



Serving Box Butte, Dawes, Sheridan and Sioux Counties

430 East Second Street * Chadron, Nebraska 69337 * Phone (308) 432-6190
Fax (308) 432-6187 * www.unwnrd.org

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, May 11, 2017, at the Upper Niobrara White NRD office, 430 East 2nd 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 May 3, 2017.

Open Meeting Law Act

Chairman John Burke pointed out the Open Meeting Law Act that was present in the meeting room.

Roll Call & Introduction of Guests

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

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Scott Berndt | John Burke |
| Mike Strasburger | Al Rasmussen |
| Tod Dorshorst | Dave Carlson |
| Nancy Fisher | Steve Sandberg 9:05 a.m. |
| Rich Zochol | Dave Kadlecek |
| Kevin Oligmueller | |

Others Present:

| | |
|--|---|
| Pat O'Brien, NRD General Manager | Lynn Webster, NRD Assistant Manager |
| Kylen Armstrong, NRD Office Manager | Sheri Daniels, NRD Conservation Programs Coord. |
| Nevin Price, NRD Resources Technician | Craig Eddie, Natural Resources Coordinator |
| Haley Anders, NRD Water Resources Coord. | Fred McCartney, NFS |
| Tricia Goes, NRCS Field Office Secretary | John Heaston, Aquamart |
| Jack Arterburn, UNL Extension Office | Don Grein |

Emergency Agenda Additions

None

**Aquamart
John Heaston**

Mr. Heaston discussed the work being planned by the Aquamart project to improve farming practices and water use in agriculture noting that this may be of use to several of the NRD's across the state. John specifically proposed the three panhandle NRDs possibly creating a producer led project to gather data and information on crops, water needs, technologies utilized and results.

NRCS
Tricia Goes

Tricia provided Robin's report noting the new Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue as well as the Cover Crop Field Day that will be held May 19th at the Kansas State University's HB-Ranch in Trego County Kansas. Tricia also discussed the cost share numbers for each federal program NRCS is working with.

Nebraska Forest Service
Fred McCartney

Fred played a video on Bessey Nursery in Halsey, Nebraska.

UNL Extension Report
Jack Arterburn

Mr. Arterburn is the Beef Systems Extension Educator for the UNL Extension. He provided a brief introduction of himself, a written report and noted that he will plan to come to each Board Meeting to provide an update for the UNL Extension.

General Manager
Pat O'Brien

Pat added the following to his written report:

- Pat provided an update on recent legislative activity and noted that the state budget will increase by 1.1% for the coming fiscal year.

Assistant Manager
Lynn Webster

Lynn added the following to his written report:

- Lynn discussed monitoring wells and the water needed for road construction on the Heartland Expressway south of Alliance on Highway 385.

Conservation Programs Coordinator
Sheri Daniels

Sheri added the following to her written report:

- Sheri mentioned ACE Camp that will be held in Halsey June 11th – 14th. UNWNRD will pay half of the registration cost for the camp again this year for any 6-8th grade students from the district who would like to attend.
- Sheri also discussed the Envirothon and the Conservation Festival, noting that they both went well.

Office Manager
Kylen Armstrong

Kylen discussed NSWCP, budget and tree plans.

Water Resources Manager
Haley Anders

Haley added the following to her written report:

- Haley has been busy entering chemigation permits and helping with Envirothon and Conservation Festival.

**Natural Resources Coordinator
Craig Eddie**

Craig added the following to his written report:

- UNWNRD has sold 101,000 trees to date.
- Machine planting is almost completed.

**Resources Technician
Nevin Price**

Nevin added to following to his written report:

- Nevin discussed the cheat grass sites that the soil innoculant was applied to last fall. Some of the sites look promising while others may take a few years to show significant improvement.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Steve Sandberg moved to approve the consent agenda, Tod Dorshorst seconded the motion.

Roll call: (11) ayes, (0) nays.

Agency Reports

**Nebraska Association of Resources Districts
Tod Dorshorst**

Director Dorshorst reported on the following:

- The next NARD Board Meeting will be in Norfolk in June along with a Basin Tour of the area.

Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

No report was given.

**Niobrara River Basin Alliance
Dave Carlson**

Director Carlson had nothing to report.

**Water Committee Report
Rich Zochol**

Director Zochol had nothing to report.

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

Director Kadlecek Reported on the following:

- Pat discussed an outstanding balance for trees from 2014 from Terry Staman. UNWNRD took him to small claims court in December 2016 where Dawes County Court ruled in favor of UNWNRD as Mr. Staman did not appear. No payment or contact of any sort has been made from Mr. Staman. The OPP committee recommends that UNWNRD take further action through their attorney to attempt to collect this outstanding debt.

Dave Kadlecek moved to pursue further legal action against Terry Staman for outstanding debt owed to UNWNRD, Scott Berndt seconded the motion. Roll Call: (11) ayes, (0) nays.

Old or New Business

Regular Board of Directors' Meeting
May 11, 2017

Steve Sandberg moved to reschedule the June Board Meeting to June 15th, Dave Carlson seconded the motion. Roll Call: (11) ayes, (0) nays.

Assistant Manager, Lynn Webster was honored for 20 years of service to UNWNRD. Thank you, Lynn.

Excused Absences

None

Public Comment

None

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

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



John Burke, Chairman of the Board



Patrick O'Brien, General Manager

Date Signed 6/15/17