

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
August 11, 2016

The Twin Platte Natural Resources District (TPNRD) Board of Directors meeting was held at the Game & Parks Offices, Lake McConaughy Visitor's Center, 1475 Nebraska Highway 61, Ogallala, Nebraska on August 11, 2016. Mr. Schilz called the meeting to order at 4:09 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

Dale Margritz
James Meisner
Judy Pederson
Robert L Petersen
Dennis Schilz
Douglas L Stack
Shane Storer
Joe Wahlgren
Jerry Weaver
Robert Wiseman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Eric S Hansen

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

Jan Brestel
Carol Eakins
Nicholas Giger
Mary Reece, District Conservationist

STAFF PRESENT

Amy Mapes, Administrative Assistant
Kent Miller, General Manager

OTHERS PRESENT

Don Lydic
Tammy Miller
Arlene Peterson
Jeff Shafer, NPPD

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 that is 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 table in the middle of the meeting room which is 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 or she will be absent and that the minutes will reflect whether an absent Director is excused or unexcused. Mr. Schilz reported that Mr. Hansen notified the office that he would be absent and is therefore excused.

Information available for the Public – Mr. Schilz reported that on the table in the middle of the meeting room is a notebook containing information that each Board member has electronically. Mr. Schilz reported that the notebook is available for viewing by the public attending the Board of Directors meeting. Mr. Schilz 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. Schilz opened the Public Forum. There were no comments. Mr. Schilz closed the Public Forum.

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

There were no requests for assistance.

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORT

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Minutes for the July 7, 2016 Meeting – Mr. Schilz reported that the Minutes for the July 7, 2016 Board of Directors meeting were available for the Directors’ and he asked if there were any corrections or additions.

Mr. Petersen moved that the Minutes of the July 7, 2016 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Margritz seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #1)

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statement - Mr. Meismer reported that the Financial Statement for July 2016 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 July 2016 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented on August 11, 2016 in the amount of \$195,872.24. Mr. Wahlgren seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #2)

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

Budget Status – There was no budget status report to present.

Bids/Proposals – None presented.

Bids/Proposals Scheduled to be Presented for Consideration during the September 8, 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 September 8, 2016 Board of Directors meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Land Resources SubCommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

Water Resources SubCommittee

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 – No report presented.

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) – Annual Conference – Mr. Meisner reported that the NARD Annual Conference will be held in Kearney on September 26-27, 2016 and that information for the conference was available for the Directors’.

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

Sandhills Task Force – No report presented.

N-CORPE Project – Mr. Weaver reported that information on the N-CORPE project was available for the Directors’ and he reported on the NCORPE Board meeting held on July 20, 2016.

Platte Basin Over-Appropriated Stakeholders Meeting – Mr. Wahlgren reported on the last meeting of the Platte Basin over-Appropriated stakeholders.

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 \$72,414.86 was available.

Cost-Share Programs – District Conservation Programs – Mr. Miller reported that the monthly report was available for the Directors’. Mr. Miller reported that \$8,680.00 was available.

Integrated Management Plan (IMP) – Mr. Miller reported that information was available for the Directors’. Mr. Miller reported that the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources has notified the TPNRD that based upon evaluation of the TPNRD’s management actions taken to date, it would be the Department’s assessment that no additional actions are required at this time. Mr. Miller reported that the Department has also notified the TPNRD that according to the Department’s analysis, the net impact of the TPNRD’s permitted activities, retirement of irrigated acres, ground water recharge activities, and augmentation projects is sufficient to offset the depletions due to post-1997 changes in ground water irrigated acres as stated in the TPNRD Integrated Management Plan (IMP). Mr. Miller reported that the Department has notified the TPNRD that the evaluation also indicates that sufficient measures are in place to provide accretions to meet future offsets required by the IMP. Mr. Miller reported that the TPNRD Chairman, Mr. Schilz, has notified the Department that the

TPNRD concurs with this assessment.

Brule Watershed – Mr. Miller reported that information was available for the Directors’ which included an Inspection Report for Brule Watershed conducted by the NE Department of Natural Resources on June 7, 2016. Mr. Miller reported that the NRCS is currently conducting an assessment of the Brule Watershed. Mr. Miller reported that he expects that the assessment will show a need for a full rehabilitation.

Platte River Recovery Implementation Plan – Mr. Miller reported that information was available for the Directors’. Mr. Miller reported that the J-2 Project is on hold and that the Governance Committee was considering an extension of the first increment.

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

BUDGET FOR 2017 FISCAL YEAR

Preparation Schedule - Mr. Miller reported that the schedule for preparing the 2017 Fiscal Year Budget provides the Board four opportunities to review and discuss the Budget prior to final approval.

Review Draft #3 – TPNRD General Fund – Mr. Miller reported that Draft #3 for the 2017 Fiscal Year General Fund Budget was available for the Directors’. Mr. Miller reported that Draft #3 of the 2017 Fiscal Year General Fund Budget is requesting the same property tax dollars that was requested for the 2016 Fiscal Year. Mr. Miller reviewed the information for the proposed General Fund Budget for the 2017 Fiscal Year.

Review Draft #3 - NCORPE Project – Mr. Miller reported that Draft #3 of the TPNRD NCORPE Project Budget for the 2017 Fiscal Year was available for the Directors’. Mr. Miller reviewed the information for the proposed TPNRD NCORPE Project budget for the 2017 Fiscal Year.

Approval for Public Hearings and Set Public Hearings Dates, Times, and Location

Mr. Meismer moved to approve for Public Hearing a 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget for the TPNRD General Fund as proposed in Draft #3 with a property tax request of \$2,632,300.00 for the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year which is the same property tax funds requested to fund the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year Budget, to approve for Public Hearing a 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget for the TPNRD NCORPE Project as proposed in Draft #3 with an occupation tax levy of \$10.00 per irrigated acre for the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year, and to set a Public Hearing for September 8, 2016 to be held at 7:30 pm in the Great Western Bank Center Meeting Room located at 111 South Dewey Street in North Platte, Nebraska for the Board of Directors to hear and consider public comments prior to action for approval of a 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget for the TPNRD, for setting the final property tax for the TPNRD for the 2016-2017

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Fiscal Year, and for setting the final occupation tax for the TPNRD for the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year. Mrs. Pederson seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #3)

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

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

NEXT MEETING

Mr. Schilz reported that the next Board of Directors meeting would be held on Thursday, September 8, 2016 at 7:30 pm in North Platte, NE.

BOARD DINNER

A Board Dinner was held at Mr. Schilz's home at Lake McConaughy. No discussions regarding the TPNRD occurred.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm MDT.

Jerry Weaver, Secretary