

MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, July 12, 2016, 1:30 p.m.
Tri-Basin NRD

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly board meeting of the Tri-Basin Natural Resources District (NRD) was called to order by Chairman, Dave Olsen, at 1:30 p.m. Olsen noted Public Meeting Law is posted in the boardroom.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with eleven directors present: Bilka, Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Harris, Johnson, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz. Bergstrom and Larson were absent. Notice of the meeting was published in the Holdrege Citizen, Bertrand Herald, Elwood Bulletin and Minden Courier and announced on radio stations KRVN, Lexington and KUVR, Holdrege.

EXCUSE ABSENCES

Moved by Johnson, seconded by Garrelts, to excuse Joe Bilka from the May and June 2016 board meetings. Motion carried.

AYE: Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Johnson, Harris, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Bilka

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

MINUTES

Thorburn presented the minutes of the June 21, 2016, Board of Directors meeting. Moved by Johnson, seconded by Garrelts, to approve the minutes for the June 21, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting. Motion carried.

AYE: Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Johnson, Harris, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Bilka

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

FINANCIAL REPORT

Bilka presented the financial report for the month of June 2016 as follows:

Accrual Expenditures for Month -----	\$736,981.60
Cash Expenditures for Month-----	\$878,536.10
Accrual Revenues for Month-----	\$295,513.46
Cash Revenues for Month-----	\$326,614.81
Bank Balance--June 30, 2016-----	\$492,514.07
Accounts Receivable - June 30, 2016-----	\$4,230.12
Investments - Pinnacle Bank - June 30, 2016-----	\$50,108.26
Building Sinking Fund - June 30, 2016-----	\$61,670.73
Vehicle Sinking Fund - June 30, 2016-----	\$49,945.50
Water Resources Fund - June 30, 2016-----	\$290,823.85
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance - June 30, 2016-----	\$18,086.27
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance - June 30, 2016-----	\$11,543.54
South Dry Creek IPA Balance - June 30, 2016-----	\$14,690.63
Fort Kearny IPA Balance - June 30, 2016-----	\$12,474.68
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance - June 30, 2016-----	\$21,559.69
North Dry Creek IPA Balance - June 30, 2016-----	\$16,020.90
Water Jamboree - June 30, 2016-----	\$6,523.49
NRRMDA - June 30, 2016-----	\$7,625.61
Odessa IPA - June 30, 2016-----	\$7,500.39

TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MINUTES

July 12, 2016

Page Two

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety to accept the June 2016 financial reports and file for audit. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Johnson, Harris, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

SPECIAL BILLS

Thorburn presented the VISA and JEO bills for approval. Winz asked about the hourly accounting on the JEO billing. Thorburn will find out why negative hours are billed. Moved by Bilka, seconded Cavanaugh to approve the visa and JEO bills. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Johnson, Harris, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

NRCS REPORT

FSA Farm Plans: There were no farm plans to approve.

Activity and Progress Report: Breece reported a Pathway student is working at NRCS, staff has been doing CSP field checks and EQIP contracts are being completed.

COST SHARE REPORT

Well Abandonment – There were no well decommissioning cost-share applications to approve.

NSWCP & NRD Applications – Thorburn recommended one NSWCP cost-share application and two TBNRD cost-share applications. Moved by Cavanaugh, seconded Ryan to approve one NSWCP and two TBNRD cost-share applications. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Johnson, Harris, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

Groundwater & Certified Acre Transfers – Thorburn presented one certified irrigated acre transfer request for Ryan-Hoban Family LLC.

Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka to approve one certified irrigated acre transfer request for Ryan-Hoban Family LLC. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Johnson, Harris, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

Educational Land Leases – There were no educational land leases to approve.

OTHER BUSINESS

The public was given the opportunity to bring other specific business or non-agenda items before the board for comment and/or discussion.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review Contract with Tonniges Associates for District Audit: Thorburn explained that the auditor's contract has expired. Thorburn recommended approval of a new three year contract costing \$4,244 each year.

