

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
February 19, 2009

The Twin Platte Natural Resources District (TPNRD) Board of Directors meeting was held at the TierOne Bank Center Meeting Room, Second Floor, 111 South Dewey Street, North Platte, Nebraska on February 19, 2009. Mr. Rubenthaler called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm CST (2:02 pm MST). A legal notice of the meeting was published in the NORTH PLATTE TELEGRAPH. A news release containing the agenda for the meeting and including the time and place was sent to the news media in the District.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Dale Margritz

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

Mary Reece, District Conservationist

STAFF PRESENT

Bill Carhart, Range Programs Coordinator
Ann Dimmitt, Water Programs Regulatory Coordinator
Amy Mapes, Administrative Assistant
Kent Miller, General Manager

OTHERS PRESENT

Neil Betty, West Central Water Coalition
Brad Johnson, Sargent Irrigation

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 in the back 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. Margritz notified the office 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.

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 January 8, 2009 Meeting – Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Minutes for the January 8, 2009 meeting were in the Directors’ packet and he asked if there were any corrections or additions.

Mr. Petersen moved that the Minutes of the January 8, 2009 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Meismer seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #1)

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

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

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None presented.

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORT

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service – District Conservationist Report – Mrs. Reece distributed and reviewed a written report for information. Mrs. Reece reported that in the Directors’ Board meeting packet was the NRCS Fiscal Year 2009 Business Plan developed after consultation with the TPNRD staff.

Other Agencies – No reports presented.

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 February 19, 2009.

Ground Water Management – Variances – Requests – TGS Farms – Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD has received a request for a variance from TGS Farms. Mr. Meismer asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the TPNRD received a variance request from TGS Farms to transfer 24.04 certified irrigated acres from corners of an irrigated field in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 26, Township 13 North, Range 34 West, Lincoln County, to a pivot on the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 26, Township 13 North, Range 34 West, Lincoln County. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the transferred irrigated acres would be watered from the existing registered irrigation well G-061758, which currently irrigates the pivot. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the new irrigated acres will either be added to the pivot or banked. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the depletion factor of the irrigated acres in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 26 is 38%, and the depletion factor of the proposed irrigated acres location in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 26 is 41%. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that to compensate for moving closer to the river and to a higher SDF factor, 0.7 acres will be subtracted from the acres transferred (24.04 - 0.7 = 23.34 acres) to the new location in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 26 for a total of 160.7 acres (137.36 currently irrigated acres + 23.34 transferred acres). Mrs. Dimmitt reported that in the Directors’ Board meeting notebook was a map and an aerial photo of the area.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to TGS Farms to transfer 23.34 certified

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irrigated acres from the SE¹/₄ of Section 26, Township 13 North, Range 34 West, Lincoln County, to the NW¹/₄ of Section 26, Township 13 North, Range 34 West, Lincoln County for a total of 160.7 acres to be irrigated in the NW¹/₄ of Section 26, Township 13 North, Range 34 West, Lincoln County as there would be no new irrigated acres and no new depletions to the stream and subject to TGS Farms providing the Twin Platte Natural Resources District proof of ownership. Mr. Schilz seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #2)

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

Ground Water Management – Variances – Requests – McWha Industries Inc – Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD has received a request for a variance from McWha Industries Inc. Mr. Meismer asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the TPNRD received a variance request from McWha Industries Inc to transfer 4.1 certified irrigated acres from three corners of an irrigated field in the SW¹/₄ and the SE¹/₄ of Section 23, Township 13 North, Range 31 West, Lincoln County, to a corner system on a pivot on the W¹/₂ of Section 23, Township 13 North, Range 31 West, Lincoln County. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the transferred irrigated acres would be watered from the existing registered irrigation well G-023668, which irrigates the pivot. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the new irrigated acres will be added due to installing a corner system. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that two of the four corners are currently certified as irrigated, and will be partially dried up in addition to the 4.1 acres from the corners of the three smaller pivots directly to the south, to allow for the corner system to go around with no new irrigated acres. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the pivot dealer said this corner system needs 165 acres. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that in the Directors' Board meeting notebook was an aerial photo of the area.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee's recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to McWha Industries Inc to transfer 4.1 certified irrigated acres from the SW¹/₄ and the SE¹/₄ of Section 23, Township 13 North, Range 31 West, Lincoln County to the W¹/₂ of Section 23, Township 13 North, Range 31 West, Lincoln County to allow for a total of 165.0 acres to be irrigated under a pivot located in the W¹/₂ of Section 23, Township 13 North, Range 31 West, Lincoln County as there would be no new irrigated acres and no new depletions to the stream and subject to McWha Industries providing the Twin Platte Natural Resources District proof of ownership. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #3)

