Natural Resources District - Fully Appropriated Integrated Management Plan – No report presented.

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Integrated Management Plan – Twin Platte Natural Resources District - Over Appropriated Integrated Management Plan – No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan – Platte River Basin – No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
Executive Subcommittee

No report presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statement - Mr. Meismer reported that the Financial Statement for October 2008 was in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout.

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 October 2008 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented on the Accounts Payable report on November 13, 2008 in the amount of \$29,331.60. Mr. Schilz seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #7)

Aye: Meismer, Petersen, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Weaver
Nay: None
Absent & Excused: Margritz, Rubenthaler, Wahlgren, Wiseman
Out of Room: Hansen

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

Bids/Proposals – No bids/proposals presented.

Bids/Proposals Scheduled to be Presented for Consideration during the December 2008 Board of Directors Meeting – Mr. Miller reported that no bids/proposals were scheduled to be presented for consideration during the December 9, 2008 Board of Directors meeting.

DIRECTORS REPORTS

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Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Board of Directors Meeting – Mr. Meismer reported on the November 10, 2008 meeting of the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Board of Directors.

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Natural Resources Districts “Fact Sheets” – Mr. Meismer reported that the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts is coordinating the preparation of Natural Resources Districts “Fact Sheets” for each river basin in Nebraska and for each Natural Resources District within the river basin. Mr. Meismer reported that in the Directors’ Board meeting packet for information were “Fact Sheets” for the upper Platte River Basin and the Natural Resources Districts within the upper Platte River Basin, “Fact Sheets” for the Republican River Basin and the Natural Resources Districts within the Republican River Basin, and “Fact Sheets” for the Niobrara River Basin and the Natural Resources Districts within the Niobrara River Basin. Mr. Meismer reported that the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts plans to provide the individual Natural Resources District fact sheets and basin fact sheets to members of the Legislature.

Water Policy Task Force – Mr. Meismer reported on the October 15, 2008 meeting of the Water Policy Task Force.

Sandhills Resources, Conservation & Development Council – Mr. Hansen reported on recent activities of the R C & D Council. Mr. Hansen reported that the next meeting of the R C & D Council would be November 25, 2008 at the Twin Platte Natural Resources District.

Requests for Authorization to Travel – No requests were presented.

DISTRICT REPORT

Cost-Share Programs - NSWCP – Eligible Practices – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook was a report and that \$45,351.03 was available for funding contracts.

Mr. Petersen moved to approve the November 13, 2008 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>
9.012	NC-17	Irrig Water Management	\$ 1,718.10	\$ 1,718.10
9.013	NC-1	Terraces	\$ 2,695.49	\$ 2,695.49
Total Amount of New Contracts				\$ 4,413.59
FUNDS AVAILABLE:		Practice NC-12, Windbreaks		\$ 24,159.72
		Practice NC-14, Planned Grazing		\$ 890.40

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Practice NC-17, Irrigation	\$ 15,190.29
Other available practices	\$ 697.03

Mr. Meismer seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #8)

Aye: Hansen, Meismer, Petersen, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Weaver

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Margritz, Rubenthaler, Wahlgren, Wiseman

Cost-Share Programs – District Conservation Programs – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' Board notebook was a report, and that \$5,501.45 was available for new contracts.

Tree Program – No report presented.

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 Management – No report presented.

Water Programs – Integrated Management Plans – No report presented.

Water Programs – Platte River Recovery Implementation Program – No report presented.

Water Programs – Watersheds - Brule – No report presented.

Water Programs – Watersheds – Western Irrigation – No report presented.

Water Programs – Interlocal Cooperation Agreements - Cooperative Hydrology Study – No report presented.

Water Programs – Interlocal Cooperation Agreements – Ground Water Management Coalition – No report presented.

Water Programs – Interlocal Cooperation Agreements – South Platte Coalition – Mr. Miller reported that the South Platte Coalition sponsors would be meeting on December 10, 2008 in Kearney, NE and he reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

Mr. Miller reported that on August 27, 2006, he submitted an application to the Interrelated Water Management Plan Program (IWMPP) Funds for the South Platte River Compact Water Project.

