

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
July 13, 2006

The Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors meeting was held at the TierOne Bank Center Meeting Room, Second Floor, West Wing, 111 South Dewey Street, North Platte, Nebraska on July 13, 2006. Mr. Rubenthaler called the meeting to order 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
Eric Hansen
Jim Meisner
Robert Petersen
Jim Rubenthaler
Dennis Schilz
Doug Stack
Shane Storer
Robert Wiseman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Joe Wahlgren
Jerry Weaver

OTHERS PRESENT

John Lindenberger, North Platte Telegraph
DeWayne Reese
Troy L. Reese

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

Lee Morse
Mary Reese

STAFF PRESENT

Amy Mapes, Administrative Assistant
Kent O. Miller, General Manager

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nebraska Open Meeting Act – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that Legislative Bill 898 – 2006 amended the Nebraska Open Act effective July 14, 2006 to require 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. Rubenthaler reported that the current Open Meeting Act is posted on the wall of the meeting room and is accessible to members of the public.

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

Report of Directors Excused – Mr. Rubenthaler 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 or she will be absent and that the minutes will reflect whether an absent Director is excused or unexcused. Mr. Rubenthaler reported that Mr. Wahlgren and Mr. Weaver had notified the office prior to the meeting that they would be absent and that they are therefore excused.

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

Other Announcements – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that monthly summary reports of NRCS conservation plans were available for information and that the reports 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.

Mr. Troy L. Reese and Mr. DeWayne Reese stated that they had purchased land in Keith County that they had planned to irrigate from an existing well. They stated that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District staff told them that the District's rules and regulations do not allow irrigation of this land since they do not have knowledge that the land had been previously irrigated. They stated that they were not aware that they could not irrigate this land prior to purchasing the land. They stated that they had talked to personnel in the Keith County USDA Farm Service Agency and to an employee of Holzfafter's Equipment in Ogallala, Nebraska who had told them they could irrigate the land. They requested the Board to allow them to irrigate this land.

Mr. Rubenthaler requested the Water Resources Subcommittee to bring a recommendation to the Board of Directors in regard to the request presented by Mr. Troy L. Reese and Mr. DeWayne Reese.

Mr. Rubenthaler closed the Public Forum.

AGENDA MODIFICATION

None presented.

GENERAL INFORMATION

None presented.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

Minutes for June 8, 2006 Meeting – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Minutes for the June 8, 2006 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 June 8, 2006 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Stack seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #1)

Aye: Baldridge, Hansen, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Wiseman

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Wahlgren, Weaver

Absent: None

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission – Teaming with Wildlife – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that this agenda item was to consider the invitation the Twin Platte Natural Resources District has received from the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission to be a part of Teaming with Wildlife. Mr. Rubenthaler reported that in the Directors’ packet was information received from the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission which included a letter dated May 22, 2006, a Fact Sheet, and a Statement of Endorsement. Discussion occurred.

Following discussion, the Board of Directors took no action to be a part of Teaming with Wildlife.

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORT

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Land Resources Subcommittee

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 July 13, 2006.

Ground Water Management - Variances – Mr. Meismer reported that stays have been imposed on increasing the number of acres historically irrigated within the Over-Appropriated area of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District. Mr. Meismer requested that Mr. Miller present a report.

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

Mr. Miller reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District has received a request from Providence Investments, LLC, requesting a variance on the property described as Section 22, Township 13 North, Range 30 West, Lincoln County, Nebraska. Mr. Miller reported that Providence Investments, LLC, is purchasing 18.0 acres south of North Platte on east State Farm Road to build an office building. Mr. Miller reported that the 18.0 acres were previously used to irrigate corn and are certifiable under Twin Platte Natural Resources District rules and regulations. Mr. Miller reported that the variance request is to construct a new well to irrigate 9.5 acres of urban landscaping around the office complex. Mr. Miller reported that the request would not increase ground water use as the Crop Irrigation Requirement for 18.0 acres of irrigated corn is equal to 9.5 acres of irrigated urban landscaping for the land. Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook for information was the Twin Platte Natural Resources District variance application and a map of the area in question.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee's recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to Providence Investments, LLC, requesting a variance on the property described as Section 22, Township 13 North, Range 30 West, Lincoln County, Nebraska, to construct a new well to irrigate 9.5 acres of urban landscaping on 18.0 acres. Mr. Stack seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #2)

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

Ground Water Management – Nebraska Funds – Mr. Meismer requested that Mr. Miller present a report.