Aye: Hansen, Meismer, Petersen, Rubenthaler, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman
Nay: None

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Absent & Excused: Margritz

Ground Water Management – Variances – Requests – Sadle Cattle Co – Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD has received a request for a variance from Sadle Cattle Co. Mr. Meismer asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the TPNRD received a variance request from Sadle Cattle Co to transfer 40.0 certified irrigated acres from the W½ of Section 26, Township 14 North, Range 36 West, Keith County to the NW¼ of Section 19, Township 14 North, Range 35 West, Keith County. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that these locations are within two miles of each other and have been run through COHYST cycle well. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the new location of the transferred acres has a depletion factor of 88.5%, and the depletion factor of the current location is 86%. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that there is a 2.5% difference of where the acres currently are, and where they want to be transferred, so Sadle Cattle Co will be losing one acre in the transfer process. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the total amount of acres allowed to be transferred is 39.0 acres. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the old irrigation well will be modified to pump less than 50 gpm. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that there will be no new irrigated acres. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that in the Directors' Board meeting notebook was a map of the area.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee's recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to Sadle Cattle Co to transfer 39.0 certified irrigated acres from the W½ of Section 26, Township 14 North, Range 36 West, Keith County to the NW¼ of Section 19, Township 14 North, Range 35 West, Keith County as there would be no new irrigated acres and no new depletions to the stream provided that the old irrigation well will be modified to pump less than 50 gpm and subject to Sadle Cattle Co providing the Twin Platte Natural Resources District proof of ownership. Mr. Schilz seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #4)

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

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Margritz

Ground Water Management – Variances – Requests – Tony Beckler – Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD has received a request for a variance from Tony Beckler. Mr. Meismer asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the TPNRD received a variance request from Tony Beckler to transfer 130.0 certified irrigated acres from the S½ of Section 6, Township 12 North, Range 38 West, Keith County, to the NE¼ of Section 11, Township 12 North, Range 39 West, Keith County. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that these locations are within two miles of each other and have been run through COHYST cycle well. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the new location he wants to transfer the acres to has the same depletion factor, so he will be transferring the acres at a one-to-one ratio. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that he is also requesting to drill a new irrigation well at the new location so he can install a pivot using

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this new well. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that he is drying up the entire 130.0 acres. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that he will abandon the old irrigation wells currently irrigating the certified irrigated acres. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that there would be no new irrigated acres. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that in the Directors' Board meeting notebook was a map of the area.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee's recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to Tony Beckler to transfer 130.0 certified irrigated acres from the S½ of Section 6, Township 12 North, Range 38 West, Keith County, to the NE¼ of Section 11, Township 12 North, Range 39 West, Keith County as there would be no new irrigated acres and no new depletions to the stream and that a new well may be installed provided that the old irrigation well is properly decommission and subject to Tony Beckler providing the Twin Platte Natural Resources District proof of ownership. Mr. Schilz seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #5)

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

Ground Water Management – Violations – No report presented.

Ground Water Management – Certified Irrigated Acres – Mr. Meismer asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the status for obtaining a required signature on the certification form. Mrs. Dimmitt reported on the status.

Integrated Management Plan – Platte River Basin – Overappropriated IMP – Mr. Meismer reported that in the Directors' Board meeting notebook was the latest draft of a Basin-Wide Plan for Joint Integrated Water Resources Management of Overappropriated Portions of the Platte River Basin, Nebraska. Mr. Meismer suggested that the Board members review this draft, as it is close to a final draft that should be available in the next few months. Mr. Meismer reported that the Natural Resources Districts General Managers are working with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources to finalize the draft that was presented to the Basin Stakeholders and supported by most of the stakeholders. Mr. Meismer reported that the Natural Resources Districts in the basin will need to approve a plan along with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.

Integrated Management Plan – Twin Platte Natural Resources District – Stakeholders Meetings – Mr. Meismer reported that the next meeting of the TPNRD Stakeholders is scheduled for February 23, 2009 at 7:30 pm CST.

