

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

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 March 13, 2008. Mr. Rubenthaler called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m. CDT (2:06 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

Eric Hansen
Dale Margritz
Jim Meisner
Bob Petersen
Jim Rubenthaler
Dennis Schilz
Doug Stack
Shane Storer
Joe Wahlgren
Jerry Weaver
Bob Wiseman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Brad Johnson, Sargent Irrigation - Ogallala
Frank Kwapnioski, NPPD

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

Mary Reece, District Conservationist

STAFF PRESENT

Glen Bowers, Water Programs Field Coordinator
Bill Carhart, Range Programs Coordinator
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 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. Rubenthaler reported that the current Open

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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 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 there were no board members absent.

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 the monthly summary report of NRCS 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. Rubenthaler opened the Public Forum. There were no comments. Mr. Rubenthaler closed the Public Forum.

AGENDA MODIFICATION

No agenda modification.

GENERAL INFORMATION

None presented.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

Minutes for February 14, 2008 Meeting – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Minutes for the February 14, 2008 meeting were in the Directors packet and he asked if there were any corrections or additions.

Mr. Petersen moved that the Minutes of the February 14, 2008 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Meismer seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #1)

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

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COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORT

USDA NRCS – District Conservationist Report – Mrs. Reece distributed and reviewed a written report for information.

Other Agencies – No reports presented.

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 March 13, 2008.

Ground Water Management – Variances – Jud Baldrige - Mr. Meisner reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District has received a request from Jud Baldrige. Mr. Meisner asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District received a variance request from Jud Baldrige to dry up 299.69 certified ground water irrigated acres, and to use strictly surface water rights on these acres one in five years so that he may transfer the ground water acres to a new location to irrigate 266.76 acres. Mrs. Dimmitt reviewed the Twin Platte Natural Resources District policy, which is intended to not allow an increase in consumptive use of water (no new depletions). Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the policy provides that the landowner shall agree to maintain the surface water right at the current location, to use the surface water historically available one year per five year time frame at the current location, and not apply ground water at the current location, and that the new acres irrigated by ground water will be the percentage of the current irrigated acres calculated as $(100\%) - ((\text{___}\% \text{ historic average surface water available}) / 5)$. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that for the request by Mr. Baldrige, the percentage is 82.88% for the certified ground water irrigated acres under the Platte Valley Ditch and the percentage is 95.48% for the certified ground water irrigated acres under the Cody-Dillon Ditch. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that Mr. Baldrige has worked with staff and has agreed to permanently dry up 153.866 certified ground water irrigated acres under the Platte Valley Ditch so that he may be allowed to transfer 127.53 acres and to permanently dry up 145.825 certified ground water irrigated acres under the Cody-Dillon Ditch so that he may be allowed to transfer 139.23 acres for a total of 266.76 acres transferred to one location a further distance from the river. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that all locations have been run using the COHYST cycle well to determine the depletion factors at all locations. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that in the Directors' Board meeting notebook for information were the Twin Platte Natural Resources District transfers from surface irrigated acres policy, the Twin Platte Natural Resources District ownership policy, the agreement previously approved

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for Don Colvin, a map of the certified acres to be transferred, and irrigation district information.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee recommendation to approve the variance request from Jud Baldrige to transfer 153.866 certified ground water irrigated acres under the Platte Valley Irrigation Ditch described as SE¼ Section 23, Township 14 North, Range 31 West reduced by the required 82.88% to 127.53 acres and to transfer 145.825 certified ground water irrigated acres under the Cody-Dillon Irrigation Ditch described as NW¼ Section 13, Township 14 North, Range 31 reduced by the required 95.48% to 139.23 acres for a total of 299.69 certified ground water irrigated acres reduced to a total of 266.76 acres from the current locations to two new center pivot locations which are south of Sutherland, NE and farther from the river, subject to that when the two pivots have been installed in the new locations and this project is complete Jud Baldrige providing the Twin Platte Natural Resources District a report of the irrigated acres and subject to Jud Baldrige providing the Twin Platte Natural Resources District proof of ownership and subject to Jud Baldrige properly decommission the irrigation wells located in the original certified irrigated acres and subject to Jud Baldrige executing an agreement with the Twin Platte Natural Resources District as required by policy. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #2)