Mr. Miller reported that Interrelated Water Management Plan Program Funds are available for Natural Resources Districts and that the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission is developing guidelines for distribution of the funds. Mr. Miller reported that the draft guidelines provide that only Natural Resources Districts that agree to provide a minimum local revenue match of at least 20% of the project cost, either cash or in-kind services, will be eligible to receive funding. Mr. Miller reported that for purposes of these guidelines, in-kind services means providing additional funds to existing budgets to hire staff or buy supplies necessary for implementing activities described in a grant application to the Interrelated Water Management Program. Mr. Miller reported that in year 2006-2007 the funds will be awarded to Natural Resources Districts that are involved with the processes defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 46-712, 46-715, or 46-739 or in studies to determine the need for a management plan. Mr. Miller reported that the Commission will not set hard caps on how the funds will be distributed among the Natural Resources Districts, but for FY 06-07 the Commission will strive to distribute 60% of the funds to Natural Resources Districts that have no designated fully-

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

appropriated or over-appropriated areas and that therefore cannot take advantage of the special three year levy authorized by Section 2-3225(1)(c). Mr. Miller reported that it is required that these funds will be obligated within the year the funds are awarded. Mr. Miller reported that priorities in order of priority are: (1) Technical studies needed to make wise decisions on how to manage hydrologically connected surface water and ground water to achieve the purposes of water management planning, such as studies that will increase the understandings of the connection between surface water and ground water and analysis of the economic, environmental, and/or social impacts of management options; (2) Assist in implementing water management projects that will enhance the benefits derived from available water supplies, including but not limited to flow retiming of augmentation projects, intentional recharge or conjunctive use projects, and assistance in implementing innovative incentive programs. Mr. Miller reported that no funds can be expended for the retirement of irrigated acres. Mr. Miller reported that projects may be for up to three years, but actual funding will be provided on a year-by-year basis and that projects previously funded by the Program, but not yet complete, will have priority over new projects.

Mr. Miller reported that projects involving multiple governmental or private entities will receive additional points. Mr. Miller reported that he has discussed possible joint applications with the Central Platte Natural Resources Districts, and that the two Districts are planning to submit a joint application for funding the Ground Water Modeler approved by an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for a Ground Water Modeling Coalition to hire a Hydrologist / Ground Water Modeler for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District, the Central Platte Natural Resources District, and the Tri Basin Natural Resources District, with the Hydrologist / Ground Water Modeler to be housed in the Twin Platte Natural Resources District offices in North Platte and are planning to submit a joint application for development of a Water Banking Program.

Integrated Management Plan - Stakeholders Vacancy – Mr. Meisner reported that John Kilpatrick, an employee of the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission in North Platte, who the Board of Directors selected to be a member of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District stakeholders representing the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission, has accepted another job out of state. Mr. Meisner reported that Mr. Miller had talked to Mr. Kilpatrick and he suggested that Thomas (T.J.) Walker, an employee of the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission in North Platte, be selected to be a member of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District stakeholders representing the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission.

Mr. Meisner moved the Water Resources Subcommittee's recommendation to the Board of Directors to invite Thomas (T.J.) Walker, an employee of the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission in North Platte, to be a member of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District stakeholders representing the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission. Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #3)

Aye: Baldridge, Hansen, Meisner, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Wiseman

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

Nay: None
Absent & Excused: Wahlgren, Weaver
Absent: None

Platte River Cooperative Agreement - Meeting with Governor Heineman - Mr. Meismer reported that Governor Heineman is thinking about having a special meeting of key people in the Platte River Basin to discuss the proposed Platte River Recovery Implementation Program. Mr. Meismer reported that up to 100 people plus the members of the Governor's Advisory Council would be invited. Mr. Meismer reported that Mr. Miller was invited to submit names of suggested participants no later than July 3, 2006. Mr. Meismer reported that Mr. Miller consulted with the members of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors attending the June 26, 2006 IMP Stakeholders meeting and submitted the following names:

