

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting  
April 14, 2011

The Twin Platte Natural Resources District (TPNRD) Board of Directors meeting was held at the Great Western Bank Meeting Room, Second Floor, 111 South Dewey Street, North Platte, Nebraska on April 14, 2011. Mr. Stack called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm CDT (6:38 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 S Hansen  
Robert L Petersen  
Bob Peterson  
Douglas L Stack  
Joe Wahlgren  
Jerry Weaver  
Robert Wiseman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

James Meisner  
Dennis Schilz  
Shane Storer  
John W Williams

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

Mary Reece

STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Elaine Bode  
Jason Bode  
Josh Bode  
Richard Bode  
Don Colvin  
Ted Hoatson  
Bart Nichols, Sargent Irrigation  
Ray Seifer  
Jeff Shafer, NPPD  
Mike Steele, RJ Meyer & Associates  
Kendra Youngmans

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2011

Nebraska Open Meeting Act – Mr. Stack 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. Stack reported that the current Open Meeting Act was in the back of the meeting room and accessible to members of the public.

Report of Directors Excused – Mr. Stack 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. Stack reported that Mr. Meismer and Mr. Schilz left during the Water Resources Subcommittee Meeting due to inclement weather, and Mr. Storer and Mr. Williams notified the office they would be absent and all are therefore excused.

Information Packet and Notebook available for the Public – Mr. Stack reported that on the shelf in the back of the room is a copy of the Board Meeting Notebook and the Board Meeting Information Packet that each Board member has that are available for viewing by the public attending the Board of Directors meeting. Mr. Stack reported that there are also copies of some of the items in the Board Meeting Notebook available for the public to take.

Other Announcements – None presented.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

AGENDA MODIFICATION

None presented.

AUDIT

2010 Fiscal Year – Mr. Miller reported that the Audit for the TPNRD 2010 Fiscal Year was mailed to each member of the Board of Directors prior to the Board meeting. Mr. Miller reported that Mike Steele prepared the Audit for the TPNRD and that he was present.

Mr. Steele reviewed the Audit and answered questions from the Board members.

Mr. Petersen moved that the Audit for the 2010 Fiscal Year be received. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #1)

Aye: Hansen, Petersen, Peterson, Stack, Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman  
Nay: None

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2011

Absent & Excused: Meismer, Schilz, Storer, Williams

GENERAL INFORMATION

No reports presented.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

Minutes for March 8, 2011 Meeting – Mr. Stack reported that the Minutes for the March 8, 2011 Board of Directors meeting were available for the Directors’ and he asked if there were any corrections or additions for the minutes.

Mr. Wiseman moved that the Minutes of the March 8, 2011 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Bob Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #2)

Aye: Hansen, Petersen, Peterson, Stack, Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Meismer, Schilz, Storer, Williams

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

None presented.

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORT

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – District Conservationist Report – Mrs. Reece distributed and reviewed a report.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Land Resources Subcommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Water Resources Subcommittee

Mr. Wahlgren, Water Resources Subcommittee member, presented a report for the Water Resources Subcommittee meeting held on April 14, 2011.

Ground Water Management – Certified Irrigated Acres - No report presented.

Ground Water Management – Variances – Franken Farms #1 – Mr. Wahlgren reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from Franken Farms. Mr. Wahlgren asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mr. Wahlgren moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2011

Directors to approve granting a variance to Franken Farms to de-certify and transfer 19.9 certified ground water irrigated acres from the NW¼ Section 16, Township 13 North, Range 37 West, Keith County, Nebraska, to be relocated in the same Section 16, Township 13 North, Range 37 West, Keith County, Nebraska. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #3)

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

Ground Water Management – Variances – Franken Farms #2 – Mr. Wahlgren reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from Franken Farms. Mr. Wahlgren asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mr. Wahlgren moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to Franken Farms to de-certify and transfer 2.2 certified ground water irrigated acres from the NW¼ Section 17, Township 13 North, Range 37 West, Keith County, Nebraska, to be relocated in the same Section 17, Township 13 North, Range 37 West, Keith County, Nebraska. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #4)

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

Ground Water Management – Variances – Steve & Chester Binegar – Mr. Wahlgren reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from Steve & Chester Binegar. Mr. Wahlgren asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mr. Wahlgren moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to Steve & Chester Binegar to de-certify and transfer 2.35 certified ground water irrigated acres from the SW¼ Section 22, Township 14 North, Range 34 West, Lincoln County, Nebraska, to be relocated in the same Section 22, Township 14 North, Range 34 West, Lincoln County, Nebraska. Mr. Wiseman second the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #5)

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

Ground Water Management – Variances – Steve Jehorek – Mr. Wahlgren reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from Steve Jehorek. Mr. Wahlgren asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to Steve Jehorek to de-certify and transfer 63.11 certified ground water irrigated acres from the S½ Section 20, Township 13 North, Range 40 West, Keith County, to be relocated in the SE¼ Section 19 and the NE¼ Section 30 (the new