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

Ground Water Management – Variances – County Assessor’s Office – Mr. Meismer reported that the Water Resources Subcommittee requested the staff to provide information in regard to how the Board could make public information available when a person transfers the certified ground water use from one parcel of land to another parcel and therefore changing land from being irrigated to non-irrigated and moving the certified acres to another parcel. Mr. Meismer reported that the concern is that the county land records may continue to show the first acreage as irrigated unless there is some way that this transfer is publically recorded. Mr. Meismer reported that this may leave a buyer believing that he is buying a parcel of property that is certified to be irrigated, when in fact that certification has been transferred off of the property. Mr. Meismer reported that in the Directors’ Board meeting notebook was a memorandum prepared by Harriet Hageman, Legal Counsel for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District dated January 15, 2008. Mr. Meismer reported that the Board of Directors had previously advised the staff that information of certified ground water irrigated acres could be provided to counties if requested by the county. Mr. Meismer reported that the Central Platte Natural Resources District policy is to provide information of certified ground water irrigated acres to counties. Mr. Meismer reported that recently, Keith County had requested information of certified ground water irrigated acres. Mr. Meismer reported that if information of certified ground water irrigated acres were provided to all of the counties

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within the Twin Platte Natural Resources District, that potential buyers of land would have current information of certified ground water irrigated acres available in each county as well as in the Twin Platte Natural Resources District office.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee recommendation to approve directing the staff to provide to all of the counties within the Twin Platte Natural Resources District information of certified ground water irrigated acres. Mr. Wahlgren seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #3)

Aye: Hansen, Margritz, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: None

Absent: None

Ground Water Management – Certifying Irrigated Acres – Mr. Meismer asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the status of certifying irrigated acres. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that forms have been mailed to land owners for certifying new irrigated acres for 2005, 2006, and 2007.

Ground Water Management – Platte River Conjunctive Management Study – No report presented.

Ground Water Management – EvapoTranspiration Mapping with SEBAL and METRIC – No report presented.

Ground Water Management – Offset for New Depletions – No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan – Twin Platte Natural Resources District – Mr. Meismer reported that the next meeting of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Stakeholders would be March 17, 2008 at 7:00 pm CDT and would be held at the Holiday Inn Express in North Platte.

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

South Platte River Coalition – No report presented.

Platte River Recovery Implementation Program – No report presented.

Legislation – No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee

Mr. Schilz, Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee Member, asked Mr. Carhart to present the report for the Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee meeting held on March 13, 2008.

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Wildlife Habitat Programs – WILD Nebraska Programs – Mr. Carhart reported that information was in the Directors’ notebooks. Mr. Carhart reported that the program still includes active contracts from the preceding Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP). Mr. Carhart reported that those older contracts were ten years in duration, while WILD agreements are generally five years in length. Mr. Carhart reported that a total of \$7,532.30 is being spent this fiscal year on existing WHIP/WILD annual payment obligations. Mr. Carhart reported that 75% or \$5,649.23 of that amount is provided by the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission, while the remaining 25% or \$1,883.07 is the District's contribution toward annual payments. Mr. Carhart reported that the amounts obligated for annual payments are shrinking as both WHIP and WILD contracts expire each year. Mr. Carhart reported that budget cuts by the Commission have prevented any new annual payment contracts in the WILD program for the last four years, though “materials only” contracts have been added each year. Mr. Carhart reported that interest in WILD has diminished with the lack of annual payments being offered, especially with other programs offering annual payments such as Corners for Wildlife and the USDA programs CRP and EQIP. Mr. Carhart reported that many of the people initially interested in WILD end up going to other programs better suited to their needs. Mr. Carhart reported that funds from the sale of Habitat Stamps are used to provide the Commission’s portion of the annual payments. Mr. Carhart reported that the one new WILD project allowed by the Commission in the District this year would also be funded by Commission Habitat Stamp dollars for materials only cost sharing. Mr. Carhart reported that in the last three years Environmental Trust dollars obtained by the Commission were providing their 75% contribution on new materials only projects, but this year those Trust dollars were not available to the Commission. Mr. Carhart reported that the large new project this year would be supported by the District at the usual 25% level. Mr. Carhart reviewed one proposed WILD Nebraska agreement with no annual payments and \$2,700.35 to be expended for materials, which would include 25% or \$675.09 of District funds this fiscal year to complete.