- Dennis Schilz – Western Irrigation District Board President and Producer in Western Keith County - Brule, NE
- Roric Paulman – President West Central Nebraska Ground Water Users Coalition and Producer in Southern Lincoln County – Sutherland, NE
- Joe Wahlgren – Producer in Eastern Lincoln County – Brady, NE
- Jerry Weaver – Farm Manager - North Platte, NE
- Steve Krajewski – City Manager – Ogallala, NE
- Jim Hawks – City Administrator – North Platte, NE
- Kent O. Miller – General Manager Twin Platte Natural Resources District – North Platte, NE
- Jim Meismer – Producer – Paxton, NE (Mr. Meismer is a member of the Governor's Advisory Council. Indicated that the Advisory Council should be invited to listen to the discussion but if they are not, that we would add Mr. Meismer.)

Platte River Cooperative Agreement - Nebraska Public Meetings - Mr. Meismer reported that Governor Heineman will not be making a decision on the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program until sometime after October 10, 2006. Mr. Meismer reported that Governor Heineman has scheduled three public meetings on the proposed Program: September 6 in Scottsbluff; September 22 in Grand Island; and October 10 in Lincoln.

Mr. Meismer reported that since the Program will not be initiated by October 1, 2006, an extension of the current Cooperative Agreement will be needed.

South Platte River Compact – Mr. Meismer reported that the District's legal counsel, Harriet Hageman, is continuing to research options for filing the necessary documents, materials, and permit applications in regard to the Board of Directors approval of Motion #14 on April 13, 2006.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
Executive Subcommittee

Mr. Rubenthaler, Executive Subcommittee Chairperson, presented a report for the Executive Subcommittee meeting held on July 13, 2006.

Personnel Benefits - Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) Health Insurance Program for Natural Resources Districts Employees - Mr. Meisner reported that the Nebraska Department of Insurance (NDOI) has recently determined that the NARD Self Insurance Plan should be registered under the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Act. Mr. Meisner reported that the NARD will have to register, carry minimum reserves, be subject to reporting requirements, pay premium taxes and have procedures outlined on distribution of profits. Mr. Meisner reported that the NARD has met with the Department of Insurance, Mid-American Benefits (the third-party administrator for our program), and the NARD/NRD Benefits Committee to develop solutions. Mr. Meisner reported that NDOI originally set the date to comply for July 1, 2006 but NDOI is extending this until September 1, 2006 at the request of NARD so we could look at some options.

Mr. Meisner reported that the minimum reserves are estimated to be 20% of premiums which would be about \$600,000 annually. Mr. Meisner reported that the NARD has run the program as a minimum premium program, which the primary goal was to estimate the minimum premiums to cover the liabilities. Mr. Meisner reported that this worked fairly well and kept the annual premium increases below what other groups experienced for many years but didn't get the reserves built up because of the tendency to use what reserve was there to cushion the premium. Meisner reported that in addition, the NARD had tended to hope that the upcoming year would not have large claims. Mr. Meisner reported that in 2000 and 2004, the program had significant losses. Mr. Meisner reported that in the future, the NARD needs to plan on having bad years and have the reserves in place to cushion these impacts. Mr. Meisner reported that the NARD/NRD Employee Benefits Committee looked at all maximum exposures to calculate the need. Mr. Meisner reported that the first category is what is considered as "lasers". Mr. Meisner reported that these are individuals that the re-insurance company thinks will exceed the \$100,000 cap. Mr. Meisner reported that when the company bids, they increase the cap for these individuals up to as much as \$300,000 and the additional liability comes back to the NARD Program. Mr. Meisner reported that this year, the lasers for four individuals are an additional \$500,000. Mr. Meisner reported that the NARD also needed to determine what existing bills need to be paid for the current year for which funds are not available right now, which amounts to \$270,000. Mr. Meisner reported that with commission savings and a MAP discount, the total reserve requirement is \$1,277,000.00.

