

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
March 9, 2017

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 March 9, 2017. Mr. Schilz called the meeting to order at 3:02 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

Eric S Hansen
James Meisner
Judy Pederson
Robert L Petersen
Dennis Schilz
Douglas L Stack
Jerry Weaver
Robert Wiseman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Shane Storer
Joe Wahlgren

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

Mary Reece, District Conservationist

STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Chuck Burr, UNL WCREC
Mike Wheeler, Sargent Irrigation

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 wall in the front 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

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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. Storer 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 table along the north wall 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, 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

Farm Management Competition - Chuck Burr of the UNL West Central Research and Extension Center presented a request for assistance to the Nebraska Farm Management Competition.

Mr. Weaver moved to approve a \$500 contribution to the UNL WCREC Nebraska Farm Management Competition. Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #1)

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

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.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Bob Petersen Information Requested to Provide the Board – Mr. Petersen reported that available for the Directors' was an article about the Ogallala Aquifer.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Minutes for February 9, 2017 – Mr. Schilz reported that the Minutes for the February 9, 2017 Board of Directors meeting were available for the Directors and he asked if there were any corrections or additions.

Mr. Meismer moved that the Minutes of the February 9, 2017 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mrs. Pederson seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #2)

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statement - Mr. Meismer reported that the Financial Statement for February 2017 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 February 2017 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented on March 9, 2017 in the amount of \$67,316.01. Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #3)

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

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 April 13, 2017 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 April 13, 2017 Board of Directors meeting.

Office Lease – Mr. Miller reported that Great Western Bank has offered an extension of the TPNRD Lease Agreement commencing December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2021. Mr. Miller reported that the current Lease Agreement ended November 30, 2016. Mr. Miller

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reported that the current lease is \$1,860.00 per month and the proposed new lease is \$1,971.60 per month. Mr. Miller reported that the TPNRD began this lease agreement in 1991.

Mr. Hansen moved to approve an addendum to the TPNRD lease agreement as proposed by Great Western Bank which provides for extending the current lease agreement commencing on December 1, 2016 and terminating November 30, 2021, setting the lease rate at \$1,971.60 per month effective December 1, 2016, and authorize the General Manager to sign the addendum. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #4)

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

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 March 9, 2017.

Variances – Mrs. Dimmitt reported on variance request TP-TRANS-17.07.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve variance TP-TRANS-17.07. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #5)

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

Variances – Mrs. Dimmitt reported on variance request TP-TRANS-17.11.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve variance TP-TRANS-17.11. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #6)

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

Variations – Mrs. Dimmitt reported on variance request TP-MODIFY-17.01.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve variance TP-MODIFY-17.01. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #7)

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

Variations – Mrs. Dimmitt reported on variance request TP-TRANS-17.12.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve variance TP-TRANS-17.12. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #8)

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

Variations – Mrs. Dimmitt reported on variance request TP-TRANS-17.14.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve variance TP-TRANS-17.14. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #9)

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

Variations – Mrs. Dimmitt reported on variance request TP-NP-17.13.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve variance TP-NP-17.13. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #10)

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

Violations – No report presented.

Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) Data – GeoCloud Interlocal Agreement – Mr. Meismer

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reported that available for the Directors’ was a proposed GeoCloud Interlocal Agreement and information in a power point presentation regarding the GeoCloud Interlocal Agreement. Mr. Meismer reported that the Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assessment (ENWRA), submitted an application this year to the Water Sustainability Fund (WSF) for the Nebraska GeoCloud and Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) Data Integration, which was approved. Mr. Meismer reported that the project would provide the preservation, storage and access of AEM data in a Nebraska GeoCloud platform permitting seamless data integration and sharing. Mr. Meismer reported that the WSF reimburses 60% of eligible project costs and requires a 40% local match. Mr. Meismer reported that ten Nebraska Natural Resources Districts (NRDs) across the state, who have conducted AEM flights in the last 10 years, are a part of this project. Mr. Meismer reported that four NRDs have approved the Interlocal Agreement and the remaining NRDs are considering the Interlocal Agreement this month. Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD share is \$3,400 for each of the Fiscal Years (FY2018, FY2019, and FY2020) for a total of \$10,200.00. Mr. Meismer reported that the Subcommittee called Jim Cannia and discussed the GeoCloud and that Mr. Cannia recommended that the TPNRD participate.

Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the Interlocal Agreement for the GeoCloud and authorize the General Manager to execute the Interlocal Agreement for the TPNRD. Mrs. Pederson seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #11)

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

Offset Water – Irrigation Districts – Emergency Repair – Mr. Meismer reported that there is high water expected this spring on the North Platte River and that there is an extreme level of concern that the high water would damage the Cody-Dillon Irrigation District facilities for the diversion of the North Platte River such that Cody-Dillon Irrigation District would not be able to divert water. Mr. Meismer reported that there is 130% to 140% snow pack in the North Platte and South Platte River Basins and the March heavy snows are yet to come. Mr. Meismer reported that all the reservoirs are near capacity and the NE DNR is forecasting a large amount of runoff this Spring and Summer. Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD has had and expects to continue agreements with the Cody-Dillon Irrigation District for the opportunity to transfer a portion of their water rights to an Instream Water Right. Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD previously asked Tom Riley, Flatwater, to study the risk and recommend solutions.

Tom Riley (by phone) reported that he is preparing a recommendation for Bendway Weirs, but that there is a need for emergency protection, now, with the forecasted high water. Mr. Riley showed aerial photos of the area and reported on his recommendation for emergency repair. Mr. Riley reported that the emergency repair was estimated to cost approximately \$100,000.00 and he reviewed the details of his estimate.

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Mr. Meismer moved the Water Resources Subcommittee’s recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve emergency repair along the North Platte River adjacent to the Cody-Dillon Irrigation District Canal with 50% reimbursement from the Cody-Dillon Irrigation District over the next five years. Mr. Wiseman seconded the motion. The motion carried.
(Motion #12)

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

Offset Water – Irrigation Districts – Excess Flow – Spring 2017 – Mr. Meismer reported that the TPNRD is in contact with the NE DNR and the Irrigation Districts within the TPNRD and if excess flows are available this Spring, the TPNRD will arrange for diversions into the Irrigation Districts canals and adjacent pits for ground water recharge and the offset water that will be available from the ground water recharge.

Offset Water – Irrigation Districts – Management Agreements – No report presented.

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

Offset Water – Irrigation Districts – Instream Flows – Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the TPNRD is offering in 2017 agreements to land owners with Cody-Dillon Irrigation District water rights for long-term 30 years’ relinquishments of Cody-Dillon water rights to the TPNRD for \$510.00 / acre and for short-term 10 years’ relinquishments of Cody-Dillon water rights to the TPNRD for \$110.00 / acre. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the landowner or TPNRD applies surface water to the land for one year prior to approval of a contract. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that in 2015 there were three contracts approved for long-term 30 years’ relinquishments of 199.5 acres of Cody-Dillon water rights to the TPNRD and the landowner applied the surface water to the land. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that in 2016 there were 15 contracts approved for relinquishments of 496.5 acres of Cody-Dillon water rights to the TPNRD. Mrs. Dimmitt reported that the TPNRD applied the surface water to the land for 330.6 acres and the landowner applied the surface water to the land for 165.9 acres.

Offset Water – Non-Irrigated Certified Acres - No report presented.

Offset Water - NCORPE Project – North Pipeline - Construction – Mr. Miller reported that a preconstruction meeting will be held in March at the TPNRD offices on March 16, 2017 and that the landowners have been invited.

Offset Water - NCORPE Project – Financing – Series 2017 Bonds – Mr. Weaver reported on the status of the calling of the Series 2013 Bonds and issuing of Series 2017 Bonds.

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Offset Water - NCORPE Project – Wellfield Operation – Mr. Weaver reported that the current pumping of water to the Republican River is scheduled to be completed by the end of March.

Offset Water - NCORPE Project – Ground Water Levels – Mr. Meismer reported that available for the Directors’ was an aerial photo of the NCORPE property showing the locations of ground water monitoring wells, and graphs for the monitoring wells.

