

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
June 13, 2013

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 June 13, 2013. Mr. Schilz called the meeting to order at 7:36 pm. 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

Dale Margritz
James Meisner
Robert L Petersen
Dennis Schilz
Douglas L Stack
Shane Storer
Jerry Weaver
John W Williams
Robert Wiseman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Eric S Hansen
Joe Wahlgren

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Bill Carhart, Grasslands Stewardship Coordinator
Ann Dimmitt, IMP Coordinator
Amy Mapes, Administrative Assistant
Kent O Miller, General Manager
Dave Slattery, Conservation Programs Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Graham, Producer
Lee Sillasen, Producer
Judy Pederson, NP Trails

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nebraska Open Meeting Act – Mr. Schilz reported that the Nebraska Open Meeting Act 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. Schilz reported that the current Open Meeting Act was on the

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counter in the back of the meeting room and accessible to members of the public.

Report of Directors Excused – Mr. Schilz 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. Schilz reported that Mr. Hansen and Mr. Wahlgren notified the office they would be absent and are therefore excused.

Information Packet and Notebook available for the Public – Mr. Schilz 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.

Other Announcements – None presented.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Schilz opened the Public Forum.

Judy Pederson, representing the North Platte Trails Committee, requested that the TPNRD fund a portion of the North Platte Trails Committee project around Iron Horse Lake.

Mr. Schilz reported that the North Platte Trails Committee request for funding would be included on the July 11, 2013 Board meeting agenda for consideration of the TPNRD providing funds.

Lee Sillasen reported that the grass in his meadow land along the North Platte River is no longer sub-irrigated due the lowering of the water table caused by the erosion of the North Platte River stream bed. Mr. Sillasen requested the Board allow him to install a well and to irrigate this land.

Mr. Schilz requested the Water Resources Subcommittee to consider Mr. Sillasen's request and to bring a recommendation to the Board.

Mr. Schilz closed the Public Forum.

AGENDA MODIFICATION

Mr. Schilz reported that the Executive Subcommittee's report would occur as the last agenda item of the Board meeting.

GENERAL INFORMATION

None presented.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

Minutes for May 9, 2013 Meeting – Mr. Schilz reported that the Minutes for the May 9, 2013 Board of Directors meeting was available for the Directors’ and he asked if there were any corrections or additions.

Mr. Meismer moved that the Minutes of the May 9, 2013 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #1)

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

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

None presented.

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORT

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – District Conservationist Report –
No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
Land Resources Subcommittee

Mr. Storer presented a report for the Subcommittee meeting held on June 13, 2013.

Awards Program – Tree Award for 2013 – Mr. Storer reported that the Subcommittee agreed to select Mr. Storer reported that the Subcommittee agreed to select Gerald and Jan Spurgin of Sutherland for their land south of Paxton to receive the 2013 Tree Award for Keith / Arthur Counties.

Awards Program – Grassland Award for 2013 – Mr. Storer reported that the Subcommittee agreed to select Robert & Jennifer Brosius from north of Maxwell to receive the 2013 Grassland Award for Lincoln / McPherson Counties.

Cost-Share Programs - Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program (NSWCP) - Eligible Practices – Mr. Storer reported that the Land Resources Subcommittee agreed to recommend to the Board of Directors to continue the current policy for eligible practices for NSWCP. Mr. Meismer, chair of the Water Resources Subcommittee, reported that the Water Resources Subcommittee agreed to recommend to the Board of Directors to continue the current policy for eligible practices for NSWCP.

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Mr. Miller reported that Board of Directors action is not needed to continue the current policy for eligible practices for NSWCP.

No action occurred.

Cost-Share Programs - Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program (NSWCP) - Funding –
Mr. Storer reported that the Land Resources Subcommittee agreed to recommend to the Board of Directors to continue the current policy for funding NSWCP eligible practices. Mr. Meismer, chair of the Water Resources Subcommittee, reported that the Water Resources Subcommittee agreed to recommend to the Board of Directors to continue the current policy for funding NSWCP eligible practices.

Mr. Storer moved the Land Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the following allocation of the funds for the Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program in the TPNRD for July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014:

- For Practice NC-12, Windbreaks, that 30% of available funds be reserved from July 1, 2013 to January 30, 2014
- For Practice NC-14, Planned Grazing Systems, that 30% of available funds be reserved from July 1, 2013 to January 30, 2014
- For Practice NC-17, Irrigation Water Management, that 30% of available funds be reserved from July 1, 2013 to January 30, 2014
- For the other eligible practices that 10% of available funds be reserved from July 1, 2013 to January 30, 2014
- Any funds available after January 30, 2014 may be used for any eligible practice.

