

TWIN PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
August 9, 2018

The Twin Platte Natural Resources District (TPNRD) Board of Directors meeting was held at the Lake McConaughy Visitor's Center, 1475 NE Hwy 61 North, Ogallala, Nebraska on August 9, 2018. Mr. Schilz called the meeting to order at 4:05 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

David Colvin
James Meismer
Robert L Petersen
Dennis Schilz
Douglas L Stack
Shane Storer
Joe Wahlgren
Jerry Weaver
Robert Wiseman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Eric S Hansen
Judy Pederson

NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT

Miles Anderson, NP Office
Carol Eakins, District Conservationist - Ogallala Office
Nicholas Giger, Ogallala Office
Tim Griffin, Ogallala Office
Kristy King, NP Office
Mary Reece, District Conservationist – NP Office
Isaac Young, NP Office

STAFF PRESENT

Kent Miller, General Manager
Amy Oberst, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT

Kyle Shepherd, NCORPE General Manager
Mike Wheeler, Sargent Irrigation
Kerry Oberst

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nebraska Open Meeting Act – Mr. Schilz reported the Nebraska Open Meeting Act requires public bodies to make available the current Open Meeting Act which is available for viewing

by the public in the meeting room. Mr. Schilz reported that a Legal Notice was published in the North Platte Telegraph on July 31, 2018.

Report of Directors Excused – Mr. Schilz reported the TPNRD Operating Policy Number 4 provides that a Director will be considered excused if the Director notifies the office prior to the meeting that they will be absent. Mr. Schilz reported Mr. Hansen and Mrs. Pederson notified the office they would be absent and are therefore excused.

Information available for the Public – Mr. Schilz reported on a table in the meeting room is the information that each Board member has and is available for viewing by the public attending the Board of Directors meeting. Mr. Schilz reported this information is also available on the TPNRD website.

Other Announcements – None.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Schilz opened the Public Forum.

Mr. Schilz stated that the public is provided an opportunity to speak to the Board during the public forum at the beginning of each Board meeting and the public is only allowed to speak during the Public Forum. Mr. Schilz stated that the Chairman may limit the time for each person speaking to the Board.

There were no comments.

Mr. Schilz closed the Public Forum.

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

Platte River Phragmites Control Project - Mr. Miller reported that Rich Walters, Director of Stewardship of The Nature Conservancy, requests that the TPNRD again contribute funds for the Platte River Phragmites Control Project. Mr. Miller reported that Mr. Walters could not attend the board meeting this evening. Mr. Miller reported that available for the Directors was the information Mr. Walters presented to the Board on April 14, 2016. Mr. Miller reported that the TPNRD Board on April 14, 2016 approved a payment of \$25,000 for the Platte River Phragmites Control Project and on April 13, 2017 approved a payment of \$25,000 for the Platte River Phragmites Control Project. Mr. Miller reported that the TPNRD 2018 FY Budget provided for contributing \$25,000 for the Platte River Phragmites Control Project and the TPNRD Draft 2019 FY Budget provides for contributing \$25,000 for the Platte River Phragmites Control Project.

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Mr. Stack moved to approve a payment of \$25,000 for the Platte River Phragmites Control Project. Mr. Meismer seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #1)

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

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORT

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

GENERAL INFORMATION

No reports presented.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Minutes for the July 19, 2018 Meeting – Mr. Schilz reported the Minutes for the July 19, 2018 Board of Directors meeting were available for the Directors and he asked if there were any corrections or additions.

Mr. Wahlgren moved the Minutes of the July 19, 2018 Board of Directors meeting be approved. Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #2)

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statement - Mr. Meismer reported the Financial Statement for July 2018 was available for the Directors.

Accounts Payable - Mr. Meismer reported the Accounts Payable report was available for the Directors and he had reviewed the Accounts Payable and found the report to be in order.

Mr. Meismer moved the Financial Statement for July 2018 be received and placed on file for audit and to approve payment of the invoices presented on August 9, 2018 in the amount of \$51,045.10. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Motion #3)

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

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Budget Status – No report available. Mr. Miller reported information was in the Budget documents.

Bids – None presented.

Bids to be Presented September 13, 2018 – Mr. Miller reported the District Policy provides “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 no bids/proposals would be presented for the September 13, 2018 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 September 24-25, 2018 – Kearney, NE – Mr. Meismer reported the NARD Annual Conference will be held in Kearney on September 24-25, 2018 and information for the conference was available for the Directors.

