

MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
Thursday, July 25, 2019, 10:00 a.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, Bradley Lundeen, at 10:02 a.m. Lundeen noted Public Meeting Law is posted in the boardroom.

ROLL CALL

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

EXCUSE ABSENCES

There were no absences to excuse.

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

Approve Platte IMP: Thorburn stated that the plan was revised to reflect changes suggested by TBNRD Board. NPPD and CNPPID gave written testimony at the hearing. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Johnson to approve the Platte Basin IMP. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Hinrichs, Johnson, Raffety, Reynolds and Lundeen

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Harris, Jorgensen, Larson and Olsen

Approve Platte Basin wide Plan: Thorburn stated that the plan was revised to reflect changes suggested by TBNRD Board. NPPD and CNPPID gave written testimony at the hearing. Moved by Johnson, seconded by Raffety to approve the Platte Basin-Wide Plan. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Hinrichs, Johnson, Raffety, Reynolds and Lundeen

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Harris, Jorgensen, Larson and Olsen

NEW BUSINESS

Review Flood Damage-Discuss NRD Role in Repairs: Thorburn gave a presentation on flooding related to a rainfall event on July 9, 2019. He mentioned FEMA funding might be available for damage on North Dry Creek Drainage District and the IPA's. There was discussion about the responsibility of the District. Thorburn will prepare a landowner cost-share agreement for the August Board Meeting and the Board can decide if they want to provide cost-share in addition to IPA repairs. Garrelts and Bilka commented that the District is not responsible for damage outside the IPA's. Thorburn mentioned that there is an agreement with North Dry Creek Drainage District for 50/50 cost-share on repairs. Reynolds commented that dirt availability is going to be an issue. Reynolds and Lundeen suggested setting priorities and making a plan. Lundeen asked that Thorburn investigate forming a new IPA in NW Kearney County, prepare a map and invite landowners to an informational meeting. Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Reynolds to direct staff to hire a contractor to work on repairs from flood damage to the IPA's with IPA funds and to provide loans to the IPA's when needed. Motion carried.

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AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Hinrichs, Johnson, Raffety, Reynolds and Lundeen

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Harris, Jorgensen, Larson and Olsen

Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka to allow Thorburn to work with North Dry Creek Drainage District to repair the ditch at a 50/50 cost-share rate. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Hinrichs, Johnson, Raffety, Reynolds and Lundeen

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Harris, Jorgensen, Larson and Olsen

Discuss TBNRD Armory Renovations: Thorburn reviewed a handout of proposed renovations to the armory building. Phase I is to seal the building, restore utilities and remove asbestos. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Raffety to allow staff to start Phase I of renovations to the armory building. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Hinrichs, Johnson, Raffety, Reynolds and Lundeen

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Harris, Jorgensen, Larson and Olsen

Discuss WCIP Expansion to CNPPID Customers: Thorburn reviewed the revised WCIP Program expansion and how it relates to CNPPID customers. The program includes:

- Working with CNPPID Customers that have groundwater and CNPPID contracts
- Give monetary incentive adjusted by how much groundwater they use (\$5/acre inch for groundwater pumped).
- TBNRD funds and NDNR match will be used to fund the program.
- 1-inch allocation
- Limit enrollment to 5,000 to 8,000 acres
- Rank the applications according to location and other factors.

The following comments were made:

- Limit enrollment to 320 acres per landowner
- Limit total acres enrolled to 8,000
- A Bid Process was suggested, but delayed so see how the current plan works
- Have landowners provide CNPPID irrigation records and make landowners that haven't used CNPPID water a target group
- Give additional consideration to landowners that want to sign up additional acres on their CNPPID contract.
- A landowner that's signed off CNPPID contracts and signs up again could get an extra point
- TBNRD would pay 100% of CNPPID water bill
- Bilka and Garrelts suggested no allocation. If you use groundwater, you lose \$5/acre inch.
- Water-Short years – all them to pump the difference between what they should have gotten and what's delivered.
- The contract should require Landowner and Tennant signature lines.

Garrelts asked for a draft contract and ranking process at the August board meeting and be ready to present the program to the public in September. A meeting with CNPPID Joint Committee at the end of August was requested, to explain the program. Thorburn will contact Dave Ford to discuss the process.

Review Draft 2019-2020 TBNRD Budget – Approve for Public Hearing: Thorburn reviewed the Sinking Funds. Thorburn stated that the separate sinking funds can be shifted to regular cash and investments but must be moved back by fiscal year end to reflect the actual balance at year end. There was discussion about using the PRRIP funds reduce tax asking. Thorburn mentioned that the PRRIP funding can be matched when spent on a Platte Basin project but match doesn't apply if money is just transferred. There was discussion about borrowing funds to add to cash reserve. The board decided to not use PRRIP funding or a loan to decrease taxes. Garrelts commented that the PRRIP funding is currently \$1.2 million but if used for the WCIP program, could increase to a benefit of \$2 million because of the match. Reynolds commented on the NARD dues increase.