Moved by Winz, seconded by Johnson to approve a three-year contract with Tonniges and Associates. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Johnson, Harris, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

NARD REPORT

There was no NARD report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive and Projects and Construction Committees: The Executive Committee will meet at 9 a.m. on Thursday, July 14, 2016 and the Projects and Construction Committee will meet at noon on the same day.

Joint CNPPID-TBNRD Committee: Thorburn reviewed the agenda items from the joint meeting with CNPPID including Platte-Republican Diversion, Sand Creek Diversion, Long-Term Agreement, J-2 Update and CREP contract renewals. Reynolds would like Thorburn to review how the Platte River Recovery Program scores projects.

STAFF REPORTS & NECESSARY ACTION

Board Directives to Staff: There was nothing to report.

Out-of-State Travel: There was no out-of-state travel to approve.

Schedule Special Board Meeting to Discuss Budget: This agenda item will be discussed later.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Republican Basin (NRRMDA): The Republican Basin Stakeholders meet in August and a Republican Basin IMP Annual meeting will be July 19, 2016 at 1 pm to review progress implementing the IMP. (Meeting was later rescheduled to August 17, 2016 at 10 a.m.)

Platte Basin: The next Platte Basin IMP meeting will be held July 20, 2016 and POAC will meet July 13, 2016.

TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MINUTES

July 12, 2016

Page Four

South Dry Creek: Staff has been shredding and cutting.

Sacramento Creek: Staff has been shredding and cutting.

Middle Lost Creek: Nothing to report.

Fort Kearny West: Staff has been shredding and cutting.

Fort Kearny: Staff has been shredding and cutting.

North Dry Creek: Staff has been shredding and cutting.

Whiskey Slough: Staff has been shredding and cutting.

Odessa IPA: Staff has been shredding and cutting.

Lake Seldom: There was nothing to report.

CoHyst/Platte Basin Coalition: CoHyst will meet July 21, 2016.

Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin: Reynolds asked Thorburn to acquire a list of funding sources that Little Blue NRD has used for diversions.

Platte-Republican Diversion: Landowner meetings were held Monday, July 11, 2016.

Weed Mgmt. Areas/Riparian Veg. TF: Nothing to report.

CNPPID: Ford reported Lake McConaughy is at elevation 3268.8 ft. and 98% of capacity.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Supporting CNPPID Water Sustainability Fund Application: Thorburn explained that because the J-2 Re-Regulation Reservoir design was changed, CNPPID's benefit was reduced/contribution was reduced. CNPPID would like to apply to the Water Sustainability Fund for funding to make up for a portion of the shortfall. Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Winz to send a letter to CNPPID supporting an application to the Water Sustainability Fund for the J-2 Re-Regulation Reservoir. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Johnson, Harris, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

Schedule Budget Review Session: Thorburn suggested holding a special board meeting to review the proposed FY 2016-2017 Budget on Thursday, July 28, 2016 at 10 a.m. and asked the board to make a motion to hold a budget hearing at the August Board Meeting. Moved by Johnson, seconded by Winz to hold a hearing for the FY 2016-2017 Budget at the August 2016 meeting. Motion carried.

TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MINUTES

July 12, 2016

Page Five

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Johnson, Harris, Larson, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Lundeen asked that Thorburn set up a meeting with TBNRD stakeholders for the LB IMP and also meet with LBNRD directors. Thorburn will set up meetings.

PERSONNEL & LEGAL MATTERS

There were no personnel or legal issues to discuss.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting and Board of Directors Tour at on Tuesday, August 9, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Joe Bilka, Mike Cavanaugh, Todd Garrelts, Ed Harris, Phyllis Johnson, Brad Lundeen, Dave Olsen, Dave Raffety, Larry Reynold, Jeff Ryan and Ray Winz.