Sandhills Task Force – No report presented.

Requests for Authorization to Travel – No requests presented.

DISTRICT REPORT

Cost-Share Programs – NE Soil & Water Conservation Program – Mr. Miller reported the monthly report was available for the Directors, \$59,304.95 was available, and there were three new applications to present.

Mr. Wiseman moved to approve the August 9, 2018 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>
19.001	NC-14	Planned Grazing	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
19.002	NC-14	Planned Grazing	\$ 4,283.66	\$ 4,283.66
19.003	NC-20	Brush Mgt	\$ 2,838.38	\$ 2,838.38
Total Amount of New Contracts				\$ 14,622.04

FUNDS AVAILABLE \$ 44,682.91

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

Aye: Colvin, Meismer, Petersen, Schilz, Stack, Storer, Wahlgren, Weaver, Wiseman

Nay: None

Absent & Excused: Hansen, Pederson

Cost-Share Programs – District Conservation Programs – Mr. Miller reported the monthly report was available for the Directors, and \$7,849.81 was available.

NCORPE Project – Ground Water Levels – Mr. Miller 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.

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

BUDGET FOR 2019 FISCAL YEAR

Preparation Schedule - Mr. Miller reported a schedule for preparing the 2019 Fiscal Year Budget for the TPNRD was available for the Directors. Mr. Miller reported the schedule for preparing the 2019 Fiscal Year Budget provides the Board four opportunities to review and discuss the Budget prior to final approval.

Review Draft #3 - TPNRD – Mr. Miller reported that available for the Directors was Draft #3 for a 2019 FY Budget. Mr. Miller reported the property tax funds request is \$500,000 less than the 2018 FY Budget which is a reduction of 25.19 % from 2018 FY Budget. Mr. Miller reported the property tax funds request for Draft #3 is the same as presented in Draft #1 and Draft #2. Mr. Miller reported that the property tax estimate is \$0.023239 which is a reduction

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of 25.96 % from 2018 FY Budget. Mr. Miller reviewed Draft #3 and reported that changes from Draft #2 are in BOLD print. Mr. Miller reported that the figures for the 2018 FY are audited. Mr. Miller reported that the NCORPE Project Budget is included in the TPNRD Budget (Expenses & Revenue). Mr. Miller reported that a separate NCORPE Project Budget is prepared for the occupation tax and the NCORPE items in the TPNRD Budget and the separate NCORPE Project Budget are color highlighted the same in each.

Review Draft #3 - NCORPE Project – Mr. Miller reported that available for the Directors was Draft #3 for a 2019 FY NCORPE Project Budget. Mr. Miller reported that the current projections show that the occupation tax requirement for the TPNRD to fund the NCORPE Project can be lowered from \$10.00 to \$6.50 per irrigated acre which is a reduction of 35 % from last year. Mr. Miller reported that Draft #3 is the same as presented in Draft #1 and Draft #2. Mr. Miller reviewed Draft #3. Mr. Miller reported that the figures for the 2018 FY are audited. Mr. Miller reported that the NCORPE Project Budget is included in the TPNRD Budget (Expenses & Revenue). Mr. Miller reported that a separate NCORPE Project Budget is prepared for the occupation tax and the NCORPE items in the TPNRD Budget and the separate NCORPE Project Budget are color highlighted the same in each.

Approval for Public Hearings / Set Public Hearings Date, Time, and Location

Mr. Meismer moved to

- Approve for Public Hearing a 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget for the TPNRD General Fund, as proposed in Draft #3, with a property tax request of \$1,499,850.00 for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year, which is a 25.19 % reduction from the property tax funds requested to fund the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Budget.
- Approve for Public Hearing a 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget for the TPNRD NCORPE Project, as proposed in Draft #3, with an occupation tax levy of \$6.50 per irrigated acre for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year, which is a 35 % reduction from the occupation tax levy set to fund the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Budget for the TPNRD NCORPE Project.
- Set the Public Hearing for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget for September 13, 2018 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 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget for the General Fund, for approval of a 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget for the NCORPE Project, for setting the final property tax for the TPNRD for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year, and for setting the final occupation tax for the TPNRD for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year.

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

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

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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 13, 2018 at 7:30 pm in North Platte, NE.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Jerry Weaver, Secretary