Mr. Schilz moved the Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the following 2008 WILD Nebraska agreements:

<u>Agreement #</u>	<u>Cooperator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Materials</u>
TP0801	Cone	KE	53	\$2,700.35

Mr. Meisner seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #4)

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

Wildlife Habitat Programs – Corners for Wildlife Program – Mr. Carhart reported that Corners for Wildlife has been an active program in this District since 1997 and that the program uses an Environmental Trust grant provided to Pheasants Forever for annual

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payments made during the five-year contract term. Mr. Carhart reported that most Corners for Wildlife habitat materials are cost shared at 75% by local Pheasants Forever chapters, while the District contributes staff time in working with landowners to enroll qualifying projects and coordinate the habitat improvements installed. Mr. Carhart reported that another District contribution is providing free machine planting of trees or shrubs on Corners for Wildlife sites where the landowner agrees to them. Mr. Carhart reported that the Corners for Wildlife program is currently in the second year of three funded by the Environmental Trust. Mr. Carhart reported that projects are enrolled across the state on a first-come, first-served basis and that previous Board action allows the District to pursue as many of these contracts as possible while the funding is available. Mr. Carhart reported that two Twin Platte Natural Resources District Corners for Wildlife contracts already secured were much larger than average and approved by Pheasants Forever due to reduced program interest caused by higher commodity prices. Mr. Carhart reported that Pheasants Forever recently received approval from the Environmental Trust to raise annual payments up to \$100/acre for projects planting shrubs. Mr. Carhart reported that news releases were set to go out to inform the public of the new payment rates, and that more Corners for Wildlife projects would be pursued for 2008 and 2009.

Mr. Carhart reported that the following four corners are currently set to be planted this spring in Corners for Wildlife:

Cooperator	Co.	Acres	Trees	Total of Annual Payments (Tree Planting Service Value)
R & L Land Co	LN	20.3	0	\$1,218.00
				(\$0-only grass/forb seed planted)
Denny Peterson	KE	58.9	0	\$3,534.00
				(\$0-only grass/forb seed planted)
Charles Beatty	LN	1.6	0	\$ 96.00
				(\$0-only grass/forb seed planted)
Charles Beatty	LN	7.0	0	\$420.00
				(\$0-only grass/forb seed planted)

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
 Executive Subcommittee

No report presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

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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 February 2008 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented in the Accounts Payable report on March 13, 2008 in the amount of \$16,358.50. Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #5)

Aye: Hansen, Margritz, Meisner, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: None

Absent: None

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

Bids/Proposals – No bids or proposals were presented.

Bids/Proposals Scheduled To Be Presented for Consideration During the April 10, 2008 Board of Directors Meeting – Mr. Miller reported that no bids/proposals were scheduled to be presented for consideration during the April 10, 2008 Board of Directors meeting.

Operating Policy 29: CREDIT CARDS – Mr. Miller reported that he was requesting revisions for Operating Policy Number 29: CREDIT CARDS due to changes in the staff and to increase the credit limit for the VISA card utilized by the General Manager. Mr. Miller reported that purchases for most items are charged and direct billed to the District whenever possible and that Oil Company cards are used for fuel purchases for District owned vehicles whenever possible.

Mr. Meisner moved to approve the following revisions for Operating Policy Number 29: CREDIT CARDS: (Deletions have a strikethrough line. Additions are underlined)

The General Manager, on behalf of the District, is authorized to apply for and receive Visa or Master Card credit cards each of which would be in the custody of the General Manager and District personnel authorized by the General Manager ~~the Program Coordinators~~ and may be used only for District expenses for travel, meals, lodging, general operational expenses of the District and the operation and repair of District-owned vehicles and equipment. Each credit card will be a separate account with a credit limit of ~~\$500 for the Range Programs Coordinator,~~ ~~\$500 for the Water Programs Coordinator,~~ \$1,000 for District personnel authorized by the General Manager ~~the Conservation Programs Coordinator~~ and ~~\$1,500~~ \$2,500 for the General Manager. The credit cards will be obtained through First National Bank of North Platte.

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

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

DIRECTORS REPORTS

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Board of Directors Meeting – Mr. Meismer reported on the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Board of Directors meeting held on March 3, 2008. Mr. Meismer reported that in the Directors’ packet for information was a memorandum from Dean Edson, Executive Director, Nebraska Association of Resources Districts, in regard to the preliminary draft budget for the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 and Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Washington D.C. Conference March 10-12, 2008 – Mr. Miller reported on the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Washington D.C. Conference, which he attended March 10-12, 2008. Mr. Miller reported that the conference is very good and that he believes that he should participate annually. Mr. Miller encouraged Directors to consider attending in the future.