OTHERS PRESENT

Carie Lynch, John Thorburn, Nicole Salisbury, Tammy Fahrenbruch, Dave Ford, Kevin Breece, Nolan Little, Lori Potter and Mike Clements.

Respectfully Submitted:



Carie Lynch, Asst. Secretary

INDEX OF BOARD DECISIONS
 TRI-BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
 July 12, 2016

ID	Motion #	Category	Subject	Aye	Nay	Abs	
	2016-07-12-01	Meeting Administration		10		1	Moved by Johnson, seconded by Garrelts, to excuse Joe Bilka from the May and June 2016 board meetings. Motion carried.
	2016-07-12-02	Meeting Administration		10		1	Moved by Johnson, seconded by Garrelts, to approve the minutes for the June 21, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting. Motion carried.
	2016-07-12-03	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety to accept the June 2016 financial reports and file for audit. Motion carried.
	2016-07-12-04	Budget		11			Moved by Bilka, seconded Cavanaugh to approve the visa and JEO bills. Motion carried.
	2016-07-12-05	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Cavanaugh, seconded Ryan to approve one NSWCP and two TBNRD cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2016-07-12-06	Certifications & Transfers	Ryan-Hoban	11			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka to approve one certified irrigated acre transfer request for Ryan-Hoban Family LLC. Motion carried.
	2016-07-12-07	Budget	Tonniges & Associates	11			Moved by Winz, seconded by Johnson to approve a three-year contract with Tonniges and Associates. Motion carried.
	2016-07-12-08	Projects	J-2	11			Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Winz to send a letter to CNPPID supporting an application to the Water Sustainability Fund for the J-2 Re-Regulation Reservoir. Motion carried.
	2016-07-12-09	Budget		11			Moved by Johnson, seconded by Winz to hold a hearing for the FY 2016-2017 Budget at the August 2016 meeting.

							<u>Motion carried.</u>
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MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, July 28, 2016, 10:00 a.m.

Tri-Basin NRD

CALL TO ORDER

The special board meeting of the Tri-Basin Natural Resources District (NRD) was called to order by Chairman David Olsen, at 10:02 a.m. Olsen noted Public Meeting Law is posted in the boardroom.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with ten directors present: Bergstrom, Bilka, Cavanaugh, Johnson, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz. Garrelts, Harris and Larson were absent. Notice of the meeting was published in the Holdrege Citizen.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review Draft of FY 2016-2017 Budget: Thorburn presented a letter from Jeff Cox stating that he was proposing to raise his rates. Thorburn commented that he hasn't raised his rates since he became the district's attorney approximately ten years ago. Thorburn reviewed the budget line-by-line. Thorburn explained that the Executive Committee asked that staff reduce the budget to a zero percent increase. Thorburn made 61,000 in cuts and an additional \$99,000 in reductions after an error in the budget spreadsheet was detected that did not add \$94,000 to the budget line-by-line for Well Decommissioning, TB Cost-Share and other habitat cost-share. The following cuts were made totaling \$160,786.34:

- Auto and Trucks - \$5,000
- Building Sinking Fund - \$20,000
- Not Replace Journey and reduce Vehicle Sinking Fund - \$27,516.34
- Not purchase Mule UTV - \$8,700
- Tri-Basin Windbreak Cost-Share - \$10,000
- Tree and Shrub Plantings for Non-Profit - \$1,000
- Well Decommissioning - \$10,000
- Riparian Weed Management - \$10,000
- Building Sinking Fund - \$15,000
- Director Expense - \$2,000
- Director Per Diem - \$3,000
- Infrared Mapping - \$31,570
- Project O&M - \$2,000
- Sand Creek Diversion - \$15,000

There was discussion about the J-2 Re-Regulation Reservoir project being put on hold and possibly cancelled. Bilka suggested increasing the regular cash reserve to the maximum allowable and increasing Well Decommissioning Cost-Share. Lundeen commented that a Well-Decommissioning shortfall could be taken out of Cash Reserve.

