



**UPPER NIOBRARA WHITE**  
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

**Board of Directors' Meeting**  
**August 11, 2016**

In accordance with LB 325, Eighty-fourth Legislature, First Session (1975), the Upper Niobrara White Natural Resources District held a public meeting at 9 a.m. on Thursday, August 11, 2016, at the Upper Niobrara White NRD Office, 430 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Chadron, NE. An agenda for this meeting to be considered at such date, time and place was kept continually current and was available in the NRD office. Seven days prior to the meeting, the agenda was mailed to each member of the Board of Directors and other interested and affected persons. Notice of the meeting was given to the public by publishing a legal notice on the UNWNRD website and The Chadron Record and Alliance Times Herald on August 3, 2016.

**Open Meeting Law Act**

Vice Chairman, Steve Sandberg, standing in for John Burke, pointed out the Open Meeting Law Act that was present in the meeting room.

**Roll Call & Introduction of Guests**

Vice Chairman Sandberg called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and roll call was taken with the following Directors present:

Scott Berndt	Rich Zochol
Mike Strasburger	Kevin Oligmueller
Tod Dorshorst	Dave Carlson
Nancy Fisher	Steve Sandberg
Dave Kadlecek	

Absent: John Burke, Allen Rasmussen

Others Present:

Pat O'Brien, NRD General Manager	Lynn Webster, NRD Assistant Manager
Sheri Daniels, NRD Conservation Prog. Coord.	Kylen Armstrong, NRD Office Manager
Craig Eddie, NRD Natural Resources Coord.	Nevin Price, NRD Resources Technician
Haley Anders, NRD Water Resources Manager	Robin Foulk, NRCS District Conservationist
Karl Elmsaeuser, Senate Candidate	Tricia Goes, NRCS Field Office Secretary
Melissa Vanderslice, NRCS Intern	Shelley Steffl, NGPC
Andy Curd	Erin Divine, Bird Conservancy of the Rockies

**Emergency Agenda Additions**

None

**NRCS**  
**Robin Foulk**

Tricia Goes, the new NRCS Chadron Field Office Secretary, gave a brief introduction of herself.

Melissa Vanderslice, NRCS summer intern, gave an introduction of herself as well.

Regular Board of Directors' Meeting  
August 11, 2016

Robin also mentioned Travis Reeves, the NRCS contract employee, who will be helping with the work load at NRCS until some of the vacant positions can be filled. He has been working with Melissa on CRP survival checks. Robin discussed the NRCS vacancies and the plan to eventually fill these.

There is also a new NRCS display at the Nebraska State Fair on Soil Health.

**Karl Elmsaeuser  
Legislative District 47 Candidate**

Mr. Elmsaeuser introduced himself to the Board, discussed his background, goals and answered questions from the Directors, Staff, and Public.

**Nebraska Forest Service**

There will be a tour of the Single Engine Air Tanker after the meeting, at the Chadron Airport with Seth Peterson.

**General Manager  
Pat O'Brien**

Pat added the following to his written report:

- The Spencer Dam Visit will be August 15<sup>th</sup>. Those interested should let Pat or Kylen know in order to get hotel rooms reserved.

**Assistant Manager  
Lynn Webster**

Lynn added the following to his written report:

- Lynn provided an update on the Citizens Advisory Committee and noted there will be further discussion during the water committee report.
- Lynn and Haley have been tabulating average costs for NSWCP practices in order to update the cost share docket as well as the NSWCP handbook that is out of date. The UNWNRD has the option of establishing a local docket rather than relying on statewide costs.

**Conservation Programs Coordinator  
Sheri Daniels**

Sheri added the following to her written report:

- Jim and Jacci Irwin are planning to attend Husker Harvest Days for the Hall of Fame award public announcement. The actual award will be given at NARD Annual Conference in Kearney, September 25<sup>th</sup> which Jim and Jacci are also planning on attending

**Office Manager  
Kylen Armstrong**

Kylen discussed NSWCP approvals and Annual Conference Registrations.