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

Mr. Meisner reported that the NARD considered a fully-funded plan. Mr. Meisner reported that a company would do the same calculations plus profit so the premiums would increase proportionately. Mr. Meisner reported that this is an option, but not for this year. Mr. Meisner reported that the NARD asked for fully-funded program bids in the renewal process and were turned down by several companies, including Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Mr. Meisner reported that in the future, this may be a possibility, but we ran out of options this year.

Mr. Meisner reported that the NARD considered options for joining other groups or the state program and determined that was not feasible.

Mr. Meisner reported that the statutes that govern the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act allow the entity running the program to issue bonds to the participants to generate the reserves necessary to run the program. Mr. Meisner reported that this would be an asset to the NRD contributing the funds. Mr. Meisner reported that the estimated cost per employee to establish a reserve fund of \$1,277,000.00 is \$3,713.00. Mr. Meisner reported that the NARD has approved some reductions in benefits, as well as a premium increase to fully fund the plan as well as establishing and maintaining the required reserve. Mr. Meisner reported that when the reserves are above the amount required by law, the insurance fund can pay back the bonds, plus interest.

Mr. Meisner reported that the NARD has approved the following:

- Increase the deductible from \$400 to \$1000.
- Increase the co-pay from 20% on the first \$5,000 to 20% of the first \$10,000.
- Change mail order prescription from a three month supply for single monthly co-pay to a three month supply for 2-times a single monthly co-pay.
- Medical Insurance premium rates increases: Employee 14.67%, Employee/Spouse 38.54%, Employee/Child 21.59%, and Employee/Family 34.67%.
- Dental Insurance premium rates increases: 6% across the board.
- Short Term Disability coverage ends effective 12:01 am, July 1, 2006.
- As of July 1, 2006, Mike Tefft will no longer represent NARD.
- Begin working on a 125 Flex Plan for employees to use pre-tax dollars for health care.
- Seek additional funds from the Natural Resources Districts to establish a reserve for the Insurance Program in the form of a Bond and/or Promissory Note with the individual Natural Resources Districts contributing funds per employee to a reserve to allow payment of the outstanding claims, and to bring the plan into compliance with the Nebraska Department of Insurance.

Mr. Meisner reported that the premium increase impacts the Twin Platte Natural Resources District employees significantly more than most of the other Natural Resources District employees in the state, as most of the Natural Resources Districts pay the full cost for the employee and two-thirds to three-fourths of the extended benefits cost for family members of the employee, whereas the Twin Platte Natural Resources District

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

only pays the full cost for the employee with no payment toward the extended benefits cost for family members of the employee. Mr. Meismer reported that the additional annual cost for an employee with extended benefits for children will be \$963.84, the additional annual cost for an employee with extended benefits for a spouse will be \$2,582.52, and the additional annual cost for an employee with extended benefits for family will be \$3,469.80. Mr. Meismer reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District employees who utilize extended benefits for family members were willing to forego a cost-of-living increase for their salary next year if the Twin Platte Natural Resources District for July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 would contribute one-third of the additional cost for extended medical insurance cost for family members of the employee, and the Twin Platte Natural Resources District beginning July 1, 2007 would contribute two thirds of the additional cost for extended medical insurance cost for family members of the employee. Mr. Meismer reported that the cost for the 2007 Fiscal Year for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District would be \$10,581.64.

Mr. Stack moved the Executive Subcommittee's recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the following:

- The Twin Platte Natural Resources District will contribute \$3,713.00 per employee to a reserve that will be held by the NARD in the form of a Bond and/or Promissory Note.
- For July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, the Twin Platte Natural Resources District will pay one-third of the additional cost for extended Medical Insurance.
- Beginning July 1, 2007, the Twin Platte Natural Resources District will pay two-thirds of the additional cost for extended Medical Insurance.
- For July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008, employees with extended Medical Insurance will receive no cost-of-living increase for their salary.
- Beginning July 1, 2008, all employees will be eligible to receive a cost-of-living increase for their salary.
- Beginning July 1, 2007, separate salary schedules will be maintained by the Twin Platte Natural Resources District for each authorized position for employees receiving extended Medical Insurance and for employees not receiving extended Medical Insurance, with the salary schedule for employees receiving extended Medical Insurance always being lower than the salary schedule for employees not receiving extended Medical Insurance.

