

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
February 18, 2016

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 February 18, 2016. Mr. Stack called the meeting to order at 3:01 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
Douglas L Stack
Shane Storer
Joe Wahlgren
Jerry Weaver
Robert Wiseman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Eric S Hansen
Judy Pederson
Dennis Schilz

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

Mary Reece, District Conservationist

STAFF PRESENT

Ann Dimmitt, IMP Manager
Amy Mapes, Administrative Assistant
Kent O Miller, General Manager

OTHERS PRESENT

Jesse Bradley, NE Dept of Natural Resources
Jeff Shafer, NPPD
Kyle Shepherd, N-CORPE Manager
Mike Wheeler, Sargent Irrigation

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 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 the wall in the front of the meeting room which is accessible to members of the public.

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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 or she will be absent and that the minutes will reflect whether an absent Director is excused or unexcused. Mr. Stack reported that Mr. Hansen, Mrs. Pederson, and Mr. Schilz notified the office that they would be absent and are therefore excused.

Information Packet and Notebook available for the Public – Mr. Stack reported that on the table along the north wall of the meeting room is a notebook containing information that each Board member has electronically. Mr. Stack reported that the notebook is available for viewing by the public attending the Board of Directors meeting. Mr. Stack reported that this information is also available on the TPNRD website, and that internet access is available in the room.

Other Announcements – None presented.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

None presented.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Republican River Basin Compact – Jesse Bradley, NE Department of Natural Resources, presented a report on the Republican River Basin Compact.

Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project (NCORPE) – Kyle Shepherd, Manager of N-CORPE, presented a report on the NCORPE property.

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORT

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – District Conservationist Report – Mary Reece reported that information was available for the Directors’ and she presented a report.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Minutes for the January 14, 2016 Meeting – Mr. Stack reported that the Minutes for the January 14, 2016 Board of Directors meeting were available for the Directors’ and he asked if there were any corrections or additions.

Mr. Wahlgren moved that the Minutes of the January 14, 2016 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Meisner seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #1)

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statement - Mr. Meisner reported that the Financial Statement for January 2016 was available for the Directors’.

Accounts Payable - Mr. Meisner 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. Meisner moved that the Financial Statement for January 2016 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented on February 18, 2016 in the amount of \$27,943.87. Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #2)

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

Budget Status – Mr. Meisner 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 March 10, 2016 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 March 10, 2016 Board of Directors meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Land Resources SubCommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Water Resources SubCommittee

Mr. Meisner, Water Resources Subcommittee Chairperson, presented a report for the Subcommittee meeting held on February 18, 2016.

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Variances – Mrs. Dimmitt reported on variance request TP-NP-16.02.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve variance TP-NP-16.02. Mr. Wahlgren seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #3)

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

Violations – No report presented.

Offset Water – Irrigation Districts – Instream Flows – Consultant Proposal – Mr. Meismer reported that the Water Resources Subcommittee requested Olsson Associates to submit a Letter of Agreement for Jim Schneider, Olsson Associates, to assist Mr. Shaw in setting up an analysis procedure for calculation of the benefits for instream flows by retiring surface irrigated acres and/or converting surface irrigated acres to ground water irrigation, and to assist the TPNRD in developing the procedure for submitting instream flows applications to NE DNR. Mr. Meismer reported that the Letter of Agreement was available for the Directors’. Mr. Meismer reported this is needed for the offset water required by the TPNRD Integrated Management Plan (IMP) that may be available from Irrigation Districts within the TPNRD. Mr Meismer reported that the TPNRD has current agreements and pending agreements with land owners served by the Cody-Dillon Irrigation District and there are opportunities currently being discussed with the Platte Valley Irrigation District and the Keith-Lincoln Irrigation District. Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD expects there will be opportunities develop with other Irrigation Districts within the TPNRD.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the Olsson Associates Letter of Agreement for Professional Services on a time and expense basis not to exceed \$10,000 and authorize the General Manager to execute the agreement for the TPNRD. Mr. Wahlgren seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #4)

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

Offset Water – Irrigation Districts – Instream Flows – Cody-Dillon Agreement – No report presented.