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	<u>IWMPP</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Local</u> <u>Match</u>	<u>Total</u>
Year One	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
Year Two	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
Total	\$ 92,000.00	\$ 23,000.00	\$115,000.00

Mr. Miller reported that the project is to conduct a hydrologic assessment of water that could be available for Nebraska authorized by the South Platte River Compact, under the terms of which Nebraska is permitted to divert and store water from the South Platte River during the non-irrigation season.

Mr. Miller reported that for Year One:

- Funding approved in September 2006 for \$56,000.00.
- Contract for Year One was executed on January 23, 2007 between the TPNRD and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.
 - The contract for year one provided that the term of the grant is one year commencing with the first disbursement request, not later than January 1, 2007, and ending twelve months thereafter.
 - Expenses, therefore, could occur between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2007.
- A contract with the Flatwater Group was executed in March 2007 and completed in December 2007.
- All of the \$70,000.00 budgeted was spent.
- The local match of \$14,000.00 was paid with funds available from the South Platte River Coalition.

Mr. Miller reported that for Year Two

- Application for funding was submitted in February 2007.
- Funding approved in August 2007 for \$36,000.00.
- Contract for Year Two was executed on November 28, 2007 between the TPNRD and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.
 - The contract for year two provided that the term of the grant is one year commencing July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008.
 - Expenses, therefore, could occur between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008.
- No expenses occurred in that period.

Mr. Miller reported that IWMPP funds were utilized in Year One for an analysis by the Flatwater Group of water that may be available for Nebraska in the South Platte River Compact. Mr. Miller reported that the Flatwater Group report identified further analyses needed for evaluating potential water supply. Mr. Miller reported that the Flatwater Group report was completed in December 2007. Mr. Miller reported that there was not adequate time between the end of December 2007 and June 30, 2008 to adequately review the report to determine which of the identified items recommended for further analysis to pursue, execute a contract with a consultant, and complete work.

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Mr. Miller reported that he requested and the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission has approved that the funding approved in August 2007 for Year Two (July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008) in the amount of \$36,000.00 be made available for the remainder of the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2009.

Mr. Miller reported that the South Platte Coalition sponsors will be asked to determine the use of these funds.

Water Programs – Interlocal Cooperation Agreements – Nebraska Habitat Conservation Coalition – No report presented.

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

Regulatory Programs - Chemigation – Mr. Carhart presented a report on the Twin Platte Natural Resources District's Chemigation program.

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

Regulatory Programs – Ground Water Runoff – No report presented.

Hazard Mitigation Plans – No report presented.

Information & Education Programs – 2008 Awards Program – Mr. Miller reported that the District's 2008 Tree Award for Lincoln / McPherson Counties was presented November 10, 2008 to John & Maureen Childears of Lincoln County during the North Platte Chamber Farmer/Rancher Appreciation Banquet. Mr. Miller reported that the Board Chairperson, Mr. Rubenthaler and District staff participated in the award presentation.

Mr. Miller reported that the District's 2008 Conservation Award for Keith/Arthur Counties will be presented December 9, 2008 to Paul & Janet Heinrich of Paxton during the District's Awards Banquet. Mr. Miller reported that the Board of Directors meeting will be at 4:30 pm MST (5:30 pm CST) at the Lake McConaughy Visitors Center and the Awards Banquet will be at 6:00 pm MST (7:00 pm CST) at the Haythorn Ranch.

Legislation – Mr. Miller reported that he has been participating in meetings of four Natural Resources Districts General Managers and four surface water irrigation district managers to discuss differences between ground water interests and surface water interests with a hope that an agreement can be reached in regard to the qualifications for the Director of the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.

Requests for Authorization to Travel – No requests for authorization to travel were presented.

Meetings and Dates of Interest – Mr. Miller reported that various items of information

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were in the Directors packet.

Miscellaneous Information – Mr. Miller reported that various items of information were in the Directors packet and in the Directors notebook.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

NEXT MEETING

Mr. Stack reported that the next Board of Directors meeting would be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at 4:30 pm MST (5:30 pm CST) at the Lake McConaughy Visitor's Center near Kingsley Dam, north of Ogallala, Nebraska.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:14 pm CST (4:14 pm MST).

Jerry Weaver, Secretary