Mr. Meismer seconded the motion. (Motion #4)

Mr. Wiseman moved to amend Motion #4 to add that the other expenditures in Draft #2 of the Budget for the 2007 Fiscal Year be reduced by the amount of the additional cost for extended Medical Insurance benefits (\$10,581.64). Mr. Baldrige seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Amendment #1 to Motion #4)

Aye: Baldrige, Hansen, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Schilz, Stack, Storer,
Wiseman
Nay: Meismer
Absent & Excused: Wahlgren, Weaver

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

Absent: None

Motion #4 with Amendment #1 - To approve the following:

- The Twin Platte Natural Resources District will contribute \$3,713.00 per employee to a reserve that will be held by the NARD in the form of a Bond and/or Promissory Note.
- For July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, the Twin Platte Natural Resources District will pay one-third of the additional cost for extended Medical Insurance.
- That the other expenditures in Draft #2 of the Budget for the 2007 Fiscal Year be reduced by the amount of the additional cost for extended Medical Insurance benefits (\$10,581.64).
- Beginning July 1, 2007, the Twin Platte Natural Resources District will pay two-thirds of the additional cost for extended Medical Insurance.
- For July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008, employees with extended Medical Insurance will receive no cost-of-living increase for their salary.
- Beginning July 1, 2008, all employees will be eligible to receive a cost-of-living increase for their salary.
- Beginning July 1, 2007, separate salary schedules will be maintained by the Twin Platte Natural Resources District for each authorized position for employees receiving extended Medical Insurance and for employees not receiving extended Medical Insurance, with the salary schedule for employees receiving extended Medical Insurance always being lower than the salary schedule for employees not receiving extended Medical Insurance.

The motion carried. (Motion #4 with Amendment #1)

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statement - Mr. Meismer reported that the Financial Statement for June 2006 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 June 2006 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented on the Accounts Payable report on July 13, 2006 in the amount of \$31,170.95. Mr. Stack seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #5)

Aye: Baldrige, Hansen, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Wiseman

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

Nay: None
Absent & Excused: Wahlgren, Weaver
Absent: None

Budget Status – No report presented.

Bids/Proposals – None were presented.

Bids/Proposals Scheduled To Be Presented for Consideration During the August, 2006 Board of Directors Meeting – Mr. Miller reported that no bids/proposals were scheduled to be presented for consideration during the August, 2006 Board of Directors meeting.

DIRECTORS REPORTS

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Board of Directors Meeting – Mr. Meismer reported on the Board of Directors meeting held on June 19, 2006. Mr. Meismer reported that the minutes for the June 19, 2006 meeting were in the Directors' notebook for information.

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts - Annual Conference, September 25-26, 2006, Kearney, NE - Resolutions – Mr. Meismer reported that the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts annual conference will be held September 25-26, 2006 in Kearney, Nebraska. Mr. Meismer reported that the deadline for submitting resolutions to the NARD office for the conference is August 24, 2006. Mr. Meismer reported that any resolutions submitted after that date will need a two-thirds vote for consideration during the conference.

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

Governor's Platte River Advisory Council – No report presented.

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

Requests for Authorization to Travel - No requests were presented.

DISTRICT REPORT

Cost-Share Programs - Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program – Eligible Practices – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook for information was a listing of the Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Program eligible practices in which is shown the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Eligible Practices for July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006. Mr. Miller reported that the current policy of the District provides that the following practices are not available for cost-share in the District:

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

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
Practice NC-19, Repair of Practices

Mr. Miller reported that Board of Directors action is not needed to continue the current policy. No action occurred and the current policy of Eligible Practices remains for July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007.