Moved by Raffety, seconded by Bergstrom, to accept the rate increase from attorney, Jeff Cox. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Cavanaugh, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Garrelts, Harris, Johnson and Larson

Moved by Raffety, seconded by Bilka, to approve participation in the UNL Vadose Coring Project, with a contribution of \$15,000 in FY 2017-2018. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Cavanaugh, Lundeen, Olsen and Raffety

NAY: Reynolds, Ryan and Winz

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Garrelts, Harris, Johnson and Larson

Consider Executive Committee Recommendations on Wages:

Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Cavanaugh, to accept Executive Committee recommendation to increase salaries for Thorburn and staff (overall increase of 3% with exceptions) and accept Thorburn's salary schedule for FY 2016-2017. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Cavanaugh, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Garrelts, Harris, Johnson and Larson

Consider Additional 1% Board Approved Levy Increase: Thorburn explained approval of a one percent increase wasn't necessary.

Consider Approval of FY 2016-2017 Budget for Hearing on August 9, 2016: Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Ryan, to approve the FY 2016-2017 Budget, as presented (zero percent increase), for hearing at the August 9, 2016 board meeting in Lexington, NE. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz

NAY: Bilka

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Garrelts, Harris, Johnson and Larson

Review Groundwater Level Data – Thorburn presented updated groundwater level data for the District. Two additional townships in eastern Kearney County have groundwater levels approaching the trigger level.

PERSONNEL & LEGAL MATTERS

There were no legal or personnel issues to discuss.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There was discussion about the Sand Creek Cut-off, diversion and reservoir.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Brian Bergstrom, Joe Bilka, Mike Cavanaugh, Phyllis Johnson, Brad Lundeen, Dave Olsen, Dave Raffety, Larry Reynolds, Jeff Ryan and Ray Winz.

OTHERS PRESENT

Carie Lynch and John Thorburn.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Reynolds commented on

NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting will be held 1:30 p.m., on Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at the Lexington Library, Lexington, NE

Carie Lynch and John Thorburn

Respectfully Submitted:



Carie Lynch, Asst. Secretary

INDEX OF BOARD DECISIONS
TRI-BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
July 28, 2016

ID	Motion #	Category	Subject	Aye	Nay	Abs	Motion
	2016-07-28-01SP	Budget	Cox Rates	9			Moved by Raffety, seconded by Bergstrom, to accept the rate increase from attorney, Jeff Cox. Motion carried.
	2016-07-28-02SP	Budget	Vadose Coring	9			Moved by Raffety, seconded by Bilka, to approve participation in the UNL Vadose Coring Project, with a contribution of \$15,000 in FY 2017-2018. Motion carried.
	2016-07-28-03SP	Budget	Salaries	9			Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Cavanaugh, to accept Executive Committee recommendation to increase salaries for Thorburn and staff (overall increase of 3% with exceptions) and accept Thorburn's salary schedule for FY 2016-2017. Motion carried.
	2016-07-28-04SP	Budget	Hearing	8	1		Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Ryan, to approve the FY 2016-2017 Budget, as presented (zero percent increase), for hearing at the August 9, 2016 board meeting in Lexington, NE. Motion carried.

**MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, July 14, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
Tri-Basin NRD**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dave Olsen at 9:02 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with all four committee members present: Todd Garrelts, Dave Olsen, Brad Lundeen and Joe Bilka.

OTHERS PRESENT

John Thorburn, Carie Lynch and Larry Reynolds.

REVIEW PROPOSED FY 2016-2017 BUDGET

Thorburn reviewed the FY 2016-2017 budget line by line. Bilka suggested increasing utilities to accommodate the purchase of the new building. The proposed budget included an increase overall of 1.86%. There was discussion about the Sand Creek cut-off and the Sand Creek Reservoir. Garrelts commented that a local business does infrared mapping. Thorburn will investigate.

