

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
April 13, 2000

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 April 13, 2000. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Boyer at 7:35 p.m. CDT (6:35 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
Kent Boyer
James Meisner
Robert Petersen
Jim Rubenthaler
Douglas Stack
Frank Svoboda
Joe Wahlgren
Jerry Weaver

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT & EXCUSED

Todd Kramer

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT

Roric Paulman

NRCS PERS PRESENT

Mary Reece, D Cons
Kristin Miller, Range M Spec
Lee Morse, Civil Engr Tech
Nathan McCaleb, State Soil S

OTHERS PRESENT

STAFF PRESENT

Kent O Miller, Gen Mgr
Ardis Lehmkuhler, Adm Asst
Glen Bowers, Water P Coor

PUBLIC FORUM

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Report of Directors Excused - Mr. Boyer reported that Mr. Kramer was excused.

DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Directors Notebooks Containing Information Items Available for Handout - Mr. Boyer reported that each Director has a notebook containing information items that are available for handouts for others attending the meeting. Mr. Boyer reported that the handouts are on a table at the back of the room.

Documents for Review Prior to Action Scheduled Later on the Agenda - Mr. Boyer reported that notebooks of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service containing

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2000

Conservation Plans for the Highly Erodible Lands Program were available for review, that the notebooks would be passed around the Board table for review by each member of the Board of Directors present, and that later in the meeting the Conservation Plans would be considered for approval.

AGENDA MODIFICATION

None presented.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Carbon Sequestration – Nathan McCaleb, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service State Soil Scientist, utilized a power point presentation to report on carbon sequestration.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Funding - Nathan McCaleb, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service State Soil Scientist, reported on the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Funding.

Platte River Target Flows – The US Fish & Wildlife Service power point presentation on Platte River target flows was shown using Mr. McCaleb’s power point projector.

Twin Platte Natural Resources District Programs – Digital pictures of the District’s Tree Programs and Water Programs were shown utilizing Mr. McCaleb’s power point projector. Pictures were shown of the 2 millionth tree planted by the District and of Water Programs activities in southwestern Keith County.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Minutes for March 9, 2000 Meeting - Mr. Boyer reported that the Minutes were in the Directors' packet, and he asked if there were corrections or additions to the Minutes.

Mr. Stack moved that the Minutes of the March 9, 2000 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Petersen seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #1)

AYE: Baldridge, Boyer, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Stack, Svoboda,
Wahlgren, Weaver

NAY: None

ABSENT: Kramer, Paulman

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORTS

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - Monthly Report – Mrs. Reece reported that in the Directors' Packet for information was a narrative report prepared by her and she reviewed her report.

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2000

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - Programs - Environmental Quality Incentive Program – No report presented.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - Programs - Conservation Reserve Program - No report presented.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - Programs - Highly Erodible Lands Requirements - Mr. Boyer reported that in the Directors' packet for information were the listings of completed Highly Erodible Lands determinations. Mr. Boyer reported that each member of the Board of Directors present had reviewed the notebook containing the Conservation Plans for Highly Erodible Lands.

Mr. Rubenthaler moved to approve the Conservation Plans for the USDA Highly Erodible Lands Program presented to and reviewed by each member of the Board of Directors present and to authorize the General Manager to sign the Conservation Plans as the District representative. Mr. Meismer seconded the motion and it carried. (Motion #2)

AYE: Baldrige, Boyer, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Stack, Svoboda,
 Wahlgren, Weaver

NAY: None

ABSENT: Kramer, Paulman

Nebraska Board of Educational Lands and Funds - Cooperative Agreements - No report presented.

Other Agencies - Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout for information was the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission's newsletter "Nebraska Resources" for Winter 2000, the National Association of Conservation District's newsletter "The District Leader" for March 2000 and the National Water Resources Association's newsletter "Water Report" for March 27, 2000.

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

PROGRAMS

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2000

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
Executive Subcommittee

No report presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statement - Mr. Meismer reported that the Financial Statements for March 2000 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. Miller reported that check #9637 was to pay the \$100.00 registration fee for the 2000 Nebraska State Envirothon for the North Platte High School Team A. Mr. Miller asked the Board if they wished to remove this check from the accounts payable and consider payment of the registration fee later in the agenda. Mr. Miller reported that the North Platte High School Team A qualified to participate in the 2000 Nebraska State Envirothon and that the last time a team from within the District qualified, the District paid the team's registration fee for the Nebraska State Envirothon. Mr. Miller reported that the North Platte High School Team A was the only team from within the Twin Platte Natural Resources District to qualify. Mr. Miller reported that the 2000 Nebraska State Envirothon is May 6, 2000 at Ft Robinson State Park and that the registration fee for the 2000 Nebraska State Envirothon is \$100.00 per team. Mr. Miller reported that the Nebraska Envirothon is coordinated and sponsored by the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts and he recommends that the District provide financial support for the team from North Platte.

The Board of Directors by consent agreed that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District pay the \$100.00 registration fee for the 2000 Nebraska State Envirothon for the North Platte High School Team A and to consider check #9637 with the accounts payable.

Mr. Meismer moved that the Financial Statement for March 2000 be received and placed on file for audit and that the Accounts Payable in the amount of \$20,703.08 be paid. Mr. Stack seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #3)

AYE: Baldridge, Boyer, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Stack, Svoboda,
Wahlgren, Weaver
NAY: None
ABSENT: Kramer, Paulman

Budget Status - Mr. Meismer reported that the Budget Status report was in the Directors'

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2000

notebook and available as a handout. Mr. Meismer reported that there were no new or additional overruns.

Bids/Proposals - None were presented.