Cost-Share Programs - Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program – Funding – Mr. Miller reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District’s allocation for the 2007 Fiscal Year is \$77,416.19. Mr. Miller reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District’s allocation for the 2006 Fiscal Year was \$77,585.98.

Mr. Miller reported that for July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006, the Board of Directors approved the following allocation of the funds for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District:

- For Practice NC-12, Windbreaks, that 30% of available funds be reserved from July 1, 2005 to January 30, 2006
- For Practice NC-14, Planned Grazing Systems, that 30% of available funds be reserved from July 1, 2005 to January 30, 2006
- For Practice NC-17, Irrigation Water Management, that 30% of available funds be reserved from July 1, 2005 to January 30, 2006
- For the other eligible practices that 10% of available funds be reserved from July 1, 2005 to January 30, 2006
- Any funds available after January 30, 2006 may be used for any eligible practice

Mr. Wiseman moved that for the Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program for July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007, the Board of Directors approve the following allocation of the funds for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District:

- For Practice NC-12, Windbreaks, that 30% of available funds be reserved from July 1, 2006 to January 30, 2007
- For Practice NC-14, Planned Grazing Systems, that 30% of available funds be reserved from July 1, 2006 to January 30, 2007
- For Practice NC-17, Irrigation Water Management, that 30% of available funds be reserved from July 1, 2006 to January 30, 2007
- For the other eligible practices that 10% of available funds be reserved from July 1, 2006 to January 30, 2007
- Any funds available after January 30, 2007 may be used for any eligible practice

Mr. Meismer seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #6)

Aye: Baldridge, Hansen, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Wiseman

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

Nay: None
 Absent & Excused: Wahlgren, Weaver
 Absent: None

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 \$77,416.19 was available.

Mr. Schilz moved to approve the July 13, 2006 report as presented and to approve the following new contracts:

<u>Cont#</u>	<u>Practice Description</u>	<u>App Amt</u>	<u>Prop Amt To Fund</u>
7.001	NC-14 Planned Grazing System	\$ 1,913.25	\$ 1,913.25
7.002	NC-17 Irrigation Water Management	\$ 2,016.00	\$ 2,016.00
7.003	NC-17 Irrigation Water Management	\$ 1,760.00	\$ 1,760.00
7.004	NC-17 Irrigation Water Management	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,800.00
7.005	NC-14 Planned Grazing System	\$ 712.50	\$ 712.50
7.006	NC-14 Planned Grazing System	\$ 1,933.25	\$ 1,933.25
Total Amount of New Contracts			\$ 11,135.00
FUNDS AVAILABLE: Practice NC-12, Windbreaks			\$ 23,224.86
Practice NC-14, Planned Grazing			\$ 18,665.86
Practice NC-17, Irrigation			\$ 16,648.86
Other available practices			\$ 7,741.61
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE			\$ 66,281.19

Mr. Stack seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #7)

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

Cost-Share Programs - District Conservation Program - Eligible Practices and Funding – Mr. Miller reported that the District's Cost-Share Program for July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006 provided cost-share for sealing abandoned wells. Mr. Miller reported that during the July 10, 2003 Board of Directors meeting, the Board approved that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District participate in the Nebraska Water Well Decommissioning Fund, to authorize budgeting \$10,000.00 annually for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Water Well Decommissioning program and to authorize the General Manager to sign the Water Well Decommissioning Fund Agreement and Certification for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District required by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources as the Twin Platte Natural Resources District representative. Mr. Miller reported that the fund provides state tax dollars for cost-share assistance through the state's Natural Resources Districts to help encourage the proper decommissioning of water wells that are no longer needed or used. Mr. Miller reported that the Nebraska Water Well Decommissioning Fund provides reimbursement for Natural Resources

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

District's programs of up to the amount of the local programs cost-share, and if there are not adequate funds available to fully reimburse Districts, the funds available are shared. Mr. Miller recommended that for the District's Cost-Share Program for July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007, that the District continue to provide cost-share for sealing abandoned wells and that the District continue with the current policy that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District participate in the Nebraska Water Well Decommissioning Fund and authorizes budgeting \$10,000.00 annually for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Water Well Decommissioning program. Mr. Miller reported that Board of Directors action was not needed to continue the current policy. No action occurred and the current policy of providing cost-share for sealing abandoned wells remains for July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007.

