

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting  
January 11, 2001

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 11, 2001. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Rubenthaler at 3:10 p.m. CST (2:10 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

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

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT & EXCUSED

Robert Petersen

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT

Jeff Baldrige

NRCS PERS PRESENT

OTHERS PRESENT

STAFF PRESENT

Ardis Lehmkuhler, Adm Asst  
Kent O. Miller, Gen Mgr

OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW DIRECTORS ELECTED TO BOARD

Mr. Rubenthaler reported that Mr. Schilz and Mr. Wiseman had signed an oath of office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Report of Directors Excused - Mr. Rubenthaler reported that Mr. Petersen was excused.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

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. Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the handouts are on a table at the back of the room.

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Documents for Review Prior to Action Scheduled Later on the Agenda - Mr. Rubenthaler reported that a notebook of the Cooperative Agreements with the State of Nebraska Board of Educational Lands and Funds for Conservation Plans was available for information, that the notebook 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 Cooperative Agreements for Conservation Plans would be considered for approval.

Mr. Miller passed around the Board table thank you notes received.

AGENDA MODIFICATION

None presented.

GENERAL INFORMATION

No report presented.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Minutes for December 12, 2000 Meeting - Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Minutes for the December 12, 2000 Board of Directors meeting 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 December 12, 2000 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Wahlgren seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #1)

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Baldrige, Petersen

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORTS

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - Monthly Report – Mr. Miller reported that Mrs. Reece was unable to be present due to an illness in her family. Mr. Miller reported that Mrs. Reece had asked him to report that Chuck Markley will be the Soil Scientist in the North Platte field office beginning March 11, 2001.

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

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

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - Programs - Highly Erodible Lands

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Requirements – Conservation Plans – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors’ notebook and available as a handout was the December listing of completed Highly Erodible Lands determinations.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - Programs – Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program - No report presented.

Nebraska Natural Resources Commission – Mr. Miller reported that Nebraska Natural Resources Commission members are selected by River Basins by the seated Natural Resources District Directors within the River Basin. Mr. Miller reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District is within the South Platte, North Platte and Middle Platte basins.

Nebraska Natural Resources Commission - North Platte Basin - Caucus – January 9, 2001 – Gering, NE – Mr. Miller reported that LeRoy Pieper was re-elected to the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission to represent the North Platte River Basin.

Nebraska Natural Resources Commission - Middle Platte Basin - Caucus – January 11, 2001 – Grand Island, NE – No report presented.

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

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Financial Statement - Mr. Meismer reported that the Financial Statements for December 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. Meismer moved that the Financial Statement for December 2000 be received and placed on file for audit and that the Accounts Payable in the amount of \$11,649.34 be paid. Mr. Kramer seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #2)

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Baldrige, Petersen

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 8, 2001 Board of Directors Meeting - Mr. Miller reported that no bids/proposals were scheduled to be presented for consideration during the February 8, 2001 Board of Directors meeting.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Board of Directors Meetings – No report presented.

Legislative Conference, January 23-24, 2001, Lincoln, NE - Program – Mr. Miller reported on the Legislative conference that will be held January 23-24, 2001 in Lincoln, NE. Mr. Miller reported that Mr. Meismer, Mr. Rubenthaler, Mr. Wahlgren and Mr. Weaver are planning to attend the Conference.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District Water Conservation Task Force

No report presented.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Platte River Citizens Advisory Council

Mr. Meismer, Board representative, reported on the Platte River Citizens Advisory

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Council meeting held on December 15, 2000.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS  
Requests for Authorization to Travel

No requests were presented.

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORTS (Continued)

Nebraska Board of Educational Lands and Funds - Cooperative Agreements - Mr. Rubenthaler reported that each member of the Board of Directors present had reviewed the notebook containing the Cooperative Agreements with the State of Nebraska Board of Educational Lands and Funds for Conservation Plans.

Mr. Kramer moved to approve the Cooperative Agreements between the Nebraska Board of Educational Lands and Funds and the Twin Platte Natural Resources District to assist in the development and the application of a complete resource conservation plan for land leases presented to and reviewed by each member of the Board of Directors present, with the assistance provided by the District dependent upon the amount of assistance available by the District, and to authorize the General Manager to sign each Cooperative Agreement as the District representative. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion and it carried. (Motion #3)

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

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 \$22,276.83 was available.