Bids/Proposals Scheduled To Be Presented for Consideration During the May 11, 2000 Board of Directors Meeting - Mr. Miller reported that no bids/proposals were scheduled to be presented for consideration during the May 11, 2000 Board of Directors meeting.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Board of Directors Meetings – Mr. Meismer reported that in the Directors' packet for information were the minutes for the Board of Directors meeting held on March 6, 2000.

Budget – Fiscal Year 2001 – Mr. Meismer reported that in the Directors' packet for information was the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts draft budget for Fiscal Year 2000.

Mr. Svoboda moved that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District object to the proposed 3.0% dues increase. Mr. Petersen seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #4)

AYE: Baldridge, Boyer, Petersen, Stack, Svoboda, Wahlgren

NAY: Meismer, Weaver

ABSENT: Kramer, Paulman, Rubenthaler

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District Water Conservation Task Force

Mr. Meismer reported that in the Directors' packet for information were the minutes for the Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District Water Conservation Task Force meeting held on March 16, 2000.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Platte River Citizens Advisory Council

Mr. Boyer reported on the activities of the Platte River Citizens Advisory Council appointed by Governor Johanns to monitor the activities of the Platte River Cooperative Agreement and to prepare reports and recommendations for the Governor.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Requests for Authorization to Travel

No requests were presented.

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2000

DISTRICT REPORT

Requests for Assistance - No requests were presented.

Cost-Share Programs - Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program - Contracts - Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout was the monthly report. Mr. Miller reported that \$51.08 was available.

Mr. Wahlgren moved to approve the April 2000 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</u>
<u>Fund</u>				
PROPOSED NEW CONTRACTS:				
00-082	NC-17	Irrigation Water Mgm	\$ 1,623.00	\$ 51.00
Total Amount Of New Contracts				\$ 51.00
FUNDS AVAILABLE				\$ 0.00

Mr. Meisner seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #5)

AYE: Baldrige, Boyer, Meisner, Petersen, Stack, Svoboda, Wahlgren, Weaver

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Rubenthaler

ABSENT: Kramer, Paulman

Mr. Miller reported that the District's policy provides that "If an application for cost share through the Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Program is approved by the Board of Directors after September 30th of any fiscal year beginning July 1, 1999, the applicant must complete the practice and submit the paper work required for the payment in sufficient time and no later than June 15th for the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission to process the completed application before the end of the fiscal year", that "An applicant's failure may result in the loss of all or part of the cost share" and that "Applicants will be required to sign a document stating their knowledge of this policy and agreeing to the terms thereof". Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout was a report of the contracts approved for this year along with the contracts expiration date for information.

Cost-Share Programs - District Conservation Program – Contracts for Approved Programs for Fiscal Year 2000 – Sealing Abandoned Wells - Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout for information was a report.

Cost-Share Programs - District Conservation Program - Contracts for Approved Programs for Fiscal Year 2000 – Soil Testing - Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout for information was a report.

Cost-Share Programs - District Conservation Program - Contracts for Approved Programs

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2000

for Fiscal Year 2000 – Demonstrations for Buffer Areas at Irrigation Well - No report presented.

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

Tree Program –Mr. Miller reported that the District personnel began tree planting in the District on April 3, 2000. Mr. Miller reported that 57,980 trees were purchased from Colorado and 575 trees were purchased from Halsey. Mr. Miller reported that the District’s machine crew was scheduled to plant 41,310 trees at 95 sites, that John Nelson was scheduled to hand plant 3,585 trees at 19 sites, that 81 orders were processed for purchase of 11,164 trees to be planted by individuals and that Mike Ekdahl was scheduled to place 132,000 feet of water conservation mulch material at 51 sites.

Range Programs – No report presented.

Soil Conservation Programs - No report presented.

Wildlife Habitat Programs - No report presented.

Water Programs – Ground Water Program – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet for information was the quarterly report to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District’s 319 Project. Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet was information in regard to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality actions in regard to the Enterprise Partners Livestock Operation in Arthur County. Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout for information was a draft of revisions being considered by Lincoln County for the Lincoln County Zoning Rules and Regulations. Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout was information in regard to a meeting he will be participating in with Governor Johanns to discuss the prohibition for drilling new irrigation wells on Brady Island.

Water Programs –Watershed Program – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet for information was the “Final Report – Flood Management Study for Village of Brule Keith County Nebraska” prepared by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service at the request of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District. Mr. Miller reviewed the report. Mr. Miller reported that the District would assist with facilitating an annual meeting of all agencies in regard to maintenance.

Water Programs – Platte River Activities - Cooperative Agreement Relating to Endangered Species – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout was information for meetings of the Governance Committee. Mr. Miller reported that he attends meetings of the Governance Committee, the Water Action Plan Committee and the Water Management Committee as his schedule allows with a priority for attending meetings of the Water Management Committee which he is a member and

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2000

the Water Action Plan Committee. Mr. Miller reported that he is participating in meetings in Nebraska about the issues within Nebraska.

Water Programs – Platte River Activities - Cooperative Hydrology Study – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout was information for meetings of the sponsors for the Cooperative Hydrology Study.

Regulatory Programs – No report presented.

Information & Education Programs – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet was information for scholarships provided by the District. Mr. Miller reported that the District's policy provides for seven scholarships annually for the Nebraska Range Camp and three scholarships annually for the Natural Resources and Leadership Camp for youth or the Sandhills Academy Camp for youth.

Legislation – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet and in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout were reports and information of Legislation being considered in the Nebraska Legislature.

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.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:08 p.m. CDT (9:08 p.m. MDT).

Douglas Stack, Secretary

KOM:MSOMIN2:Bmin0400