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

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
Water Resources Subcommittee

Mr. Meismer, Water Resources Subcommittee Chairperson, presented a report for the Subcommittee meeting held on June 13, 2013.

Ground Water Management – Variances – Stafford Ranch Co – Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from the Stafford Ranch Co. Mr. Meismer 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 the Stafford Ranch Co to certify 126.7 irrigated acres in the NE¼ Section 3, Township 14 North, Range 35 West, Keith County. Mr. Weaver

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seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #3)

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

Ground Water Management – Variances – Dwight Thompson – Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from Dwight Thompson. Mr. Meismer 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 Dwight Thompson to certify 84.5 irrigated acres in Section 24, Township 14 North, Range 34 West, Lincoln County. Mr. Storer seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #4)

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

Ground Water Management – Variances – Mike Graham – Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from Mike Graham. Mr. Meismer 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 Mike Graham to certify 36.4 irrigated acres in the NW¼ Section 25, Township 15 North, Range 38 West, Keith County. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #5)

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

Ground Water Management – Variances – Leonard Johnson – Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from Leonard Johnson. Mr. Meismer 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 Leonard Johnson to drill a new supplemental irrigation well in the NE¼ Section 28, Township 14 North, Range 38 West, Keith County. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #6)

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

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Ground Water Management – Variances – Tom Kalkowski – Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD received a request for a variance from Tom Kalkowski. Mr. Meismer 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 Tom Kalkowski to transfer a total of 4.0 acres from the west portion of his field in the SE¼ Section 26, Township 13 North, Range 41 West, to a location in the adjoining SW¼ Section 25, Township 13 North, Range 41 West, Keith County. Mr. Margritz seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #7)

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

Ground Water Management – Violations – No report presented.

Ground Water Management – Aerial Photography – No report presented.

Ground Water Management – Management Plan – No report presented.

Surface Water – USGS South Platte River Stream Gage at Roscoe – Mr. Meismer reported that the Subcommittee recommended and the Board of Directors approved on May 9, 2013 that the TPNRD participate in the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Cooperative Water Program for continued operation of the Stream Gage on the South Platte River at Roscoe by providing funding for the remaining 5 months of FY 2013 in the amount of \$3,550 and that the staff seek funding assistance for the remaining 5 months of FY 2013 and for FY 2014 if funds are needed to continue operations of the stream gage. Mr. Meismer reported that the stream gage is back in operation. Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD is paying the full cost for the remainder of the Federal 2013 fiscal year which is through September 30, 2013. Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD will pay \$3,550.00 which is the TPNRD 60% share and the USGS will provide \$2,370.00 which is the USGS 40% share for a total of cost for operating the gage of \$5,920.00. Mr. Meismer reported that the South Platte River Compact Coalition (SPRCC) will pay the full cost for the Federal 2014 fiscal year which is October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014. Mr. Meismer reported that the SPRCC will pay \$8,590.00 which is the TPNRD 60% share and the USGS will provide \$5,725.00 which is the USGS 40% share for a total of cost for operating the gage of \$14,315.00.

Integrated Management Plan - Rules & Regulations – Mr. Meismer reviewed the current timeline for implementing revisions for the Rules and Regulations. Mrs. Dimmitt reviewed the current draft of revisions for the Rules and Regulations.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the revisions for the TPNRD “DISTRICTWIDE GROUND WATER

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MANAGEMENT AREA AND INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT SUB-AREA RULES AND REGULATIONS” as discussed during the June 13, 2013 Board of Directors meeting and approve to schedule a public hearing on the proposed revisions to be held in North Platte, NE on July 11, 2013 at 7:30 pm CDT. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #87)

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

Integrated Management Plan – Industrial & Municipal - Reporting – No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan – NE Department of Natural Resources Fully Appropriated Determination – Mr. Meismer reported that the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources has released new draft rules and methods that it plans to utilize in its annual evaluation of the availability of hydrologically connected water supplies. Mr. Meismer reported that the Department held public forums on May 13, 2013 in Norfolk & Valentine; May 14, 2013 in Scottsbluff & Kearney; May 15, 2013 in Beatrice, and May 16, 2013 in Lincoln. Mr. Meismer reported that public hearings are anticipated to be held later this summer and after public comments have been received potential, rules modifications will be finalized by the end of the year. Mr. Meismer reported that Mr. Miller attended the public forum in Kearney on May 14, 2013 and that Mr. Miller and he attended a technical meeting in Lincoln on May 23, 2013.

Integrated Management Plan - Offset Water - Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project (N-CORPE) – Mr. Weaver and Mr. Meismer reported on the status of the N-CORPE project.

