

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting  
September 11, 2008

The Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board (TPNRD) of Directors meeting was held at the TierOne Bank Center Meeting Room, Second Floor, 111 South Dewey Street, North Platte, Nebraska on September 11, 2008. Mr. Rubenthaler called the meeting to order at 7:36 pm CDT (6:36 pm 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  
Bob Petersen  
Jim Rubenthaler  
Dennis Schilz  
Doug Stack  
Shane Storer  
Joe Wahlgren  
Jerry Weaver  
Bob Wiseman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Jim Meisner

OTHERS PRESENT

Neil Betty, West Central Water Coalition

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

Mary Reece, NRCS District Conservationist

STAFF PRESENT

Bill Carhart, Range Programs Coordinator  
Ann Dimmitt, Water Programs Regulatory Coordinator  
Amy Mapes, Administrative Assistant  
Kent 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 Meeting Act was posted on the wall of the meeting room and accessible to members of the public.

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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 will be absent and that the minutes will reflect whether an absent Director is excused or unexcused. Mr. Rubenthaler reported that Mr. Meismer had notified the office prior to the meeting that he would be absent and is therefore excused.

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

Other Announcements – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the monthly summary report of Natural Resources Conservation Service 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.

INFORMAL PUBLIC HEARING - BUDGET

Open Proceedings - Jim Rubenthaler, Chair of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors and Presiding Officer, opened the Public Hearing at 7:37 p.m. CDT.

Appointment of Hearing Examiner - Mr. Rubenthaler appointed Kent O. Miller, General Manager of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District, Hearing Examiner.

Review of Purpose by Hearing Examiner – Mr. Miller distributed an informational packet for the proposed 2008-2009 Fiscal Year Budget, which was also in the Director’s packet, for information. Mr. Miller reported that the purpose of the informal public hearing was for hearing testimony in regard to support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations of taxpayers relating to the proposed Twin Platte Natural Resources District 2008-2009 Fiscal Year Budget. Mr. Miller reported that a legal notice was published in the North Platte Telegraph on September 4, 2008 and that a copy of the legal notice was included in the informational packet.

Mr. Miller reviewed the following for the proposed 2008-2009 Fiscal Year Budget:

2006-2007 Actual Disbursements & Transfers	\$ 826,727.60
2007-2008 Actual Disbursements & Transfers	\$ 938,632.63
2008-2009 Proposed Budget of Disbursements & Transfers	\$ 1,602,686.27
2008-2009 Necessary Cash Reserve	\$ 200,000.00
2008-2009 Total Resources Available	\$ 1,802,686.27
Total 2008-2009 Personal & Real Property Tax Requirement	\$ 1,133,408.43
Unused Budget Authority Created For Next Year	\$ 307,806.84

Public Testimony - Mr. Miller opened the Hearing for Public Testimony.

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No testimony was offered.

Informal Questions – Mr. Miller asked if there were questions in regard to the Budget.

There were no questions.

Close Proceedings - Mr. Miller turned the Hearing back to the Presiding Officer, Mr. Rubenthaler.

Mr. Rubenthaler declared the hearing closed 7:43 p.m. CDT.

INFORMAL PUBLIC HEARING – SETTING FINAL TAX REQUEST

Open Proceedings - Jim Rubenthaler, Chair of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors and Presiding Officer, opened the Public Hearing at 7:44 p.m. CDT.

Appointment of Hearing Examiner - Mr. Rubenthaler appointed Kent O. Miller, General Manager of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Hearing Examiner.

Review of Purpose by Hearing Examiner – Mr. Miller reported that the purpose of the informal public hearing was for hearing testimony in regard to support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request at a different amount than the prior year tax request to fund the proposed Twin Platte Natural Resources District 2008-2009 Fiscal Year Budget. Mr. Miller reported that a legal notice was published in the North Platte Telegraph on September 4, 2008 and that a copy of the legal notice was included in the informational packet which was distributed during the Informal Public Hearing for the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year Budget.