Offset Water – Irrigation Districts – Excess Flows Water Rights – No report presented.

Offset Water – Irrigation Districts – HDR Engineering Analysis – No report presented.

Offset Water – Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project (NCORPE) – North Pipeline – Mr. Meisner reported that an agreement for the TPNRD to use a portion of the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) Sutherland Project facilities to deliver and/or store the water pumped from the NCORPE Project has been executed. Mr. Meisner reported that all easements for building the NCORPE north pipeline have been signed. Mr. Meisner reported that the Water Resources Subcommittee has determined that the north pipeline should be built as originally designed to deliver water from the NCORPE Project to the South Platte River, that the staff should seek bids for construction of the north pipeline during the 2016 calendar year, and that the TPNRD should finance the construction of the north pipeline using the \$2,595,106.00 grant from the Water Resources Cash and available TPNRD cash from the occupation taxes received.

Offset Water – Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project (NCORPE) – Well Field Operations – No report presented.

Offset Water – Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project (NCORPE) – Ground Water Levels – No report presented.

Offset Water – Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project (NCORPE) – Sponsors Meetings – No report presented.

Subcommittee Priorities – Mr. Meisner reported that the following is the current list of the Subcommittee priorities for offset water.

- 1 Irrigation Districts in TPNRD
- 2 N-CORPE Project
- 3 CPNRD Agreement
- 4 J-2 Project
5. Non-Irrigated Certified Acres
- 6 Conservation tillage measures
- 7 South Platte River Compact Coalition

TPNRD Ground Water Management Plan – No report presented.

Platte Basin Over-Appropriated Plan – No report presented.

TPNRD Integrated Management Plan – No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
Executive Subcommittee

No report presented.

DIRECTORS REPORTS

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) – Board of Directors – Mr. Meisner reported on the NARD Board of Directors meeting held on January 27, 2016.

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) – Legislative Conference, January 26-27, 2016 – Mr. Meisner reported on the NARD annual Legislative Conference that was held January 26-27, 2016 in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) – Keeping Nebraska Local Video – Mr. Meisner reported that the Nebraska Education Television (NET) network, in cooperation with the NARD and most NRDs, including the TPNRD, have produced a program titled “Keeping Nebraska Local”. Mr. Meisner reported that the air dates are March 10, 13, 24, and 27. Mr. Meisner reported that once the “Keeping Nebraska Local” video airs, TPNRD will receive a copy of the video.

Sandhills Resources, Conservation & Development Council – Mr. Miller reported that available for the Directors’ was Sandhills RC&D Brochure titled “Eastern Red Cedar Control Project”.

Sandhills Task Force – No report presented.

Board of Director’s Elections 2016 – Mr. Stack reported that various items of information were available for the Directors’. Mr. Stack reported that all Incumbents filed for re-election.

Requests for Authorization to Travel – No requests presented.

DISTRICT REPORT

Cost-Share Programs – NE Soil & Water Conservation Program – Mr. Miller reported that the monthly report was available for the Directors’. Mr. Miller reported that \$23,402.75 was available. Mr. Miller reported that there were five new applications to present.

Mr. Wahlgren moved to approve the February 18, 2016 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>
16.026	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,354.00	\$ 1,354.00
16.027	NC-17	Irrig Water Mgt	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
16.028	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,354.00	\$ 1,354.00

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16.029	NC-10	Range Seeding	\$ 5,287.38	\$ 5,287.38
16.030	NC-1	Terraces	\$ 7,495.93	<u>\$ 7,495.93</u>
		Total Amount of New Contracts		\$ 22,991.31

FUNDS AVAILABLE

\$ 71.97

Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #5)

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

Cost-Share Programs – District Conservation Programs – Mr. Miller reported that the monthly report was available for the Directors’. Mr. Miller reported that \$7,425.00 was available.

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

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

NEXT MEETING

Mr. Stack reported that the next Board of Directors meeting would be held on Thursday, March 10, 2016 at 3:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Jerry Weaver, Secretary