

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
December 11, 2012

The Twin Platte Natural Resources District (TPNRD) Board of Directors meeting was held at the Figure Four Traditions, Haythorn Ranch, 193 Haythorn Drive, located four miles north of the intersection of Highways 61 & 92, Keith County, Nebraska on December 11, 2012. Mr. Stack called the meeting to order at 4:31 pm MT. 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
James Meismer
Robert L Petersen
Douglas L Stack
Shane Storer
Joe Wahlgren
Jerry Weaver
John W Williams
Robert Wiseman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Dennis Schilz

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

Traci Bates
Carol Eakins
Tim Griffin
Jeff Nichols
Eryn Rapp
Mary Reece, District Conservationist
Shelly Taylor

STAFF PRESENT

Bill Carhart, Grasslands Stewardship Coordinator
Ann Dimmitt, IMP Coordinator
Amy Mapes, Administrative Assistant
Jess Milby, Range Technician
Kent O Miller, General Manager

OTHERS PRESENT

Jasper Fanning, Upper Republican NRD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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requires public bodies to make available at least one current copy of the Open Meeting Act which may be 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 on a table 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. Schilz had notified the office that he would be absent and is therefore excused.

Information Packet and Notebook available for the Public – Mr. Stack reported that on a table in the back of the room is a copy of the Board Meeting Information Packet that each Board member has that is available for viewing by the public attending the Board of Directors meeting.

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.

GENERAL INFORMATION

None presented.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

Minutes for November 8, 2012 Meeting – Mr. Stack reported that the Minutes for the November 8, 2012 Board of Directors Meeting was available for the Directors' and he asked if there were any corrections or additions.

Mr. Petersen moved that the Minutes of the November 8, 2012 Board of Director's Meeting be approved. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #1)

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Resignation of Robert E. Peterson – Mr. Stack reported that Dennis Schilz, Board Chair, received a letter from Robert E. Peterson on December 8, 2012 in which he states that he resigns his elected position on the Board of Directors on December 1, 2012. Mr. Stack reported that a copy of the letter was available for the Directors’.

Mr. Stack reported that available for the Directors’ were excerpts from the Nebraska Statutes. Mr. Stack reported that Section 35-560 provides that an elective office shall be vacant with the resignation of the incumbent. Mr. Stack reported that Section 2-3215 provides that the board of directors shall give notice of the date the vacancy occurred, the office vacated, and the length of the unexpired term in writing to the Secretary of State and to the public by a notice published in a newspaper of general circulation within the district. Mr. Stack reported that notice was provided in writing to the Secretary of State on December 8, 2012 and that notice was published in the North Platte Telegraph on December 11, 2012. Mr. Stack reported that Section 2-3215 provides that the vacancy shall be filled by the Board of Directors, that the appointment shall be filed with the Secretary of State, and if the vacancy occurs on or after August 1 of the second year of the unexpired term, the appointee shall serve until the term expires.

Mr. Wahlgren moved to approve the following resolution:

Whereas there is a vacancy on the TPNRD Board of Directors in Election Subdistrict 4 due to the resignation of Robert E. Peterson on December 1, 2012, and;

Whereas Nebraska Statutes, Section 2-3215, provides that a vacancy shall be filled by the board of directors, and;

Whereas Dale Margritz has reported to the TPNRD that he would like to serve on the Board of Directors to represent Election Subdistrict 4, and;

Whereas Dale Margritz was a candidate for the Board of Directors to represent Election Subdistrict 4 on the ballot during the 2010 General Election, and;

Whereas there were only two candidates on the ballot during the 2010 General Election, Robert E. Peterson and Dale Margritz, and;

Whereas Dale Margritz knows the TPNRD having served on the Board of Directors 2007-2010.

Now therefore be it resolved that that the TPNRD Board of Directors during their regularly scheduled Board meeting on December 11, 2012 appoints Dale Margritz to

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represent Election Sub-District 4 on the Board of Directors to fill a vacancy, as provided for in Nebraska Statutes, Section 2-3215, and;

Be it further resolved that the appointment of Dale Margritz to represent Election Sub-District 4 on the Board of Directors is for the remainder of the unexpired term which expires at the end of calendar year 2014, as provided for in Nebraska Statutes, Section 2-3215.

Mr. Meismer seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #2)

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

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

None presented.

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORT

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

Nebraska Natural Resources Commission – North Platte River Basin Caucus – Mr. Miller reported that information was available for the Directors'. Mr. Miller reported that the North Platte Basin Caucus has been scheduled to be held on January 10, 2013 at 3:00 pm MST at the North Platte NRD offices in Scottsbluff, NE.

Nebraska Natural Resources Commission – Middle Platte River Basin Caucus – Mr. Miller reported that information was available for the Directors'. Mr. Miller reported that the Middle Platte Basin Caucus has been scheduled to be held on January 4, 2013 at 2:30 pm CST at the Central Platte NRD offices in Grand Island, NE.

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 Subcommittee meeting held on December 11, 2012.

