

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting  
November 9, 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 November 9, 2006. Mr. Rubenthaler called the meeting to order at 3:12 p.m. CST (2:12 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

Jeff Baldridge  
Eric Hansen  
Jim Meisner  
Robert Petersen  
Jim Rubenthaler  
Dennis Schilz  
Doug Stack  
Shane Storer  
Jerry Weaver

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Joe Wahlgren  
Bob Wiseman

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Wheeler, Sargent Irrigation

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

Lee Morse  
Mary Reece

STAFF PRESENT

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nebraska Open Meeting Act – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Nebraska Open 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. 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.

Report of Directors Excused – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that Operating Policy Number 4: BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENCES provides that a Director will be considered

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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. Wiseman notified the office prior to the meeting that they would be absent and 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.

There were no comments.

Mr. Rubenthaler closed the Public Forum.

AGENDA MODIFICATION

None presented.

GENERAL INFORMATION

None presented.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

Minutes for October 12, 2006 Meeting – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Minutes for the October 12, 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 October 12, 2006 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Meismer seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #1)

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

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

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No requests for assistance were presented.

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORT

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service – District Conservationist Report – Mrs. Reece distributed for information a report titled “Helping People Help the Land” and she reviewed the report. Mrs. Reece reported on current activities.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Land Resources Subcommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Water Resources Subcommittee

Mr. Meisner, Water Resources Subcommittee Chairperson, presented a report for the Water Resources Subcommittee meeting held on November 9, 2006.

Ground Water Management – Policy – Mr. Meisner reported that the Subcommittee was continuing to discuss development of a policy to deal with variances for transferring ground water irrigated acres from land that is currently irrigated with ground water and surface water without causing new depletions and without effecting the surface water right. Mr. Meisner reported that the Subcommittee hoped to have a recommendation for the Board of Directors during the December 12, 2006 Board of Directors meeting.

Ground Water Management – Variances – No report presented.

Ground Water Management - Certifying Irrigated Acres – Mrs. Dimmit reported on the status of certifying irrigated acres.

Ground Water Management - Modeler – No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan - Twin Platte Natural Resources District – Mr. Meisner reported that the next meeting of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Stakeholders would be November 20, 2006 at 7:00 pm CST and would be held at the Holiday Inn Express in North Platte.

Integrated Management Plan - Platte River Basin – Mr. Meisner reported that the next meeting of the Platte River Basin Stakeholders would be December 7, 2006 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm CST and would be held at the Quality Inn in North Platte.

Platte River Cooperative Agreement – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors’ packet for information were a letter dated October 24, 2006 from Mr. Miller to Governor Dave Heineman in regard to the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors

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action October 12, 2006; a News Release dated October 25, 2006 in regard to the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors action October 12, 2006; a letter dated September 29, 2006 from Ron Bishop - General Manager - Central Platte Natural Resources District and Mr. Miller to Ann Bleed - Acting Director - Nebraska Department of Natural Resources; a letter dated October 24, 2006 received from Ann Bleed - Acting Director - Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, responding to the letter dated September 29, 2006 that Ron Bishop and Kent O. Miller had sent to Ann Bleed; a report titled “Platte River Recovery Implementation Program: Economic Impacts to the State of Nebraska” prepared for the Central Platte Natural Resources District, October 2006; and a letter dated October 27, 2007 from Governor Dave Heineman to Dick Kempthorne - Secretary of Interior, Bill Owens - Governor of Colorado, and Dave Freudenthal - Governor of Wyoming.

South Platte River Compact – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors’ notebook for information was a draft Request for Proposal to obtain the services of an independent consultant to perform an analysis of the flows as related to the South Platte River Compact. Mr. Miller reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District budget provides funding for this work and that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District has received a grant from the Interrelated Water Management Plan Program Funds that can be used for this work.

South Platte Forum – Mr. Miller reported on the South Platte River Forum he attended on October 25-26, 2006 in Longmont, Colorado.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT  
Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee

No reported presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT  
Executive Subcommittee

No report presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statement - Mr. Meisner reported that the Financial Statement for October 2006 was in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout for information.

Accounts Payable - Mr. Meisner reported that the Accounts Payable report was in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout, and that he had reviewed the Accounts Payable and found the report to be in order.

Mr. Meisner moved that the Financial Statement for October 2006 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented on the Accounts

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Payable report on November 9, 2006 in the amount of \$15,670.03. Mr. Schilz seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #2)

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

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 December 12, 2006 Board of Directors Meeting – Mr. Miller reported that no bids/proposals were scheduled to be presented for consideration during the December 12, 2006 Board of Directors meeting.

#### DIRECTORS REPORTS

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Board of Directors Meeting – Mr. Meismer, Twin Platte Natural Resources District representative, reported on current activities.

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Water Policy Task Force – Mr. Meismer, Natural Resources Districts representative, reported on a meeting of the Ground Water and Surface Water Subcommittee held on November 8, 2006. Mr. Meismer reported that a meeting of the Water Policy Task Force was scheduled for November 15, 2006.

Governor's Platte River Advisory Council – Mr. Meismer, Natural Resources Districts representative, reported on the Governor's Platte River Advisory Council meeting held on October 17, 2006.

Sandhills Resources, Conservation & Development Council – Mr. Hansen, Twin Platte Natural Resources District representative, 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 – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout was the monthly report. Mr. Miller reported that \$57,746.10 was available.

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Mr. Petersen moved to approve the November 9, 2006 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>
7.012	NC-14	Planned Grazing System	\$ 2,664.40	\$ 2,664.40
7.013	NC-17	Irrigation Water Management	\$ 2,805.00	\$ 2,805.00
Total Amount of New Contracts				\$ 5,469.40
FUNDS AVAILABLE:		Practice NC-12, Windbreaks		\$ 23,235.11
		Practice NC-14, Planned Grazing		\$ 14,839.45
		Practice NC-17, Irrigation		\$ 7,902.11
		Other Available Practices		\$ 6,300.03

Mr. Meisner seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #3)

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

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 \$6,371.78 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 – Integrated Management Plans – No report presented.

Water Programs –Platte River Cooperative Agreement – No report presented.

Water Programs – Watersheds - Brule – No report presented.

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

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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 – 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 – No report presented.

Regulatory Programs – Ground Water Runoff - No report presented.

Trails – No report presented.

Information & Education Programs – 2006 Awards Program – Presentation November 6, 2006 – Mr. Miller reported that the District's 2006 Conservation Award for Lincoln / McPherson Counties was presented November 6, 2006 to Don & Marcia Colvin 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.

Information & Education Programs – 2006 Awards Program – Presentation December 12, 2006 – Mr. Miller reported that the District's 2006 Grassland Conservation Award for Keith / Arthur Counties will be presented December 12, 2006 to the Robert F. Lute Trust – Mick & Toni Knott 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 - 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.

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

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

NEXT MEETING

Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the next Board of Directors meeting would be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2006 at 4:30 pm MST (5:30 pm CST) at the Lake McConaughy Visitor's Center near Ogallala, Nebraska.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:21 p.m. CST (3:21 p.m. MST).

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Jerry Weaver, Secretary

KOM:D:Minutes:Bmin1106