Integrated Management Plan – Offset Water – Irrigation Districts – No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan – Offset Water – Conjunctive Management of Ground Water & Surface Water – No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan – Offset Water – Wind Energy Generation – No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan – Offset Water – J2 Re-regulating Reservoir – No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan – Offset Water – CPNRD – No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan – Offset Water – Platte Basin Coalition Conservation Study – No report presented.

Integrated Management Plan – Offset Water – South Platte River Compact Coalition

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(SPRCC) – Mr. Miller reported that the SPRCC sponsors met on May 15, 2013 at the TPNRD offices. Mr. Miller reported that he reported to the sponsors that the TPNRD position is that the SPRCC does not need any additional legal analysis and that the SPRCC needs to move forward to take appropriate actions as soon as possible.

Over Appropriated Basin Plan - TPNRD Report for Annual Meeting - Mr. Meismer reported that the 2012 Annual Report of Water Use Activities in the TPNRD was available for the Directors'. Mr. Meismer reported that the report will be presented during the 2013 Platte Basin meeting which will be held on June 20, 2013 at 1:00 pm at the South Platte NRD offices in Sidney, NE.

Data and Modeling - No report presented.

Cost-Share Programs - Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program (NSWCP) - No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee

No report presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statement - Mr. Meismer reported that the Financial Statement for May 2013 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 May 2013 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented on June 13, 2013 in the amount of \$848,186.66. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #9)

Aye: Margritz, Meismer, Petersen, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Weaver, Williams, Wiseman

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Hansen, Wahlgren

Budget Status – Mr. Meismer reported that the Budget Status report was available for the Directors'.

Bids/Proposals – None presented.

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Bids Scheduled to be Presented for Consideration during the July 11, 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 at which bids will be presented for consideration”. Mr. Miller reported that there would be no bids presented during the July 11, 2013 Board meeting.

DIRECTORS REPORTS

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) – Board of Directors – Mr. Meismer presented a report on the NARD Board meeting held on June 10, 2013.

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) – NRD Niobrara Basin Tour, June 10-11, 2013 – Mr. Meismer reported that he participated in the NRD Niobrara Basin Tour, June 10-11, 2013 and he presented a report.

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

Requests for Authorization to Travel – No requests were 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 – Mr. Miller reported on the trees sold and planted.

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 \$11,709.68 was available for funding contracts.

Mr. Wiseman moved to approve the June 13, 2013 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>
13.034	NC-17	Irrig Water Mgt	\$ 300.00	<u>\$ 300.00</u>
		Total Amount of New Contracts		\$ 300.00
	FUNDS AVAILABLE			\$11,409.68

Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #10)

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

Cost-Share Programs – District Conservation Programs – Mr. Miller reported that a report was available for the Directors’. Mr. Miller reported that \$506.47 was available for new contracts.

Habitat Programs – No report presented.

Information & Education Programs – No report presented.

Legislation – No report presented.

Requests for Authorization to Travel – No requests presented.

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’.

BUDGET FOR 2014 FISCAL YEAR

Preparation Schedule – Mr. Miller reported that a schedule for preparing the 2014 Fiscal Year Budget for the TPNRD was available for the Directors’. Mr. Miller reported that the schedule provides the Board four opportunities to review and discuss the Budget prior to final approval.

Review Draft #1 – Mr. Miller distributed and reviewed the first draft of a budget for the 2014 Fiscal Year.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Executive Subcommittee

Mr. Schilz, Executive Subcommittee Chairman, presented a report for the Subcommittee meeting held on June 13, 2013.

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Personnel Salaries for 2014 Fiscal Year – Mr. Schilz reported that the Subcommittee reviewed the authorized positions, reviewed the salary schedules, reviewed the cost-of-living, and reviewed the General Manager’s salary.

Mr. Miller distributed and reviewed information available for the Directors’.

Mr. Weaver moved to approve the following:

- The Salary Schedule steps for each position be increased 2.0% for the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year in recognition of the cost of living to maintain the value of the salary compensation
- New salary schedule

IMP Manager *	47,000.00	68,500.00	18
IMP Manager **	48,000.00	70,000.00	18

 - * Employees Receiving Extended Medical Insurance
 - ** Employees NOT Receiving Extended Medical Insurance
- Ann Dimmitt’s position be changed to IMP Manager effective July 1, 2013 and set Mrs. Dimmitt’s salary for the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year at Step 9 on the IMP Manager Salary Schedule.
- Set the General Manager's salary at \$90,000.00 for the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year

Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #11)

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

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:07 pm.

Jerry Weaver, Secretary