Mr. Wahlgren moved to approve the January 2001 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:				
01-041	NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 168.31	\$ 168.31
01-042	NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 534.55	\$ 534.55
01-043	NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 1,083.50	\$ 1,083.50
01-044	NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 988.60	\$ 988.60

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01-045 NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 143.55	\$ 143.55
01-046 NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 116.33	\$ 116.33
01-047 NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 1,410.38	\$ 1,410.38
01-048 NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 1,083.83	\$ 1,083.83
01-049 NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 244.53	\$ 244.53
01-050 NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 504.90	\$ 504.90
01-051 NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 1,402.95	\$ 1,402.95
01-052 NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 376.20	\$ 376.20
01-053 NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 866.28	\$ 866.28
01-054 NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 163.35	\$ 163.35
01-055 NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 1,044.88	\$ 1,044.88
01-056 NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 803.20	\$ 803.20
01-057 NC-12	Windbreaks	\$ 110.25	\$ 110.25
Total Amount Of New Contracts			\$ 11,046.14
FUNDS AVAILABLE: Practice NC-12, Windbreaks			\$ 11,230.69
Other available practices			\$ 0.00

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

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Baldrige, Petersen

Cost-Share Programs - District Conservation Program – Contracts of Approved Programs for Fiscal Year 2001 – Sealing Abandoned Wells - No report presented.

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

Tree Program – No report presented.

Range Programs – No report presented.

Soil Conservation Programs – No report presented.

Wildlife Habitat Programs - No report presented.

Water Programs – Ground Water Program – 319 Project – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors’ packet for information was the quarterly report for the District’s 319 Project. Mr. Miller reported that the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality’s Coordinator for 319 Projects in Nebraska has verbally reported to him that the District’s application for a new 319 Project for an additional three years has been approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. Miller reported that the coordinator verbally reported to him that the District should be receiving in the next few weeks a letter from the Director of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality of the approval of the District’s application.

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Water Programs – Ground Water Program – District Programs – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet for information was a report of the use of the District's water trailer for 2000.

Water Programs – Watershed Program – No report presented.

Water Programs – Platte River Activities - Cooperative Agreement Relating to Endangered Species – Mr. Miller reported on the status of extending the Cooperative Agreement. 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 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. 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. Mr. Miller reported that he participates in the meetings of the sponsors as the representative for the District.

Regulatory Programs – No report presented.

Information & Education Programs – 2000 Awards Program – Mr. Miller reported on the District's Grassland Conservation award for Keith/Arthur Counties which was presented to Korty Land & Cattle during the District's Awards Dinner following the December 12, 2000 Board meeting. Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout for information were news articles of the award presentation.

Legislation – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet was a letter to Senator Don Pederson and draft Legislation he had prepared in regard to the water issue effecting valley land south of the Platte River between North Platte and Brady. Mr. Miller reported that Senator Pederson introduced the Legislation today, which is Legislative Bill 518.

Mr. Wahlgren moved that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District support Legislative Bill 518. Mr. Meismer seconded the motion and it carried. (Motion #5)

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Baldrige, Petersen

Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout for information was the 2001 Legislative Session calendar and a Legislative update prepared by Dean Edson, Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Executive Director.

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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. Mr. Miller reported that the Figure 4 Traditions at the Haythorn Ranch in Keith County, Nebraska has been reserved for December 11, 2001 for the District's Board meeting and Awards Dinner.

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.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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

Chairperson - Mr. Miller asked for nominations. Mr. Rubenthaler was nominated. No other nominations were made.

Mr. Kramer moved that nominations cease and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Mr. Rubenthaler for Chairperson. Mr. Wahlgren seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #6)

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

Vice-Chairperson - Mr. Miller asked for nominations. Mr. Stack was nominated. No other nominations were made.

Mr. Kramer moved that nominations cease and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Mr. Stack for Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #7)

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

Secretary - Mr. Miller asked for nominations. Mr. Weaver was nominated. No other nominations were made.

Mr. Kramer moved that nominations cease and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Mr. Weaver for Secretary. Mr. Schilz seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #8)



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

Treasurer - Mr. Miller asked for nominations. Mr. Meismer was nominated. No other nominations were made.

Mr. Kramer moved that nominations cease and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Mr. Meismer for Treasurer. Mr. Schilz seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #9)

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

SELECTION OF NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION  
OF RESOURCES DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Wahlgren moved that for the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Board of Directors the Twin Platte Natural Resources District 2001 representative be Mr. Meismer. Mr. Kramer seconded the motion, and it carried. (Motion #10)

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

SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Chairperson's Report – Mr. Rubenthaler announced the following appointments for the Subcommittees for 2001:

Water Resources Subcommittee

Jim Meismer - Chairperson  
Robert Petersen  
Jim Rubenthaler  
Dennis Schilz  
Joe Wahlgren

Land Resources Subcommittee

Jeff Baldrige - Chairperson  
Eric Hansen  
Todd Kramer

Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee

Jerry Weaver - Chairperson  
Douglas Stack

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Robert Wiseman

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m. CST (3:28 p.m. MST).

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Douglas Stack, Secretary

KOM:MSOMIN3:Bmin0101