**Water Resources Manager  
Haley Anders**

Haley added the following to her written report:

- Haley will be attending the Nebraska State Fair on August 29th to work the NRD booth.

**Natural Resources Coordinator  
Craig Eddie**

Craig added to following to his written report:

- The new No Till Drill is in and available for rental. Craig invited directors to look the drill over after the meeting.

**Resources Technician  
Nevin Price**

Nevin added the following to his written report:

- Nevin and Craig attended the Grazing Conference in Kearney August 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. They were able to meet with several of the speakers to discuss the possibility of them presenting at the next UNWNRD Range Day.

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

*Tod Dorshorst moved to approve the consent agenda, Dave Carlson seconded the motion. Roll call: (9) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: JB, AR*

**Agency Reports**

**Nebraska Association of Resources Districts  
Tod Dorshorst**

Director Dorshorst reported on the following:

- The Board will need to appoint Voting Delegates for the NARD Annual Conference.

*Dave Carlson moved to appoint Tod Dorshorst as voting Delegate for Annual Conference and Scott Berndt as the Alternate, Kevin Oligmueller seconded the motion. Roll Call: (9) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: JB, AR*

**Nebraska Natural Resources Commission  
Dave Kadlecek**

Director Kadlecek reported on the following:

- There has not been a meeting recently but the next Commission meeting will be held September 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>.
- Director Kadlecek also noted that he is not planning to seek re-election to the Natural Resources Commission Board in November and has informed the three Niobrara District Managers via letter.

**Niobrara River Basin Alliance  
Dave Carlson**

Director Carlson had nothing to report.

**Water Committee Report  
Rich Zochol**

Director Zochol reported on the following:

- Pat and Lynn discussed the Citizens Advisory Committee, noting that they are looking for 17-18 members to ensure diversity across the district. They would like to discuss the modeling efforts with the Committee to decide what the public would like use the model for as well as the direction of future water management within the district. They are hoping to have the first meeting in September. A time line has been established to provide direction to the committee regarding the commitment to the process.

**Operating, Personnel, and Safety Policy Committee  
Dave Kadlecek**

Director Kadlecek reported on the following:

- Staff at the request of the OPP committee has developed a proposal to provide cost share for the cheat grass soil inoculants. The OPP Committee is recommending cost share would be \$3 per acre and the NRD would budget \$3,000 on pilot plots.

*Dave Kadlecek moved to allocate \$3,000 to test the Cheat Grass Soil Inoculant, Scott Berndt seconded the motion. Roll Call: (9) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: JB, AR.*

- Pat discussed the revised No Till Drill rental agreement and proposed charging \$12 per acre for the new drill, \$8 per acre for the seven foot drill and \$1 per mile for delivery of the drill to the producer. Mike Strasburger recommended the price on the seven foot drill be increased to \$10 per acre and discussion followed.

*Rich Zochol moved to charge \$12 per acre for the 10 foot drill, \$10 per acre for the 7 foot drill and to charge a \$1 per mile delivery fee, Dave Carlson seconded the motion. Roll Call: (9) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: JB, AR.*

**Budget Committee  
Dave Carlson**

Dave Carlson reported on the following:

- Pat discussed the budget briefly, asking if there were any further requests or changes.

*Tod Dorshorst moved to send the proposed budget to hearing on September 8<sup>th</sup>, Dave Carlson seconded the motion. Roll Call: (9) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: JB, AR.*

**Old or New Business**

None

**Excused Absences**

*Rich Zochol moved to excuse John Burke and Al Rasmussen from the meeting, Mike Strasburger seconded the motion. Roll Call: (9) ayes, (0) nays. Absent: JB, AR.*

**Public Comment**

None

**Executive Session**

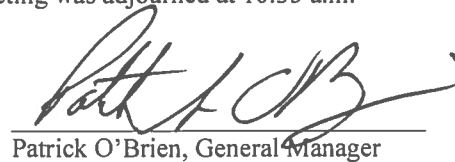
None

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

  
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John Burke, Chairman of the Board

Date Signed 9/8/16

  
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Patrick O'Brien, General Manager