

**MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday, February 20, 2024, 1:00 p.m.**  
**Tri-Basin Natural Resources District**

The regular monthly board meeting of the Tri-Basin Natural Resources District (NRD) was called to order by Chairman, Todd Garrelts at 1:00 p.m. Garrelts noted Public Meeting Law is available upon request.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken with ten directors present: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Larson, Philips, Reynolds and Ryan. Bergstrom, Lundeen and Raffety were absent. Notice of the meeting was published in the Holdrege Citizen, Valley Voice and Minden Courier and announced on radio station KRVN, Lexington.

**EXCUSED ABSENCES**

Philips will need to be excused from the December 2023 and January 2024 board meetings. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Larson, to excuse Reed Philips from the December 2023 and January 2024 Board of Directors meetings. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Larson, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Philips

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Lundeen and Raffety

**MINUTES**

Thorburn presented the minutes of the January 9, 2024, Board of Directors, February 6, 2024, I&E Committee Minutes and January 9, 2024, Executive Committee meeting. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grimes, to approve the minutes for the January 9, 2024, Regular Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Larson, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Philips

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Lundeen and Raffety

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Reynolds, to approve the minutes for the January 9, 2024, Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Philips, seconded by Harris, to approve the minutes for the February 6, 2024, I&E Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Ryan presented the financial report for the month of January 2024 as follows:

Accrual Expenditures for Month .....	\$241,026.80
Accrual Revenues for Month.....	\$329,936.70
Actual Expenditures for Month .....	\$240,514.75
Actual Revenues for Month.....	\$320,681.30
Main Checking—January 31, 2024.....	\$134,093.20
Accounts Receivable – January 31, 2024.....	\$5,869.59
CD/Sinking Funds – Bruning Bank – January 31, 2024.....	\$210,000.00
Building Sinking Fund – January 31, 2024.....	\$29,784.75
Vehicle Sinking Fund – January 31, 2024.....	\$1,438.49
Water Resources Fund – January 31, 2024.....	\$202,386.59
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – January 31, 2024.....	\$18,403.43
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – January 31, 2024.....	\$9,597.80
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – January 31, 2024.....	\$10,564.89
Fort Kearny IPA Balance – January 31, 2024.....	\$8,400.61
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance – January 31, 2024.....	\$20,033.39

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North Dry Creek IPA Balance – January 31, 2024-----	\$8,307.00
Water Jamboree – January 31, 2024-----	\$8,400.61
Odessa IPA – January 31, 2024-----	\$20,033.39
Sacramento Creek IPA Loan Balance – January 31, 2024-----	\$1,435.79

Reynolds asked for a presentation from NPAIT at the next board meeting. There was discussion about the interest rates at Bruning Bank (3.5%-Checking and 5.5%-Savings). Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grimes, to accept the January 2024 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Larson, Philips, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Lundeen and Raffety

**SPECIAL BILLS**

Thorburn presented the VISA and attorney bills for approval. Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Ryan, to approve the Visa and attorney bills. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Larson, Philips, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Lundeen and Raffety

**NRCS REPORT**

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

**Activity and Progress Report:** Levi Adam, Acting District Conservationist reported on the Paperwork Reduction Act and EQIP Workgroup.

**COST SHARE REPORT**

**Well Decommissioning** – Thorburn presented two Well Decommissioning cost-share applications for approval. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grimes, to approve Well Decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Larson, Philips, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Lundeen and Raffety

**NSWCP & NRD Applications** – Thorburn presented four NSWCP cost-share applications for approval. Moved by Larson, seconded by Philips, to approve four NSWCP cost-share applications. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Larson, Philips, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Lundeen and Raffety

**GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT**

**Groundwater, Certified Acre Transfers & WCIP** – Thorburn presented seven irrigated acre transfer requests for MKB Partnership and Gardels Farms, one WCIP application for Joe Anderson and a variance for a WCIP contract for approval. Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Ryan, to approve seven irrigated acre transfer requests. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Larson, Philips, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Lundeen and Raffety

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Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grams, to approve one WCIP contract and one WCIP variance. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Larson, Philips, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Lundeen and Raffety

**Educational Land Leases** – There were no Educational Lands and Funds applications for approval.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**NARD REPORT**

**NARD Report:** Reynolds gave the report prior to the meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Information & Education Committee:** Hahn reviewed information from the meeting.

**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:** Nothing to report.

**Platte Basin:** Nothing to report.

**Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin:** Nothing to report.

**North Dry Creek:** Nothing to report.

**Odessa IPA:** Nothing to report.

**Sacramento Creek:** Nothing to report.

**Fort Kearny:** Nothing to report.

**Fort Kearny West:** Nothing to report.

**South Dry Creek:** Nothing to report.

**Whiskey Slough:** Nothing to report.

**Middle Lost Creek:** Nothing to report.

**Lake Seldom:** Nothing to report.

**CoHyst/Platte Basin Coalition:** Nothing to report.

**Rainwater Basin Joint Venture:** Nothing to report.

**Platte-Republican Diversion & Republican Basin Augmentation Well:** Nothing to report.

**CNPPID Report:** No report.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**Authorize Advertising for IPA Spraying:** This item was addressed in the work session.

**Schedule Annual IPA Meetings:** Moved by Bilka, seconded by Reynolds to set the date for the Annual IPA meetings for March 1, 2024, at 9 a.m. in Axtell and 2 p.m. in Holdrege. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Larson, Philips, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Lundeen and Raffety

#### COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There were no comments or concerns.

#### PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTERS

There were no personnel or legal matters.

#### NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

#### DIRECTORS PRESENT

J0oe Bilka, Todd Garrelts, Joel Grams, David Grimes, Ed Harris, Rob Hinrichs, Joe Larson, Reed Philips, Larry Reynolds and Jeff Ryan.

#### OTHERS PRESENT:

John Thorburn, Sasha Hahn, Nolan Little, Nate Munter, Tammy Fahrenbruch, Levi Adam and Carie Lynch.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Carie Lynch, Asst. Secretary

INDEX OF BOARD DECISIONS  
TRI-BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
February 20, 2024

ID	Motion #	Category	Subject	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Motion
	2024-02-20-01	Meeting Administration		9		1	Moved by Bilka, seconded by Larson, to excuse Reed Philips from the December 2023 and January 2024 Board of Directors meetings. Motion carried.
	2024-02-20-02	Meeting Administration		10			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grimes, to approve the minutes for the January 9, 2024, Regular Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.
	2024-02-20-03	Meeting Administration					Moved by Bilka, seconded by Reynolds, to approve the minutes for the January 9, 2024, Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
	2024-02-20-04	Meeting Administration					Moved by Philips, seconded by Harris, to approve the minutes for the February 6, 2024, I&E Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
	2024-02-20-05	Meeting Administration		10			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grimes, to accept the January 2024 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.
	2024-02-20-06	Budget		10			Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Ryan, to approve the Visa and attorney bills. Motion carried.
	2024-02-20-07	Meeting Administration		10			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grimes, to approve Well Decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2024-02-20-08	Meeting Administration		10			Moved by Larson, seconded by Philips, to approve four NSWCP cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2024-02-20-09	Certification & Transfers		10			Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Ryan, to approve seven irrigated acre transfer requests. Motion carried.
	2024-02-20-10	Certification & Transfers		10			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grams, to approve one WCIP contract and one WCIP variance. Motion carried.
	2024-02-20-11	Projects		10			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Reynolds to set the date for the Annual IPA meetings for March 1, 2024, at 9 a.m. in Axtell and 2 p.m. in Holdrege. Motion carried.