Offset Water - NCORPE Project – Model – No report presented.

Offset Water - NCORPE Project – Sponsors Meetings – Mr. Weaver reported on the sponsors meeting held on February 22, 2017. Mr. Weaver reported that the NCORPE Board is considering the possibility of entering an agreement with a development company for Wind Generation on the NCORPE property. Mr. Weaver reported that wind generation on the property would provide for tax payments that would be more than the tax payments lost when NCORPE purchased the land and would provide payments to NCORPE that could be used for payments on the bonds made by each of the NRDs. Mr. Weaver reported that the next sponsors meeting would be on March 14, 2017 at Curtis, NE.

Offset Water - Storage Analysis – No report presented.

Offset Water – J2 Project – No report presented.

Offset Water – CPNRD Agreement – No report presented.

Offset Water – Conservation Tillage Measures – No report presented.

Ground Water Management Plan – No report presented.

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

- 1 Irrigation Districts in TPNRD (2016FY Budget)
- 2 N-CORPE Project (2016FY Budget)
- 3 CPNRD Agreement (2016FY Budget)
- 4 J-2 Project (2016FY Budget)
5. Non-Irrigated Certified Acres (2016FY Budget)
- 6 Conservation tillage measures (2016FY Budget)
- 7 South Platte River Compact Coalition (2016FY Budget)

Mr. Meismer reported that available for the Directors’ was the IMP accounting shown on a graph and a chart.

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Platte Basin Over-Appropriated Plan – Mr. Meismer reported that the next stakeholders meeting will be March 15, 2017 at 10:30 am at the Holiday Inn Express in North Platte, Nebraska.

Platte River Recovery Implementation Program – No report presented.

South Platte River Compact Coalition – No report presented

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
Wildlife Habitat & Urban Affairs Subcommittee

No report presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
Executive Subcommittee

Mr. Schilz, Executive Subcommittee Chairperson, presented a report for the Subcommittee meeting held on March 9, 2017.

DIRECTORS REPORTS

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) – Board of Directors – Mr. Meismer reported on March 6, 2017 NARD Board meeting.

Mr. Meismer reported that the 2020 North American Envirothon would be held in Nebraska. Mr. Meismer reported that the NARD Board is recommending that each NRD contribute funds over the next three years to fund the costs for Nebraska to host the 2020 North American Envirothon. Mr. Meismer reported that the cost for the TPNRD would be \$5,327.00 / year for the next three years.

Mr. Meismer moved that the TPNRD contribute to the NARD \$5,327.00 / year for the next three years toward the costs for Nebraska to host the 2020 North American Envirothon. (Motion #13)

Mr. Schilz reported that Motion #13 died as there was no second.

Mr. Meismer reported that the NARD 2017 Basin Tour would be June 12-13, 2017 in Northeast Nebraska.

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

Sandhills Task Force – Mr. Hansen reported on the activities of the Sandhills Task Force..

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 \$36,429.71 was available, and there were ten new applications to present.

Mr. Wiseman moved to approve the March 9, 2017 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>
17.022	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,035.00	\$ 1,035.00
17.023	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,380.00	\$ 1,380.00
17.024	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,380.00	\$ 1,380.00
17.025	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,380.00	\$ 1,380.00
17.026	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,380.00	\$ 1,380.00
17.027	NC-14	Planned Grazing	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
17.028	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,380.00	\$ 1,380.00
17.029	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,380.00	\$ 1,380.00
17.030	NC-14	Planned Grazing	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
17.031	NC-12	Trees	\$ 1,380.00	\$ 1,380.00
Total Amount of New Contracts				\$ 25,695.00

FUNDS AVAILABLE

\$ 10,734.71

Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #13)

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

Nay: None

Out of Room: Meismer, Pederson

Absent & Excused: Storer, Wahlgren

Cost-Share Programs – District Conservation Programs – Mr. Miller reported that the monthly report was available for the Directors. Mr. Miller reported that \$5,215.92 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. Schilz reported that the next Board of Directors meeting would be held on Thursday,

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April 13, 2017 at 7:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:53 pm.

Jerry Weaver, Secretary