

MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, September 13, 2016, 7:30 p.m.
Tri-Basin Natural Resources District

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly board meeting of the Tri-Basin Natural Resources District (NRD) was called to order by Vice Chairman, Brad Lundeen, at 7:30 p.m. Lundeen noted Public Meeting Law is posted in the boardroom. Thorburn opened a FY 2016-2017 Budget Hearing prior to this meeting.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with ten directors present: Bergstrom, Bilka, Cavanaugh, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Winz. Harris, Garrelts and Olsen 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

There were no absences to excuse.

MINUTES

Thorburn presented the minutes of the August 9, 2016, Board of Directors meeting and Budget Hearing and September 6, 2016 Executive Committee Meeting. Moved by Johnson, seconded by Larson, to approve the minutes for the August 9, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting and Budget Hearing. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Reynolds Ryan and Winz

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Bilka and Raffety

ABSENT: Harris, Garrelts and Olsen

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Winz, to approve the minutes for the September 6, 2016 Executive Committee Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

Accrual Expenditures for Month -----	\$94,619.66
Cash Expenditures for Month-----	\$99,425.34
Accrual Revenues for Month-----	\$47,954.69
-	
Cash Revenues for Month-----	\$52,164.51
Bank Balance–August 31, 2016-----	\$351,140.63
-	
Accounts Receivable – August 31, 2016-----	\$10,227.70
Investments – Pinnacle Bank – August 31, 2016-----	\$50,116.77
-	
Building Sinking Fund – August 31, 2016-----	\$61,670.73
-	
Vehicle Sinking Fund – August 31, 2016-----	\$49,945.50
Water Resources Fund – August 31, 2016-----	\$290,823.85
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – August 31, 2016-----	\$18,087.20
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – August 31, 2016-----	\$11,603.04
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – August 31, 2016-----	\$14,691.38
Fort Kearny IPA Balance – August 31, 2016-----	\$12,475.32
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance – August 31, 2016-----	\$21,560.79
-	

North Dry Creek IPA Balance – August 31, 2016-----	\$16,033.59
Water Jamboree – August 31, 2016-----	\$6,523.60
-	
NRRMDA – August 31, 2016-----	\$7,626.19
Odessa IPA – August 31, 2016-----	\$7,500.77

Moved by Johnson, seconded by Cavanaugh to accept the August 2016 financial reports and file for audit. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Harris, Garrelts and Olsen

SPECIAL BILLS

Thorburn presented the VISA, attorney, LRNRD and Flatwater Group bills for approval. Moved by Larson, seconded Bergstrom to approve the visa, attorney, LRNRD and Flatwater Group bills. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Harris, Garrelts and Olsen

NRCS REPORT

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

Activity and Progress Report: Breece reported staff is working on 2017 CSP renewals and has two new staff members: Deb Eichenberger (Elwood) and Ruth Nielsen (Program Assistant).

COST SHARE REPORT

Well Abandonment – Thorburn presented nine Well Decommissioning Cost-Share applications for approval. Moved by Winz, seconded Ryan to approve nine well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Harris, Garrelts and Olsen

NSWCP & NRD Applications – Thorburn presented six NSWCP applications to approve. The applications are for flowmeters and soil sensors. Moved by Bilka, seconded Larson to approve six NSWCP cost-share applications. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Harris, Garrelts and Olsen

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

Groundwater & Certified Acre Transfers – Thorburn presented one irrigated acre transfer application for Loudean Farms, Inc. for approval. Eldean Johnson was present to answer questions. Thorburn commented that Mr. Johnson doesn't have an HEL plan on file with NRCS. Moved by Cavanaugh, seconded Raffety to approve an irrigated acre transfer request for Loudean Farms, Inc. contingent upon an HEL Farm Plan being filed with NRCS. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Harris, Garrelts and Olsen

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. There was no public comment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Set a Levy Different than the Prior Year: This item will be addressed after the hearing is closed.

NARD REPORT

NARD Fall Conference – Review Legislative Resolutions: Reynolds mentioned the Fall NARD Conference is at the end of Sept. Thorburn reviewed the resolutions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee: Thorburn reviewed committee recommendations. Action will be taken on committee recommendations under different agenda items.

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.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Republican Basin (NRRMDA): Thorburn reported the Republican River Compact Meeting was held in Burlington, Co last month. Resolutions were passed to help Colorado with an augmentation project and Nebraska with managing water in Harlan County Reservoir. The Republican Basin Stakeholders are discussing how much of the inter-connected basin water to include in the planning process.

Platte Basin: Thorburn mentioned a Platte Basin Stakeholder meeting will be held on September 21, 2016 in North Platte.

South Dry Creek: Staff will be shredding and spraying phragmites.

Sacramento Creek: Staff will be shredding and spraying phragmites.

Middle Lost Creek: Nothing to report.

Fort Kearny West: Staff will be shredding and spraying phragmites.

Fort Kearny: Staff will be shredding and spraying phragmites.

North Dry Creek: Staff will be shredding and spraying phragmites. Ostgren Construction will work on culverts.

Whiskey Slough: Staff will be shredding and spraying phragmites.