Mr. Miller reviewed the following for the proposed 2008-2009 Fiscal Year Budget:

2007-2008 Property Tax Request	\$ 743,199.92
2007 Tax Rate	0.022794
Property Tax Rate (2007-2008 Request/2008 Valuation)	0.021367
2008-2009 Proposed Property Tax Request	\$ 1,133,408.43
Proposed 2008 Tax Rate	0.032585

Public Testimony - Mr. Miller opened the Hearing for Public Testimony.

No testimony was offered.

Informal Questions – Mr. Miller asked if there were questions in regard to the Budget.

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There were no questions.

Close Proceedings - Mr. Miller turned the Hearing back to the Presiding Officer, Mr. Rubenthaler.

Mr. Rubenthaler declared the hearing closed 7:49 p.m. CDT.

2008-2009 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

Final Approval

Mr. Stack moved to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a legal notice of budget hearing and budget summary was published in the North Platte Telegraph on September 4, 2008, for a hearing scheduled for September 11, 2008 by the Board of Directors of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District on September 11, 2008 held a public hearing for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, and observations of taxpayers relating to the proposed budget;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors approves the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year Budget as presented for public hearing.

Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Nebraska Statutes requires a majority vote of the Board of Directors present.) (Motion #1)

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

Set Property Tax Request

Mr. Stack moved to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Nebraska Statutes provide that the property tax request for the prior year shall be the property tax request for the current year unless the Board of Directors passes by a majority vote a resolution setting the tax request at a different amount; and

WHEREAS, a legal notice of special hearing to set final tax request was published in the North Platte Telegraph on September 4, 2008, for a hearing scheduled for

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September 11, 2008 by the Board of Directors of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District on September 11, 2008 held a public hearing for the purpose of hearing testimony in regard to support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request at a different amount than the prior year tax request to fund the proposed Twin Platte Natural Resources District 2008-2009 Fiscal Year Budget; and

WHEREAS, the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year property tax request for the Twin Platte Natural Resources Districts was \$743,199.92 and the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year Budget requires a property tax request for the Twin Platte Natural Resources Districts of \$1,133,408.43.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors sets the final property tax request for the Twin Platte Natural Resources District for the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year Budget at \$1,133,408.43.

Mr. Wahlgren seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Nebraska Statutes requires that the Board of Directors passes by a majority vote a resolution setting the tax request at a different amount from the property tax request for the prior year. The State Auditor's office has interpreted a majority vote to be a majority of the Board of Directors which would require 6 affirmative votes.) (Motion #2)

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

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Meismer

Restricted Funds Authority

Mr. Stack moved to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Statutes provide that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District may exceed the budget limit for the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year by up to an additional one percent upon the affirmative vote of at least seventy-five percent of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the Twin Platte Natural Resources District may carry forward an additional unused restricted funds authority of \$4,988.16 to future budget years with approval of the additional one percent.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors approve exceeding the budget limit for the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year by an additional one percent.

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Mr. Schilz seconded the motion. The motion failed. (Nebraska Statutes requires an affirmative vote of at least 75% of the Board of Directors to exceed the budget limit for the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year by an additional one percent which would require 9 affirmative votes.) (Motion #3)

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

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Rubenthaler opened the Public Forum. There were no comments. Mr. Rubenthaler closed the Public Forum.

AGENDA MODIFICATION

None presented.

GENERAL INFORMATION

West Central Weed Management Area - Vegetation Control Project – Bill Carhart, Range Programs Coordinator, gave a presentation on the West Central Weed Management Area Vegetation Control Project.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

Minutes for August 14, 2008 Meeting – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Minutes for the August 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 August 14, 2008 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #4)

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

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

None presented.

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORT

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

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SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Land Resources SubCommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Water Resources SubCommittee

Mr. Wahlgren presented a report for the subcommittee meeting held on September 11, 2008.

Ground Water Management – Variances - Requests – No report presented.