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Lundeen to recommend to the board to reduce the budget to reflect a zero percent increase. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS EMPLOYEE WAGES FOR FY 2016-2017

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Lundeen to recommend to the board to increase staff and managers salaries by 3% for FY 2016-2017. Motion carried unanimously.

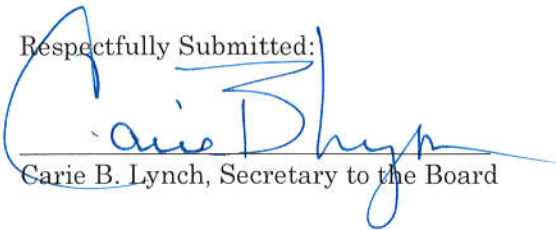
COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There were no comments or concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:


Carie B. Lynch, Secretary to the Board

**MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD
PROJECTS AND CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE MEETING**

Thursday, July 14, 2016, 12:00 p.m.
Tri-Basin NRD

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Tri-Basin Natural Resources District Projects and Construction Committee was called to order by Dave Raffety at 12:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with seven committee members present: Raffety, Larson, Harris, Reynolds, Cavanaugh, Winz and Bilka, Executive Committee representative.

OTHERS PRESENT

Thorburn and Carie Lynch.

PLATTE-REPUBLICAN DIVERSION PROGRESS REPORT

Thorburn reviewed progress on the Platte-Republican Diversion. There was discussion about landowner meetings. Jeff Cox is working on the Access agreements. Kraus is working on the diversion agreement. NDNR is considering funding a portion of the Feasibility Study. There was discussion about eminent domain. Thorburn reviewed the amounts budgeted for the project.

DISCUSS PROPOSED SAND CREEK DIVERSION

Thorburn explained that the Sand Creek diversion is budgeted for FY 2016-2017. Thorburn reviewed routes for the diversion. Channel and culvert capacity would need to be increased. The committee identified three potential routes. Bilka suggested staff look at each route and give the board a recommendation. Moved by Cavanaugh seconded by Larson to recommend to the board to shift project focus from the Sand Creek Reservoir to the Sand Creek Diversion. Motion carried unanimously.

The committee did a site visit after the meeting closed.

DISCUSS NSWCP COST-SHARE BALANCE

Thorburn explained that NSWCP funding is allocated about a year in advance. Thorburn recommended that TBNRD only approve applications for flowmeters and soil sensors for six months and then re-evaluate the funding allocation. Applications on hand that are not flowmeters or soil sensors will have first priority if funding becomes available. A letter would be sent to NRCS. Moved by Harris, seconded by Winz to recommend to the board to suspend approval of NSWCP cost-share except for flowmeters and soil sensors until February 2017 and re-evaluate funding allocation and to give first priority to applications on hand, other than flowmeters and soil sensors, if additional applications are approved. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:


Carie Lynch, Asst. Secretary

JOINT WEED CONTROL COMMITTEE MEETING
Tri-Basin NRD, 1723 N. Burlington St., Holdrege, Nebraska
Friday, July 8, 2016 8:30 a.m.

Directors in Attendance:

Brian Bergstrom
Joe Larson

Others in Attendance:

Charles Brooks
John Thorburn

Phelps County Supervisors in Attendance:

Rick Streeter
Matt Gregg

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting on July 8, 2016 was called to order by Matt Gregg at 8:48 a.m.

Additions to the Agenda: There were no additions to the agenda.