Cost-Share Programs - District Conservation Program – Well Abandonment Contracts – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' Board meeting notebook was a report of contracts approved by the Twin Platte Natural Resources District staff as provided for by District policy. Mr. Miller reported that \$8,572.50 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 – Variances – No report presented.

Water Programs – Ground Water Management – Certifying Irrigated Acres – No report presented.

Water Programs – Ground Water Management –Integrated Management Plans (IMP) – Mr. Miller reported on the meetings held and the schedule for future meetings of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Stakeholders. Mr. Miller reported on the meetings held and the schedule for future meetings of the Platte River Basin Stakeholders.

Water Programs –Platte River Cooperative Agreement – 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.

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

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

Water Programs – Interlocal Cooperation Agreements – South Platte Coalition – No report presented.

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

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

Regulatory Programs - Chemigation – No report presented.

Regulatory Programs – Erosion and Sediment Control – Mr. Miller reported that the District has received a formal complaint in regard to soil erosion from Lake Maloney located south of North Platte, NE. Mr. Miller reported that Mr. Carhart is working through the procedures outlined in the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Rules and Regulations.

Regulatory Programs – Ground Water Runoff - No report presented.

Trails – Lake Maloney – Mr. Miller reminded the Board of Directors of the action taken during the April 10, 2003 Board meeting that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District be the sponsor for a grant application for federal funds and state funds for the first segment of the Lake Maloney trail system, provided that the Lake Maloney Home Owners Association commits in writing that they can successfully secure the required local matching funds, that the Lake Maloney Home Owners Association will acquire Nebraska Public Power District approval of a detailed plan that is all inclusive for any of the trail system occupying Nebraska Public Power District property at Lake Maloney prior to beginning construction, and that the Lake Maloney Home Owners Association enters into a written agreement with the Twin Platte Natural Resources District that the Association will provide full maintenance. Mr. Miller reported that applications for funding from the Federal Transportation Enhancement Program, which is administered in Nebraska by the Nebraska Department of Roads, have been prepared by the Consulting Engineering firm, Kirkham Michael, and submitted in 2003, 2004, and 2005. Mr. Miller reported that in each of those years the application has not been approved for funding. Mr. Miller reported that the Trails Committee for the Lake Maloney Home Owners Association requested that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District submit an application for funding from the Federal Transportation Enhancement Program for 2006. Mr. Miller reported that he worked with the Consulting Engineering firm, Kirkham Michael, and a grant application for funding for 2006 was submitted. Mr. Miller reported that he was recently notified by the Nebraska Department of Roads that the application submitted will not be forwarded to the committee for review at the 2007 Fiscal Year selection meeting.

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

Information & Education Programs – No report presented.

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

Meetings and Dates of Interest – Mr. Miller reported that various items of information were in the Directors' Board meeting packet.

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

BUDGET FOR 2007 FISCAL YEAR

Preparation Schedule - Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet was a schedule for preparing the 2007 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 #2 - Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet was the second draft of a budget for the 2007 fiscal year. Mr. Miller reviewed the information for the proposed budget for the 2007 fiscal year.

Mr. Baldrige requested that a chart showing expenditures for previous years be prepared.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

NEXT MEETING

Mr. Rubenthaler reported that two Directors had told him that they would not be able to attend a Board meeting on August 10, 2006. Mr. Rubenthaler asked if the Board would like to consider holding the August Board meeting on August 17, 2006 which is the third Thursday. Several Directors indicated that they also would not be able to attend a Board meeting on August 10, 2006. Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the next Board of Directors meeting would be held on Thursday, August 17, 2006 at 7:30 pm CDT (6:30 pm MDT) in North Platte, Nebraska.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m. CDT (8:41 p.m. MDT).

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2006

Jerry Weaver, Secretary

KOM:D:Board Meeting Minutes:Bmin0706