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Integrated Management Plan (IMP) – Revisions – Mr. Meisner reported that a timeline for revisions to the TPNRD IMP was available for the Directors’ and he reviewed the timeline. Mr. Meisner reported that the TPNRD IMP with proposed amendments was available for the Directors’ and he reviewed the proposed amendments. Mr. Meisner reported that the amendments are to provide for the TPNRD the authority to utilize qualified projects described in Neb. Rev. Stat. §2-3226.04 to provide river-flow enhancement to achieve the goals and objective of the TPNRD and the TPNRD may pay for such projects by using the occupation tax provided in Neb. Rev. Stat. §2-3226.05, funds granted to the TPNRD by the State or Federal government, or the levy authority authorized by Neb. Rev. Stat. §2-3225. Mr. Meisner reported that a letter from the NE Department of Natural Resources dated November 30, 2012 was available for the Directors’ and he reviewed the letter.

Mr. Meisner moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve that the TPNRD and NE Department of Natural Resources have notified each other in writing that the TPNRD and the NE Department of Natural Resources have reach an agreement to schedule a joint public hearing on the proposed revisions for the TPNRD IMP and that such hearing be held in North Platte, NE on January 3, 2013 at 3:00 pm CST. Mr. Wahlgren seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #3)

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

Integrated Management Plan (IMP) – Offset Water – Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project (N-CORPE) – Status Report – Mr. Meisner reported on the information session held at the Lake McConaughy Visitors Center on December 11, 2012. Mr. Meisner reported that another information session was scheduled in North Platte on December 12, 2012.

Integrated Management Plan (IMP) – Offset Water – Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project (N-CORPE) – Designation and Appointment of Board Member and alternate for the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project -

Mr. Wahlgren moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Twin Platte Natural Resources District, in the State of Nebraska, that the designation and appointment of Jerry Weaver as Board Member and James Meisner as alternate for the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project are hereby approved, confirmed and ratified in all respects and that this Resolution shall be in force and take effect immediately from and after its adoption.

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

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

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 November 2012 was available for the Directors’.

Accounts Payable - Mr. Meismer 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. Meismer moved that the Financial Statement for November 2012 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented on December 11, 2012 in the amount of \$70,728.82. Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #5)

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

Budget Status – Mr. Meismer 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 January 10, 2013 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

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at which bids will be presented for consideration”. Mr. Miller reported that there are no bids to be presented at the December meeting.

DIRECTORS REPORTS

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) – Board of Directors – No report presented.

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) – Legislative Conference, January 29-30, 2013 – Mr. Meisner reported that information was available for the Directors’.

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

Requests for Authorization to Travel – No report presented.

DISTRICT REPORT

Water Programs – Integrated Management Plan – No report presented.

Water Programs – Regulatory – No report presented.

Brule Watershed – No report presented.

Conservation Programs - Trees – No report presented.

Conservation Programs - Regulatory – No report presented.

Cost-Share Programs – NE Soil & Water Conservation Program – Mr. Miller reported that the monthly report was available for the Directors’. Mr. Miller reported that \$49,147.07 was available for funding contracts.

Mr. Petersen moved to approve the December 11, 2012 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> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 13.008 | NC-17 | Irrig Water Mgt | \$3,740.75 | \$ 3,740.75 |
| 13.009 | NC-12 | Trees | 1,257.00 | 1,257.00 |
| 13.010 | NC-12 | Trees | 1,257.00 | 1,257.00 |
| 13.011 | NC-12 | Trees | 1,257.00 | 1,257.00 |
| 13.012 | NC-12 | Trees | 1,257.00 | 1,257.00 |
| 13.013 | NC-12 | Trees | 879.90 | 879.90 |
| 13.014 | NC-12 | Trees | 1,257.00 | 1,257.00 |
| 13.015 | NC-12 | Trees | 1,257.00 | 1,257.00 |
| 13.016 | NC-12 | Trees | 1,257.00 | <u>\$ 1,257.00</u> |
| Total Amount of New Contracts | | | | \$ 13,419.65 |

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FUNDS AVAILABLE

\$ 35,727.42

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

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

Cost-Share Programs – District Conservation Programs – Mr. Miller reported that a report was available for the Directors'. Mr. Miller reported that \$7,253.80 was available for new contracts.

Habitat Programs – No report presented.

Information & Education Programs – No report presented.

Requests for Authorization to Travel – NARD Washington D.C. Meetings, March 11-14, 2013 – Mr. Miller reported that the District Policy provides that Board authorization is required for all staff or Director expenses for travel outside a 300-mile radius of the District. Mr. Miller reported that he was requesting authorization to participate in the 2013 NARD annual meetings in Washington, D.C. March 11-14, 2013.

Mr. Williams moved to authorize Kent O. Miller, General Manager, to participate in the NARD meetings in Washington, D.C. March 11-14, 2013. Mr. Meismer seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #7)

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

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

Mr. Miller reported that the February 2013 Board meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2013. Mr. Miller reported that NPPD has asked him to meet with the NPPD Board on February 14, 2013 to provide information for the N-CORPE project.

The Board of Directors agreed to change the February Board meeting to February 7, 2013. Mr. Weaver reported that the February Board meeting would be held on February 7, 2013.

Mr. Miller reported that the March 2013 Board meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2013. Mr. Miller reported that the NARD Washington DC annual meetings are March 11-14.

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The Board of Directors agreed to change the March Board meeting to March 7, 2013. Mr. Weaver reported that the March Board meeting would be held on March 7, 2013.

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

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

AWARDS DINNER

The TPNRD 2012 Grassland Conservation Award for Keith/Arthur Counties was presented to the Otter Creek Ranch during the TPNRD Awards Banquet at the Haythorn Ranch.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm MST (8:30 pm CST).

Jerry Weaver, Secretary