APPROVE MINUTES

Gregg presented the minutes from the January 25, 2016 Joint Weed Committee meeting. Moved by Streeter, seconded by Bergstrom to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2015 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Spraying 2016: Brooks reviewed 2016 Spray season and presented a map of noxious weed infestations that have been sprayed or re-sprayed.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget 2016-2017: Brooks presented the FY 2016-2017 Phelps County Weed Control Budget. Brooks reviewed each line item. Brooks is proposing to purchase a spray truck to replace the 1995 Ford that has over 160,000 miles. Brooks is proposing an increase of 1 percent not including the pickup. Moved by Streeter, seconded by Bergstrom to recommend approval to the Phelps County Board of the FY 2016-2017 Phelps County Weed Control Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Cell Phone Reimbursement: Brooks explained that TBNRD adopted a cell phone plan that pays employees to use their personal cell phones if they are required for work. Brooks is being reimbursed for use of his personal cell phone at \$55/month, with half being reimbursed by the Phelps County Weed Control. Brooks is proposing to reimburse the summer weed spray crew \$20/month each to use their personal cell phone, which is less expensive than using a cell phone provided by Phelps County Weed Control on the State of Nebraska plan.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:


Carrie Lynch, Asst. Secretary to Tri-Basin NRD

Copy to: TBNRD Board of Directors/Phelps County Board of Supervisors

Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District and Tri-Basin NRD
Joint Committee Meeting
July 7, 2016, 9:00 AM
Tri-Basin NRD – Holdrege, NE

Agenda:

1. Introductions – Opened at 10:00 A.M.

TBNRD – John Thorburn, Carie Lynch, Dave Raffety, Todd Garrelts, Joe Bilka, Brad Lundeen, Larry Reynolds, and Jeff Ryan

CNPPID – Don Kraus, Cory Steinke, Dave Ford, Roger Olson, Willy Knoerzer, Bob Garrett, Dudley Nelson and Gordon Soneson

LRNRD – Scott Dicke and Marlin Murdoch

2. High Flow Diversions

Platte Republican Diversion – Thorburn reviewed the background of the project which would divert water from E-65 into Turkey Creek. Dicke estimated the feasibility study could be done by September 2016. Landowner meetings are scheduled for next week.

There was discussion about the agreement with CNPPID and if the agreement should be signed before the feasibility study is completed. The agreement needs to be signed before the appropriation is requested. Thorburn mentioned that an agreement would need to be presented to the board in October so CNPPID can proceed with appropriation and design work. There was discussion about the size of the pipe. It was decided to make the pipe larger than 40 cfs.

Possible Platte-Sand Creek Diversion – Thorburn explained that TBNRD has a final design for the Sand Creek Reservoir but is also considering a connection between the CNPPID Phelps Canal and Sand Creek that would enhance the project. Excess water, high flows or rainwater events could be diverted. Garrett expressed support of the reservoir and suggested using Water Sustainability funds for the reservoir and cut-off, which would make recharge in eastern Kearney County a reality. Ford commented that the canals themselves could be used for recharge. Thorburn commented that the sustainability fund requires matching funds which would be more than \$.5 million for the reservoir alone. Ford commented that an inter-basin diversion would require an appropriation. Steinke commented that diversions would most often happen September-November. There was discussion about the location of the cut-off ditch. Ford suggested a cut-off farther north. Kraus said a structure would be needed on the canal, state authority would be required and an agreement would be needed.

Long-Term Agreement for Diversions – Thorburn suggested a Long-Term agreement for diversions but TBNRD and out-of-state requirements/state requirements need to be reconciled. There was discussion about the Platte River Recovery Program diversion requests. Steinke suggested TBNRD and PRRIP work out the details of purchasing CNPPID diversions. Kraus commented that long-term would mean three to four years.

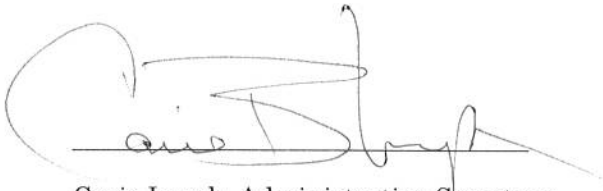
3. Update on the J-2 Reservoir Project – Kraus updated the committee on the progress of J-2 and explained that the design has been changed to a single reservoir instead of two. The design change reduced the benefit CNPPID would receive, resulting in a lower contribution for them resulting in additional funding needs. An application to the Water Sustainability Fund is being considered to meet the funding shortage. There was discussion about contributions, matching funds and resulting offset credit.