Integrated Management Plan – Twin Platte Natural Resources District – Integrated Management Plan (IMP) – Mr. Meismer reported that the Water Resources Subcommittee had prepared a timeline to complete an IMP by the September 15, 2009 deadline.

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Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the following timeline to complete an IMP by the September 15, 2009 deadline:

<u>Task</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Water Sub-comm./Bd. Mtg. Stakeholder’s Mtg.	Feb 19 th Feb. 23 rd
Water Sub-comm./Bd. Mtg. Stakeholder’s Mtg. – Final Recommendation	Mar. 12 th Mar. 16 th
Special Bd. Mtg. Water Sub-comm./Bd. Mtg. Stakeholder’s Mtg. - Final Recommendation (if needed)	Apr 2 nd Apr. 9 th Apr. 20 th
Bd. Mtg. – Approve IMP to submit DNR Joint NRD/DNR Mtg. (If needed) Exchange Letters – NRD/DNR agreement	May 14 th May 21 st or 28 th May 15 th – June 3 rd
Bd. Mtg. – Approve IMP for Pub. Hearing Publish Legal Notice in NP Telegraph	June 4 th * June 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd
Public Hearing Bd. Mtg. – Approve IMP to submit to DNR Exchange Letters – Implement the plan	July 2 nd July 9 th July 10 th – Aug. 12 th
Bd. Meeting – Approve IMP & Adopt Order Publish Order in NP Telegraph	Aug. 13 th Aug 18 th , 25 th , Sept. 1 st
Effective Date of IMP	Sept. 15 th

** Denotes a change in the regularly scheduled Board Meeting dates.*

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

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

Mr. Meismer reported that the Water Resources Subcommittee continued working on a draft IMP.

Joint Water Resources Subcommittee Meeting – Mr. Meismer reported that the General Managers of the Central Platte NRD, Tri-Basin NRD, and Twin Platte NRD have

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scheduled a joint meeting of the Water Resources Subcommittees for February 23, 2009 at 10:30 am CST (9:30 am MST) in Kearney, NE. Mr. Meismer reported that in the Directors Board meeting notebook was an agenda for the joint meeting.

Mr. Meismer reported that the Water Resources Subcommittee agreed to invite the other Twin Platte NRD Directors to attend this joint meeting of the Water Resources Subcommittees.

Miscellaneous - Mr. Meismer reported that in the Directors Board meeting notebook for information was the Nebraska Supreme Court ruling in regard to LB 701 and the filing in the District Court of Scottsbluff County, Nebraska of the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District (Plaintiff) vs the North Platte NRD (Defendant).

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
Executive Subcommittee

No report presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statement - Mr. Meismer reported that the Financial Statement for January 2009 was in the Directors' notebook and available as a handout.

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 January 2009 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented on the Accounts Payable report on February 19, 2009 in the amount of \$27,675.73. Mr. Stack seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #7)

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

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

Bids/Proposals – None presented.

Bids/Proposals Scheduled to be Presented for Consideration during the March 12, 2009

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Board of Directors Meeting – Mr. Miller reported that no bids/proposals were scheduled to be presented for consideration during the March 12, 2009 Board of Directors meeting.

DIRECTORS REPORTS

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

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts – Legislative Conference, January 27-28, 2009 – Mr. Meismer reported that the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts annual Legislative Conference was held January 26-28, 2009 in Lincoln, Nebraska. Mr. Meismer reported that in the Directors’ Board meeting packet was a summary of the Legislative Bills discussed during the Legislative Conference and the positions established. Mr. Meismer reported that in the Directors’ notebook were NARD Legislative Update reports.

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 a report and that \$25,733.29 was available for funding contracts.