Ground Water Management – Violations - Report – Mr. Wahlgren reported that the District has reason to believe that a violation of no new irrigated acres has occurred. Mr. Wahlgren asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the violation.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the staff has reason to believe that a land owner has placed additional lands that he owns under ground water irrigation in Keith County, Nebraska. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that these additional lands were not “certified” in 2004 and, as such, are not entitled to be irrigated. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that in the Directors’ Board meeting notebook was a letter from the TPNRD to the land owner, which was drafted by the District’s legal counsel, Harriet Hageman, and was mailed August 14, 2008. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the purpose of this letter is: (1) to notify the land owner of this situation; (2) to provide the land owner with certain summary information related to the District’s Rules and Regulations; (3) to inform the land owner of the District’s intention to undertake a field inspection of his property to determine whether these lands are being irrigated in violation of the Rules and Regulations; and (4) to notify the land owner that the District may be issuing a Cease and Desist Order in the event that it concludes that the land owner has “expanded” irrigated acres using an existing ground water well. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the District staff has met with the land owner and that she expects that the land owner will request a variance that will provide offsets for the additional irrigated acres.

Ground Water Management – Municipalities Reporting Requirements – Mr. Wahlgren reported that municipalities are required (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 46-740) to report ground water use to the Natural Resources Districts. Mr. Wahlgren reported that Ms. Kurtz and Mrs. Dimmitt have been working with Jamie Curtis of Integrated Computers of North Platte to develop an electronic reporting form that imports into an access database for tracking municipality water use.

Mr. Wahlgren moved the Water Resources Subcommittee recommendation to approve purchasing the municipal reporting software from Integrated Computers of North Platte, NE in the amount of \$1,350.00 and to authorize the General Manager to execute an

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agreement with Integrated Computers of North Platte, NE for the purchase and use of the software. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #5)

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

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Meismer

Integrated Management Plan – Twin Platte Natural Resources District – Water Budget –  
No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan – Twin Platte Natural Resources District – Stakeholders Meetings – Mr. Wahlgren reported that the next meeting of the TPNRD Stakeholders would be September 16, 2008 at 7:00 pm CDT and would be held at the Holiday Inn Express in North Platte. Mr. Wahlgren reported that the stakeholders would review a draft TPNRD Fully Appropriated Integrated Management Plan.

Integrated Management Plan – Twin Platte Natural Resources District – Public Hearings – Mr. Wahlgren asked Mr. Miller to report on the need for public hearings.

Mr. Miller reported that Ms. Kurtz has advised that the District needed to adopt “Rules of Practice and Procedure” prior to the District adopting an Integrated Management Plan. Mr. Miller reported that Ms. Kurtz provided the staff draft “Rules of Practice and Procedure”, draft “Legal Notice for Hearing”, and draft “Order”. Mr. Miller reported that these documents were provided to the District’s Legal Counsel, Harriet Hageman, for her review and recommendation. Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors’ Board meeting packet were the draft “Rules of Practice and Procedure”, draft “Legal Notice for Hearing”, and draft “Order” which include the recommendations from the District’s Legal Counsel, Harriet Hageman.

Mr. Miller reported that the Board of Directors could approve the “Rules of Practice and Procedure” for public hearing tonight. Mr. Miller reported that notices of the public hearing would then need to be published in a newspaper published or of general circulation in the affected area at least once each week for three (3) consecutive weeks, the last publication of which was not less than seven (7) days prior to the public hearing. Mr. Miller reported that the notices of the public hearing could be published in the North Platte Telegraph September 18, 2008, September 25, 2008, and October 2, 2008 and the public hearing could then be held during the October 9, 2008 regular meeting of the Board of Directors. Mr. Miller reported that the Board of Directors could then approve the “Rules of Practice and Procedure” on October 9, 2008. Mr. Miller reported that when the “Rules of Practice and Procedure” are approved, an order would need to be published in a newspaper published or of general circulation in the affected area at least once each week for three (3) consecutive weeks, the last publication of which was not less than seven (7) days prior to the effective date. Mr. Miller reported that the order could be published in the North Platte Telegraph October 16, 2008, October 23, 2008, and October



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30, 2008 with an effective date of November 6, 2008 for the “Rules of Practice and Procedure”.

Mr. Miller reported that the schedule reported to the Board on August 14, 2008 did not work out.