4. **CREP Contract Renewal** – Thorburn commented about the CREP program in relating to Panhandle surface water users. Surface Water Users are concerned that if they renew CREP acres, they could lose their water rights. Ford explained a water right is valid for 15 years upon entering into a CREP contract and that a landowner that renews his CREP contract for an additional ten years could lose his water rights if they don't use the water on the original tract of land. Garrett suggested CNPPID review the statute.

5. **Other -**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carrie Lynch', is written over a horizontal line.

Carrie Lynch, Administrative Secretary

Tri-Basin NRD

**Joint Committee Meeting
Central NE Public Power and Irrigation District
Lower Republican Natural Resources District
Tri-Basin Natural Resources District**

July 7, 2016

10:00 AM

Tri-Basin NRD Office, Holdrege NE

Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. High Flow diversions
 - A. Platte-Republican diversion
 - B. Possible Platte-Sand Creek diversion
 - C. Long-term agreement for diversions
3. Update on the J-2 reservoir project
4. CREP contract renewal
5. Other

**MINUTES OF THE PLATTE-REPUBLICAN DIVERSION PROJECT
BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, July 26, 2016 10:00 a.m.
At Lower Republican NRD**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, John Thorburn at 10:10 a.m. Thorburn noted Public Meeting Law is posted in the boardroom.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with two board members present: John Thorburn, Mike Clements and alternate, Scott Dicke, alternate, Ray Winz, and Shirlee Poyser.

BOARD MINUTES

Thorburn presented minutes from the April 22, meeting. Moved by Clements seconded by Thorburn to approve the minutes from the April 22, 2016 board meeting. Motion carried. Aye: Clements and Thorburn

ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS

Dicke explained that the Platte-Republican Basin Diversion Project (PRDP) now has a Federal Tax ID number. The NRD's initial deposit of \$10,000 each will be used to open the checking account. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary/Treasurer will sign on all accounts. Moved by Clements seconded by Thorburn that the Lower Republican NRD and Tri-Basin NRD initial contributions to the PRDP in the amount of \$10,000 each and authorize the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer will sign on all accounts. Motion carried. Aye: Clements and Thorburn.

BUDGET

Thorburn stated that since the PRDP is a separate organization it should have a separate budget. Dicke was asked to draft a budget for the project. The budget will coincide with the District's fiscal year July 1 – June 30.

CONSULTANT SELECTION

Thorburn directed Dicke to sign the Consultant Contract with Olsson Associates as Secretary. Moved by Clements, seconded by Thorburn to direct the Dicke to sign the Letter of Agreement of Professional Services with Olsson & Associates. Motion carried. Aye: Clements and Thorburn.

Thorburn sent a letter to Jeff Fassett, NDNR, requesting assistance for the Platte-Republican Diversion Project feasibility study and potential construction/diversion costs. Thorburn spoke with Fassett last week about the project, Thorburn felt hopeful about the request.

WATER SERVICES AGREEMENT UPDATE

Thorburn did not have an updated Water Service Agreement from CNPPID. Blankenau revised the agreement and sent it to Mike Klein, essentially this is in Central's control.

PROJECT STATUES WITH LANDOWNERS

Thorburn and Dicke have spoken with several of the landowners along the project and are getting good response. Attorney Jeff Cox sent a letter to landowners in the Tri-Basin NRD, those not returning the letter will be contacted next week. Dicke said the Lower Republican has heard from half of the landowners in our district. A few have been mailed out to absentee landowners.

OTHER UPDATES

There were no comments or concerns.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There were no comments or concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Shirlee Poyser, Administrative Assistant