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Odessa IPA: Staff will be shredding and spraying phragmites. Ostgren Construction will clean culverts.

Lake Seldom: There was nothing to report.

CoHyst/Platte Basin Coalition: Nothing to report.

Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin: Little Blue Basin Stakeholder meeting is set for Thursday, September 15, 2016 in Minden.

Platte-Republican Diversion & Republican Basin Augmentation Well: Little reported on the progress of the augmentation well. Reynolds asked that Salisbury, Information & Education, publicize the project. Thorburn reported on progress of Platte-Republican Diversion easements.

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

CNPPID: Ford reported Lake McConaughy is at elevation 3257' above sea level and 87% of capacity.

NEW BUSINESS

Review Proposed Temporary Groundwater Recharge Contract with CNPPID: Thorburn explained that the Executive Committee asked him to discuss the daily charge for releasing water from Elwood Reservoir with Don Kraus and that CNPPID didn't vote to reduce or eliminate the charge. There was discussion about the charge.

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Bilka to table voting on the CNPPID Temporary Groundwater Recharge Contract with CNPPID until the October 2016 Board Meeting. Motion carried.

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

NAY: Johnson

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Harris, Garrelts and Olsen

Consider Criteria for Including Dedicated Observations Well Data in GQMA Averages: Thorburn reviewed the process for including dedicated observation well data in GQMA averages. There was discussion about using irrigation wells as observation wells and Lundeen suggested adding the subject the LB Stakeholder meeting next week. Thorburn mentioned a grant will be used to drill additional observation wells in Little Blue Basin.

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Larson to accept the Executive Committee recommendation to incorporate the observation well data into the three-year rolling average, district-wide and to set the spring water level reading date as April 10. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Harris, Garrelts and Olsen

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Set a Levy Different than the Prior Year: Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Johnson to accept the levy as .039374 (property tax request - \$2,140,122.82) and to set the FY 2016-2017 levy different from the previous year. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Cavanaugh, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Raffety, Reynolds Ryan and Winz
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Harris, Garrelts and Olsen

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There were no comments or concerns.

PERSONNEL & LEGAL MATTERS

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety to move to executive session for the protection of the public to discuss contractual issues at 8:48 p.m. Motion carried.

AYE: Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Johnson, Harris, Larson, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds and Winz
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Bergstrom, Bilka and Ryan

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Winz to move out of executive session for the protection of the public to discuss contractual issues at 9:03p.m. Motion carried.

AYE: Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Johnson, Harris, Larson, Lundeen, Olsen, Raffety, Reynolds and Winz
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Bergstrom, Bilka and Ryan

NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Carie Lynch, John Thorburn, Nicole Salisbury, Tammy Fahrenbruch, Dave Ford, Eldean Johnson, Kevin Breece and Charles Brooks.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carie Lynch, Asst. Secretary

INDEX OF BOARD DECISIONS
TRI-BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
September 13, 2016

ID	Motion #	Category	Subject	Aye	Nay	Abs	
	2016-09-13-01	Meeting Administration		8		2	Moved by Johnson, seconded by Larson, to approve the minutes for the August 9, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting and Budget Hearing. Motion carried.
	2016-09-13-02	Meeting Administration					Moved by Bilka, seconded by Winz, to approve the minutes for the September 6, 2016 Executive Committee Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
	2016-09-13-03	Meeting Administration		10			Moved by Johnson, seconded by Cavanaugh to accept the August 2016 financial reports and file for audit. Motion carried.
	2016-09-13-04	Budget		10			Moved by Larson, seconded Bergstrom to approve the visa, attorney, LRNRD and Flatwater Group bills. Motion carried.
	2016-09-13-05	Meeting Administration		10			Moved by Winz, seconded Ryan to approve nine well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2016-09-13-06	Meeting Administration		10			Moved by Bilka, seconded Larson to approve six NSWCP cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2016-09-13-07	Certifications & Transfers	Loudean	10			Moved by Cavanaugh, seconded Raffety to approve an irrigated acre transfer request for Loudean Farms, Inc. contingent upon an HEL Farm Plan being filed with NRCS. Motion carried.
	2016-09-13-08	Agreements	CNPPID GW Recharge	9	1		Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Bilka to table voting on the CNPPID Temporary Groundwater Recharge Contract with CNPPID until the October 2016 Board

							Meeting. Motion carried.
2016-09-13-09	District Plans & Programs	Ob Well Data incorporation	10				Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Larson to accept the Executive Committee recommendation to incorporate the observation well data into the three-year rolling average, district-wide and to set the spring water level reading date as April 10. Motion carried.
2016-09-13-10	Budget		10				Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Johnson to accept the levy as .039374 (property tax request - \$2,140,122.82) and to set the FY 2016-2017 levy different from the previous year. Motion carried.
2016-09-13-11	Meeting Administration		10				Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety to move to executive session for the protection of the public to discuss contractual issues at 8:48 p.m. Motion carried.
2016-09-13-12	Meeting Administration		10				Moved by Bilka, seconded by Winz to move out of executive session for the protection of the public to discuss contractual issues at 9:03p.m. Motion carried.