Water Policy Task Force – Mr. Meismer reported on the Water Policy Task Force meeting held on February 19, 2008.

Sandhills Resources, Conservation & Development Council – No report presented.

Board of Directors Elections 2008 – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the deadline for Incumbents filing for re-election was February 15 and the deadline for Non-Office Holders filing for election was March 3. Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the following have filed for the 2008 election to serve on the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors:

Subdistrict 1 Shane Storer (Incumbent)
Subdistrict 2 Robert Petersen (Incumbent)
Subdistrict 3 Jerry Weaver (Incumbent)
Subdistrict 4 Robert Wiseman (Incumbent)
Subdistrict 5 Dennis Schilz (Incumbent)

Requests for Authorization to Travel – No requests were presented.

DISTRICT REPORT

Cost-Share Programs – Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program – Mr. Miller

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reported on the following Twin Platte Natural Resources District guidelines for the Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program:

- Funding adjustments shall go back to the reserved category established by the Board of Directors that the funds came from.
- Applications will be considered in the order the producers sign them.
- From July 1 – January 30, applications shall be considered for funding only when funds are available to fully fund the contract.
- From January 31 – June 30, the funds from each reserved category shall be merged and applications on file shall be considered for funding in the order they are signed by the producer, and only one application may be approved for partial funding at any time.
- On June 30, all applications not approved by the Board of Directors shall be cancelled.

Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout was the monthly report.

Mr. Miller reported that \$31,167.35 was available for funding additional contracts following the February 14, 2008 Board of Directors meeting. Mr. Miller reported that any un-obligated funds on March 1, 2008 are required to be returned to the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources for re-distribution to Natural Resources Districts. Mr. Miller reported that the Board of Directors on February 14, 2008 authorized the General Manager to approve additional contracts in the order they are signed by the producer and received in the office prior to March 1, 2008 for any eligible practices available for cost share within the Twin Platte Natural Resources District up to and not to exceed the funds available. Mr. Miller reported that \$24,135.62 was approved prior to March 1, 2008 and \$7,031.73 was returned to the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.

Mr. Wahlgren moved to approve the March 13, 2008 report as presented and the previously approved contracts by the General Manager as follows:

<u>Cont#</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>App Amt</u>	<u>Prop Amt to Fund</u>
8.034	NC-17	Irrig Water Management	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
8.035	NC-12	Trees	\$ 945.00	\$ 945.00
8.036	NC-12	Trees	\$ 945.00	\$ 945.00
8.037	NC-12	Trees	\$ 945.00	\$ 945.00
8.038	NC-12	Trees	\$ 650.62	\$ 650.62
8.039	NC-12	Trees	\$ 172.50	\$ 172.50
8.040	NC-12	Trees	\$ 945.00	\$ 945.00
8.041	NC-14	Trees	\$ 945.00	\$ 945.00
8.042	NC-12	Trees	\$ 945.00	\$ 945.00
8.043	NC-12	Trees	\$ 945.00	\$ 945.00
8.044	NC-17	Irrig Water Management	\$ 3,962.00	\$ 3,962.00

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8.045	NC-14	Planned Grazing System	\$ 5,235.50	<u>\$ 5,235.50</u>
		Total Amount of New Contracts		\$ 24,135.62

FUNDS RETURNED TO STATE AS OF FEBRUARY 29, 2008	\$ 7,031.73
FUNDS AVAILABLE:	
Practice NC-12, Windbreaks	\$ 0.00
Practice NC-14, Planned Grazing	\$ 0.00
Practice NC-17, Irrigation	\$ 0.00
Other available practices	\$ 0.00

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

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

Cost-Share Programs – Well Abandonment Contracts – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' Board meeting notebook was a report for information, and \$3,598.53 was available for new contracts.