Mr. Wahlgren moved the Water Resources Subcommittee recommendation that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District hold a public hearing, pursuant to Neb.Rev.Stat. § 46-712, to consider proposed Rules of Practice and Procedures for the Integrated Management Plan and that the Twin Platte Natural Resources District conduct the public hearing on October 9, 2008 at 8:00 p.m. CDT (7:00 p.m. MDT) at the Twin Platte Natural Resources District offices in North Platte, Nebraska. Mr. Margritz seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #6)

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

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Meismer

Integrated Management Plan – Twin Platte Natural Resources District - Draft Fully Appropriated Integrated Management Plan – No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan – Platte River Basin – Mr. Wahlgren reported that in the Directors’ Board meeting notebook for information was a report prepared by representatives from the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District, and the Nebraska Public Power District that will be presented and discussed on September 12, 2008 during a meeting of a subcommittee of the Platte River Basin Over Appropriated Stakeholders.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT  
Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT  
Executive Subcommittee

No report presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

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Accounts Payable - Mr. Petersen 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. Petersen moved that the Financial Statement for August 2008 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented on the Accounts Payable report on September 11, 2008 in the amount of \$24,667.06. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #7)

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

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Meismer

Budget Status – No report presented.

Bids/Proposals – No bids or proposals were presented.

Bids/Proposals Scheduled to be Presented for Consideration during the October 2008 Board of Directors Meeting – Mr. Miller reported that the District Policy provides that “The staff will notify the Board during the Board meeting immediately prior to the Board meeting at which bids will be presented for consideration”. Mr. Miller reported that the staff plans to present bids/proposals for consideration during the October 9, 2008 Board of Directors meeting for the purchase of a copy machine. Mr. Miller reported that the Budget provides for the purchase of a copy machine.

### DIRECTORS REPORTS

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Board of Directors Meeting – No report presented.

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Annual Conference, September 28-30, 2008, Kearney, Nebraska – Mr. Miller reported that the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts annual conference will be held September 28-30, 2008 in Kearney, Nebraska and that in the Directors’ packet for information was the program for the conference and resolutions that have been submitted.

Mr. Miller reported that Mr. Meismer, Mr. Petersen, Mr. Rubenthaler, and he planned to attend. Mr. Miller reported that if other Directors would like to attend, to please notify the office and the staff would register you for the conference and make lodging reservations.

Mr. Miller reported that the Board needed to take action to select a voting delegate for the conference. Mr. Miller reported that Mr. Meismer would be chairing the Business Session during the conference when the votes are taken which makes it difficult for Mr. Meismer to be a voting delegate. Mr. Rubenthaler appointed Mr. Petersen the voting

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delegate and himself the alternate voting delegate for the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts 2008 Annual Conference.

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Public Relations – Mr. Miller distributed a fact sheet for the TPNRD. Mr. Miller reported that fact sheets are being developed for each Natural Resources District in cooperation with the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts. Mr. Miller reported that the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts plans to provide the individual Natural Resources District fact sheets and basin fact sheets to members of the Legislature and use them as a handout at Husker Harvest Days. The Board of Directors discussed providing the TPNRD fact sheet to all residence of the District. The Board requested the staff to consider options and costs for getting the TPNRD fact sheet out to the public and provide a report for the Board during the October 9, 2008 Board of Directors meeting.

Water Policy Task Force – No report presented.

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

Requests for Authorization to Travel – No requests were presented.

DISTRICT REPORT

Cost-Share Programs - NSWCP – Eligible Practices – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' notebook was the report, and \$80,532.38 was available for funding contracts.

Mr. Wiseman moved to approve the August 14, 2008 contracts 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>
9.009	NC-17	Irrigation Water Management	\$ 4,094.81	\$ 4,094.81
9.010	NC-20	Brush Management	\$ 1,238.74	\$ 1,238.74
Total Amount of New Contracts				\$ 5,333.55
FUNDS AVAILABLE:		Practice NC-12, Windbreaks		\$ 24,159.72
		Practice NC-14, Planned Grazing		\$ 890.40
		Practice NC-17, Irrigation		\$ 18,824.06
		Other available practices		\$ 6,119.96

Mr. Margritz seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #8)

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

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Meismer

Out of Room: Rubenthaler

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Cost-Share Programs – District Conservation Programs – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' Board notebook was the report, and \$5,881.45 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 – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet for information was copy of an application to the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund for a project titled Platte Basin Habitat Enhancement Project. Mr. Miller reported that the TPNRD is one of the project sponsors.

Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' packet for information was copy of an application to the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund for a project titled Platte Identification and Prioritization of Water Management Needs. Mr. Miller reported that the project sponsors are all of the Natural Resources Districts and the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts.

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 – Mr. Miller reported that on August 27, 2006, he submitted an application to the Interrelated Water Management Plan Program (IWMPP) Funds for the South Platte River Compact Water Project.

<u>IWMPP</u>	<u>Local</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Funds</u>	<u>Match</u>	

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Year One	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
Year Two	<u>\$ 36,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 9,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 45,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 92,000.00	\$ 23,000.00	\$115,000.00

Mr. Miller reported that the project is to conduct a hydrologic assessment of water that could be available for Nebraska authorized by the South Platte River Compact, under the terms of which Nebraska is permitted to divert and store water from the South Platte River during the non-irrigation season.

Mr. Miller reported that for Year One:

- Funding approved in September 2006 for \$56,000.00.
- Contract for Year One was executed on January 23, 2007 between the TPNRD and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.
  - The contract for year one provided that the term of the grant is one year commencing with the first disbursement request, not later than January 1, 2007, and ending twelve months thereafter.
  - Expenses, therefore, could occur between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2007.
- A contract with the Flatwater Group was executed in March 2007 and completed in December 2007.
- All of the \$70,000.00 budgeted was spent.
- The local match of \$14,000.00 was paid with funds available from the South Platte River Coalition.

Mr. Miller reported that for Year Two

- Application for funding was submitted in February 2007.
- Funding approved in August 2007 for \$36,000.00.
- Contract for Year Two was executed on November 28, 2007 between the TPNRD and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.
  - The contract for year two provided that the term of the grant is one year commencing July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008.
  - Expenses, therefore, could occur between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008.
- No expenses occurred in that period.

Mr. Miller reported that IWMPP funds were utilized in Year One for an analysis by the Flatwater Group of water that may be available for Nebraska in the South Platte River Compact. Mr. Miller reported that the Flatwater Group report identified further analyses needed for evaluating potential water supply. Mr. Miller reported that the Flatwater Group report was completed in December 2007. Mr. Miller reported that there was not adequate time between the end of December 2007 and June 30, 2008 to adequately review the report to determine which of the identified items recommended for further analysis to pursue, execute a contract with a consultant, and complete work. Mr. Miller reported that he has requested that the funding approved in August 2007 for Year Two

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(July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008) in the amount of \$36,000.00 be made available for the remainder of the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2009.

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

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

Water Programs – North Platte River – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors’ packet for information was a letter from the National Weather Service dated September 5, 2008 in regard to raising the flood stage on the North Platte River near North Platte, Nebraska from 5.7 feet to 6.0 feet.

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 in the Directors’ packet for information was a letter from the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency dated August 28, 2008 notifying the District that the Federal Emergency Management Agency has granted approval of the District’s application for funds for development of the TPNRD Multi-Jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Mr. Miller reported that the local match is being funded by the communities and counties with the District.

Information & Education Programs – No report presented.

Legislation – Mr. Miller reported that he would be attending the Legislature’s Natural Resources Committee hearing September 16, 2008 in Grand Island. Mr. Miller reported that the Committee will be hearing testimony in regard to LR330 (*Christensen*) Interim study to identify points of diversion for transferring excess water, flood water, and storm water between river basins to increase water management capabilities, LR331 (*Christensen*) Interim study to examine how to simplify and grant authority to a single entity to divert excess water in the Platte River to Johnson and Elwood Reservoirs after stream flows reach a specific level, and LR332 (*Christensen*) Interim study to examine the concept of transferring storm water runoff from cities to the Republican River Basin to help with interstate water compact compliance. Mr. Miller reported that he also would be participating in a presentation the afternoon of September 16, 2008 to the Legislature’s Natural Resources Committee in regard to the TPNRD and the Central Platte Natural Resources District programs for certifying and managing ground water.

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

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

Miscellaneous Information – Mr. Miller reported that various items of information were in the Directors packet and in the Directors 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, October 9, 2008 at 7:30 pm CDT (6:30 pm MDT) in North Platte, Nebraska.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m. CDT (8:05 p.m. MDT).

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Jerry Weaver, Secretary