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2011

pivot sits on the section line and is half in both sections), Township 13 North, Range 40 West, Keith County, located under a new pivot to be installed this spring. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #6)

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

Ground Water Management – Variances – Robert Wilson – Mr. Wahlgren reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from Robert & Matt Wilson. Mr. Wahlgren asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mr. Wahlgren moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to Robert Wilson to de-certify and transfer 4.0 certified ground water irrigated acres from the E½ Section 32, Township 12 North, Range 26 West, Lincoln County, to be relocated in the same Section 32, Township 12 North, Range 26 West, Lincoln County, located under a new swing arm placed on the existing pivot to be installed this spring. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #7)

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

Ground Water Management – Variances – Tom Kalkowski – Mr. Wahlgren reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from Tom Kalkowski. Mr. Wahlgren asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mr. Wahlgren moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to Tom Kalkowski to transfer 62.0 ground water irrigated acres from the following locations: 9.5 acres from the corners of the SW¼ Section 24, Township 13 North, Range 41 West; 13.9 from inside the tree belts in the SE¼ Section 26, Township 13 North, Range 41 West; 9.0 acres from the corners of the wiper pivot in the SW¼ Section 25, Township 13 North, Range 41 West; and 29.6 acres from the flood irrigated fields in the SW¼ Section 25, Township 13 North, Range 41 West, Keith County, to be relocated to the NW¼ Section 30, Township 13 North, Range 40 West, Keith County under a new pivot. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #8)

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

Ground Water Management – Variances – Nebraska National Trails Museum Foundation, Inc. – Mr. Wahlgren reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from the Nebraska National Trails Museum Foundation, Inc. Mr. Wahlgren asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mr. Wahlgren moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to the Nebraska National Trails Museum

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2011

Foundation, Inc. to transfer 2.33 ground water irrigated acres from the NW¼ Section 30, Township 13 North, Range 40 West, Keith County, to be relocated within the same Section 30, Township 13 North, Range 40 West, Keith County under a new pivot to be installed this spring. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #9)

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

Ground Water Management – Variances – Mark Flaming – Mr. Wahlgren reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from Mark Flaming. Mr. Wahlgren asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mr. Wahlgren moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to Mark Flaming to de-certify and transfer 21.0 certified ground water irrigated acres from the NW¼ Section 17, Township 13 North, Range 31 West, Lincoln County, Nebraska, to be relocated in SW¼ Section 18, Township 12 North, Range 36 West, Keith County, Nebraska conditioned on the TPNRD receiving proof that the original 21.0 acres were properly certified. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #10)

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

Ground Water Management – Variances – Dave Steffes – Mr. Wahlgren reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from Dave Steffes. Mr. Wahlgren asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mr. Wahlgren moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to Dave Steffes to de-certify and transfer 3.4 certified ground water irrigated acres from the SE¼ Section 22, Township 14 North, Range 31 West, Lincoln County, Nebraska, to be relocated in the SE¼ Section 22, Township 14 North, Range 31 West, Lincoln County, Nebraska. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #11)

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

Ground Water Management – Variances – Tar Heel Farms #1 – Mr. Wahlgren reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from Tar Heel Farms. Mr. Wahlgren asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mr. Wahlgren moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to Tar Heel Farms to de-certify and transfer 136.0 certified ground water irrigated acres from several fields in Section 3, Township 13 North, Range 34 West, Lincoln County, to be relocated to the SW¼ Section 25, Township 13 North

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2011

Range 40 West, Lincoln County, located under a new pivot to be installed this spring conditioned that 2 of the 3 original irrigation wells will be decommissioned in the next twelve months. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #12)

Aye: Hansen, Petersen, Stack, Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

Nay: Peterson

Absent & Excused: Meismer, Schilz, Storer, Williams

Ground Water Management – Variances – Tar Heel Farms #2 – Mr. Wahlgren reported that the TPNRD has received a request for a variance from Tar Heel Farms. Mr. Wahlgren asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the request.

Mr. Wahlgren moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve granting a variance to Tar Heel Farms to drill a new irrigation well and irrigate 136.0 certified ground water irrigated acres (TP-TRANS-11.29) in the SW¼ Section 25, Township 13 North, Range 34 West, Lincoln County, located under a new pivot to be installed this spring. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #13)

Aye: Hansen, Petersen, Stack, Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

Nay: Peterson

Absent & Excused: Meismer, Schilz, Storer, Williams

Ground Water Management – Violations – No report presented.

Water Use Demonstrations - Paulman Farms Water Conservation Project – No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan – IMP and Rules & Regulations Revisions - No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan – Offset Water - Irrigation Districts Agreements for Ground Water Recharge – Mr. Wahlgren asked Mrs. Dimmitt to report on the Irrigation Districts Agreements for Ground Water Recharge.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported on the status of the agreements authorized by the Board of Directors on March 8, 2011 with the Platte Valley, Paxton-Hershey, Suburban, and Keith-Lincoln Irrigation Districts on the North Platte River and the Western Irrigation District on the South Platte River and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources for the irrigation districts to divert some of the current high river flows into the irrigation districts canals and the TPNRD using the water that seeps into the ground for offset water for river flows required by the TPNRD IMP.

Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the signed agreements with the Platte Valley, Paxton-Hershey, Suburban, and Keith-Lincoln Irrigation Districts on the North Platte River were available for the Directors’. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the agreements with the Western Irrigation District on the South Platte River were still being developed.

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2011

Mrs. Dimmitt presented a power point show of the work being done with the irrigation districts.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT  
Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee

Mr. Petersen, Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee member, presented a report for the Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee meeting held on April 14, 2011.

Wildlife Habitat Programs – WILD Nebraska Program – Mr. Petersen reported that information for the TPNRD WILD Nebraska Program was available for the Directors’.

Mr. Petersen moved the Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the following 2011 WILD Nebraska agreements:

<u>Agreement #</u>	<u>Cooperator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Materials</u>
TP1101	Cross	Arthur	52	\$3,380.00
TP1102	Wahlgren	Lincoln	6	\$ 660.00

Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #14)

Aye: Hansen, Petersen, Peterson, Stack, Weaver, Wiseman

Nay: None

Abstain: Wahlgren

Absent & Excused: Meismer, Schilz, Storer, Williams

Wildlife Habitat Programs – Corners for Wildlife Program – Mr. Petersen reported that information for the TPNRD Corners for Wildlife Program was available for the Directors’.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT  
Executive Subcommittee

No report presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statement - Mr. Miller reported that the Financial Statement for March 2011 was available for the Directors’.

Accounts Payable - Mr. Miller reported that the Accounts Payable report was available for the Directors’ and that he had reviewed the Accounts Payable and found the report to be in order.

Mr. Petersen moved that the Financial Statement for March 2011 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented on April 14, 2011 in the amount of \$26,238.20. Mr. Wahlgren seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion



TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2011

#15)

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

Budget Status – Mr. Miller reported that the Budget Status report was available for the Directors’.

Bids/Proposals – None presented.

Bids/Proposals Scheduled to be Presented for Consideration during the May 12, 2011 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 no bids/proposals would be presented for the May 12, 2011 Board of Directors meeting.

DIRECTORS REPORTS

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) – Washington DC Conference – Mr. Miller reported on the NARD Washington DC Conference held on March 14-16, 2011.

Sandhills Resources, Conservation & Development Council – Mr. Hansen reported that the recent Federal Budget cuts is eliminating all RC&Ds.

Requests for Authorization to Travel – No requests were presented.

DISTRICT REPORT

Cost-Share Programs – NE Soil & Water Conservation Program – Mr. Miller reported that a report was available for the Directors’ and \$830.25 was available for funding contracts.

Mr. Petersen moved to approve the April 14, 2011 report 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>
11.054	NC-17	Irrig Water Mgt	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
		Total Amount of New Contracts		\$ 600.00
		FUNDS AVAILABLE:		\$ 230.25

Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #16)

Aye: Hansen, Petersen, Peterson, Stack, Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2011

Nay: None  
Absent & Excused: Meismer, Schilz, Storer, Williams

Cost-Share Programs – District Conservation Programs – Mr. Miller reported that a report was available for the Directors' and \$1,937.63 was available for new contracts.

Tree Program –Mr. Miller reported that TPNRD personnel began tree planting April 11, 2011. Mr. Miller reported that the District was using one machine crew this year, which is scheduled to plant 23,165 trees at 49 sites. Mr. Miller reported that Mike Ekdahl was scheduled to place 213,605 feet (40.5 miles) of Water Conservation Mulch at 44 sites. Mr. Miller reported that additional trees have been sold to be planted by 58 individuals.

Range Programs – No report presented.

Water Programs – No report presented.

Soil Conservation Programs – No report presented.

Wildlife Habitat Programs – No report presented.

Regulatory Programs – No report presented.

Information & Education Programs – Mr. Miller reported that the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts is the lead coordinator for the Nebraska State Envirothon. Mr. Miller reported that the West Central FFA Chapter team won the District competition and will be competing in the State Envirothon competition. Mr. Miller reported that the West Central FFA Chapter includes students from Paxton and Sutherland in the TPNRD and the TPNRD contributed the \$100.00 registration fee for the West Central FFA Chapter team.

Brule Watershed – No report presented.

Interlocal Cooperation Agreements – No report presented.

Hazard Mitigation Plan – No report presented.

Requests for Authorization to Travel – No requests presented.

Legislature – Mr. Miller presented a report.

Meetings and Dates of Interest – Mr. Miller reported that various items of information were available for the Directors'.

Miscellaneous Information – Mr. Miller reported that various items of information were available for the Directors'.

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2011

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm CDT (8:12 pm MDT).

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Jerry Weaver, Secretary