Mr. Schilz moved to approve the February 19, 2009 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>
9.024	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,197.03	\$ 1,197.03
9.025	NC-17	Irrigation Water Mgt	\$ 3,962.00	\$ 3,962.00
9.026	NC-17	Irrigation Water Mgt	\$ 2,405.50	\$ 2,405.50
9.027	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,890.05	\$ 1,890.05
9.028	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,890.05	\$ 1,890.05
9.029	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,890.05	\$ 1,890.05
9.030	NC-12	Trees	\$ 567.01	\$ 567.01
9.031	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,134.03	\$ 1,134.03
9.032	NC-12	Trees	\$ 756.02	\$ 756.02
9.033	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,071.03	\$ 1,071.03
9.034	NC-12	Trees	\$ 839.81	\$ 839.81
9.035	NC-12	Trees	\$ 839.81	\$ 839.81
9.036	NC-12	Trees	\$ 839.18	\$ 839.18

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9.037	NC-12	Trees	\$ 314.89	\$ 314.89
9.038	NC-14	Planned Grazing System	\$ 3,428.82	\$ 3,428.82
9.039	NC-14	Planned Grazing System	\$ 1,461.92	\$ 1,461.92
9.040	NC-14	Planned Grazing System	\$ 2,246.09	\$ 2,246.09
Total Amount of New Contracts				\$ 13,548.57

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. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #8)

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

Mr. Miller reported that the TPNRD guidelines for the Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program are as follows:

- 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 any un-obligated funds on March 1, 2009 are required to be returned to the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources for re-distribution to Natural Resources Districts.

Mr. Meismer moved to authorize 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, 2009 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. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #9)

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

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Nay: None
Absent & Excused: Margritz

Cost-Share Programs – District Conservation Programs – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' Board notebook was a report, and that \$4,301.45 was available for new contracts.

Tree Program – No report presented.

Range Program - Arthur Drought Seminar – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors' Board meeting notebook was an event review for the Arthur Drought Seminar held on January 29, 2009 at Arthur, NE. Mr. Miller reported that the workshop was sponsored by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Nebraska Grazing Lands Coalition, and the TPNRD.

Range Program – Phragmites Control – Mr. Carhart presented a program information report.

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 – No report presented.

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 in the Directors' Board meeting packet was a scope of Work for additional work items for a South Platte flows analysis prepared by the Flatwater Group. Mr. Miller reported that the South Platte Coalition sponsors, on February 3, 2009, approved the scope of work and schedule and authorized payment for services on an

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actual cost basis not to exceed \$54,000.00. Mr. Miller reported that the coalition has \$90,000.00 available (\$54,000 – dues and \$36,000 – IWMPP grant available to Twin Platte NRD). Mr. Miller reported that funding for this project will use all of the IWMPP Grant and funds from the dues as needed. Mr. Miller reported that Mike Drain (CNPPID), Jeff Shafer (NPPD), Harriet Hageman (TPNRD Legal Counsel), and he met with David Kracman and Tom Riley of Flatwater for development of the scope of work and agreed to recommend that the South Platte River Coalition sponsors approve the scope of work and the schedule.

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.

Hazard Mitigation Plans – No report presented.

Information & Education Programs – No report presented.

Legislation – No report presented.

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

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

Miscellaneous Information – Nebraska Environmental Trust Grants – Mr. Miller reported that in the Directors’ Board meeting packet was the Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) 2009 Preliminary Rank Order List for grants.

Mr. Miller reported that the Platte Basin Habitat Enhancement Project (Project No. 09-113) is recommended for a grant award in the amount of \$1,275,000 for one year, \$725,000 for year two, and \$1,000,000 for year three. Mr. Miller reported that the Project received the fourth highest overall rating by the NET. Mr. Miller reported that it is half of what we asked for, but it is still a significant grant. Mr. Miller reported that the sponsors have a meeting scheduled for March 6, 2009 to begin the project.

Mr. Miller reported that the West Central Weed Management Area Invasive Species Control Along the Platte River Project (Project No. 09-118) is recommended for a grant

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award in the amount of \$400,000 for one year, \$400,000 for year two, and \$200,000 for year three.

Mr. Miller reported that the NET Board will make their final decision at their meeting on April 2.

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, March 12, 2009 at 3:00 pm CDT (2:00 pm MDT) at the TierOne Bank Center Meeting Room, 111 South Dewey Street, Second Floor, North Platte, Nebraska.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Petersen moved to go into Executive Session to discuss legal issues. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #10)

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

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Margritz

Mr. Rubenthaler reported that the Board of Directors was going into Executive to discuss legal issues.

The Board of Directors went into Executive Session at 4:24 pm CST.

Mr. Rubenthaler opened the Board room at 4:35 pm CST.

Mr. Petersen moved to return to Regular Session. Mr. Schilz seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #11)

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

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Margritz

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:36 pm CST (3:36 pm MST).

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Jerry Weaver, Secretary