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Hinrichs to move to executive session at 1:05 p.m. for the protection of an individual(s) to discuss personnel matters. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Hinrichs, Johnson, Raffety, Reynolds and Lundeen

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Harris, Jorgensen, Larson and Olsen

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Raffety to move out of executive session at 1:37 p.m. for the protection of an individual(s) to discuss personnel matters. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Hinrichs, Johnson, Raffety, Reynolds and Lundeen

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Harris, Jorgensen, Larson and Olsen

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Raffety to increase staff wages by 2% Cost-of-Living and 1% Merit Pay and increase Thorburn's salary from \$88,500 to \$91,000. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Hinrichs, Johnson, Raffety, Reynolds and Lundeen

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Harris, Jorgensen, Larson and Olsen

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Garrelts to approve the FY 2019-2020 Budget for hearing at the August 13, 2019 Board Meeting. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Hinrichs, Johnson, Raffety, Reynolds and Lundeen

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Harris, Jorgensen, Larson and Olsen

Out-of-State Travel: Thorburn explained that he needs to travel to Abilene, KS to pick up the portable corral that RBJV is purchasing for TBNRD use and rental. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Hinrichs to approve out-of-state travel for Thorburn to go to Abilene, Kansas. Motion carried.

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AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Hinrichs, Johnson, Raffety, Reynolds and Lundeen

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Harris, Jorgensen, Larson and Olsen

Authorize Hiring Additional Part-Time Clerk: Thorburn explained that he would like to hire a part-time clerk to help with data entry. He would like to move Lori Hagan to the Holdrege Office and hire a new Elwood Field Office Secretary. Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka to allow hiring a part-time clerk for TBNRD. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Hinrichs, Johnson, Raffety, Reynolds and Lundeen

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Harris, Jorgensen, Larson and Olsen

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There were no comments and concerns.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBNRD Board Tour and Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 13, 2019, at 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. respectively and a special Board Meeting on July 25, 2019 at 10 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Joe Bilka, Todd Garrelts, Rob Hinrichs, Phyllis Johnson, Dave Raffety, Larry Reynolds and Brad Lundeen.

OTHERS PRESENT

Carie Lynch, John Thorburn, Sasha Hahn, Nate Munter, Melissa Mosier and Andy Pedley.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carie Lynch, Asst. Secretary

INDEX OF BOARD DECISIONS
 TRI-BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
 SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
 July 25, 2019

ID	Motion #	Category	Subject	Aye	Nay	Abstain	
	2019-07-25-01	District Plans & Programs	Platte Basin IMP	7			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Johnson to approve the Platte Basin IMP. Motion carried.
	2019-07-25-02	District Plans & Programs	Platte Basin-Wide Plan	7			Moved by Johnson, seconded by Raffety to approve the Platte Basin-Wide Plan. Motion carried.
	2019-07-25-03	Projects	NDC Drainage District flooding repairs	7			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Reynolds to direct staff to hire a contractor to work on repairs from flood damage to the IPA's with IPA funds and to provide loans to the IPA's when needed. Motion carried.
	2019-07-25-04	Projects	NDC Drainage District flooding repairs	7			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka to allow Thorburn to work with North Dry Creek Drainage District to repair the ditch at a 50/50 cost-share rate. Motion carried.
	2019-07-25-05	Budget	Armory renovations Phase I	7			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Raffety to allow staff to start Phase I of renovations to the armory building. Motion carried.
	2019-07-25-06	Meeting Administration		7			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Hinrichs to move to executive session at 1:05 p.m. for the protection of an individual(s) to discuss personnel matters. Motion carried.
	2019-07-25-07	Meeting Administration		7			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Raffety to move out of executive session at 1:37 p.m. for the protection of an individual(s) to discuss personnel matters. Motion carried.
	2019-07-25-08	Personnel	Wages 2019-2020	7			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Raffety to increase staff wages by 2% Cost-of-Living and 1% Merit Pay and increase Thorburn's salary from \$88,500 to \$91,000. Motion carried.
	2019-07-25-09	Budget	2019-2020 budget for hearing	7			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Garrelts to approve the FY 2019-2020 Budget for hearing at the August 13, 2019 Board Meeting. Motion carried.
	2019-07-25-10	Meeting Administration		7			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Hinrichs to approve out-of-state travel for Thorburn to go to Abilene, Kansas. Motion carried.

	2019-07-25-11	Personnel	PT Clerk	7			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka to allow hiring a part-time clerk for TBNRD. Motion carried.
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