Tree Program – Mr. Miller reported that 6,400 trees were ordered from the Colorado State Nursery, 2,150 trees were ordered from the Lincoln-Oakes Nursery, and 22,000 trees were ordered from the Nursery at Halsey, NE for a total of 30,550 trees. Mr. Miller reported that District personnel will begin tree planting April 7, 2008. Mr. Miller reported that the District was using one machine crew this year, which is scheduled to plant 11,580 trees at 40 sites. Mr. Miller reported that Mike Ekdahl was scheduled to place 119,795 feet (22.68 miles) of Water Conservation Mulch at 39 sites, which is 97% of the machine crew planted sites. Mr. Miller reported that 18,970 trees have been sold to be planted by 97 individuals.

Range Programs – Nebraska Ranch Practicum – Mr. Miller reported that information was in Directors' packet on the 2008 Nebraska Ranch Practicum. Mr. Miller reported that the Nebraska Ranch Practicum is conducted at the University of Nebraska West Central Research and Extension Center in North Platte and at the Gudmunsen Sandhills Lab. Mr. Miller reported that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District has offered and awarded scholarships since 1999. Mr. Miller reported that the registration fee for the six-month program is \$600.00 and that the course has practical value, especially for range livestock producers in the District. Mr. Miller reported that the scholarships offered in the past help attract people to participate.

Mr. Wiseman moved to authorize up to four - \$150 scholarships for the 2008 Nebraska Ranch Practicum. Mr. Schilz seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #8)

Aye: Hansen, Margritz, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

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Nay: None
Absent & Excused: None
Absent: None

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 – Mr. Miller reported on a meeting of the West Central Nebraska Water Coalition held on February 26, 2008.

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 –

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

Water Programs – South Platte 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.

Hazard Mitigation Plans – Mr. Miller reported that during the September 13, 2007 Board of Directors meeting, he had reported that All-Hazard Mitigation Plan must be in place if a community or a county is to be eligible for future mitigation funds, that the Nebraska and Federal Emergency Management Agencies prefer that an All-Hazard Mitigation Plan be developed within Natural Resources District boundaries, and that

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federal grant funding (75%) is available for Natural Resources Districts to prepare the All-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Mr. Miller reported that the Board of Directors on September 13, 2007 passed a motion authorizing the Twin Platte Natural Resources District staff to determine community interest within the District for the preparation of an All-Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District and if there is an interest, that the General Manager will provide additional information for the Board of Directors including which communities are interested, costs, staff time, etc. Mr. Miller reported that Glen Bowers has been coordinating the determination of community and county interest within the District for the preparation of an All-Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District. Mr. Miller reported that based on the interest and the willingness of the communities and counties to fund the local cost (25%) of a federal grant, Mr. Bowers sought and received proposals from three engineering consulting firms to prepare a grant application and to prepare an All-Hazard Mitigation Plan for the communities and counties within the District.

Mr. Bowers reported that in the Directors' packet for information was a report of proposals received and local funding. Mr. Bowers reported that Lincoln County (City of North Platte), Keith County (City of Ogallala), and Arthur County have agreed to participate and to provide their share of the 25% local cost. Mr. Bowers reported that he will meet with the McPherson County Commissioners in early April. Mr. Bowers reported that a call for Jury duty prevented him from meeting with the McPherson County Commissioners on March 12, 2008 as planned. Mr. Bowers reported that if McPherson County would choose not to participate, the grant application and costs will be adjusted to prepare an All-Hazard Mitigation Plan excluding McPherson County.

Mr. Stack moved to accept the low proposal received from Kirkham Michael to prepare an All-Hazard Mitigation Plan for communities and counties within the Twin Platte Natural Resources District for a total cost of \$65,250.00 provided each of the counties within the Twin Platte Natural Resources District chose to participate and agree to provide their share of the 25% local cost and if a county or counties chose not to participate the total cost will be reduced by the amount of the costs associated with the county and provided Federal Grant Funds for 75% of the total cost is approved and to authorize the General Manager to execute a contract for services with Kirkham Michael to prepare an All-Hazard Mitigation Plan for communities and counties within the Twin Platte Natural Resources District. Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #9)

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

Trails – No report presented.

Legislation – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet and board meeting

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notebook for information were reports prepared by the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts.

Requests for Authorization to Travel – No requests presented.

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 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 Thursday, April 10, 2008 at 7:30 pm CDT (6:30 pm MDT) at the TierOne Bank Center Meeting Room, 111 South Dewey Street, Second Floor, North Platte, Nebraska.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m. CDT (3:31 p.m. MDT).

Jerry Weaver, Secretary