

**MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 1:30 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 Secretary, Rob Hinrichs, at 1:30 p.m. Hinrichs noted Public Meeting Law is posted in the boardroom.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken with nine directors present: Bilka, Bergstrom, Cavanaugh (zoom), Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Philips, Reynolds and Raffety. Ryan arrived at 1:32 p.m. Larson, Lundeen and Garrelts were absent. Notice of the meeting was published in the Holdrege Citizen, Bertrand Herald, Elwood Bulletin and Minden Courier and announced on radio station KRVN, Lexington.

**EXCUSE ABSENCES**

There were no absences to excuse.

**MINUTES**

Thorburn presented the minutes of the December 14, 2021, Board of Directors Meeting and December 8, 2021, Executive Committee Meeting. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Harris, to approve the minutes for the December 14, 2021, Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Philips, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Raffety

ABSENT: Cavanaugh (for voting purposes), Larson, Lundeen and Garrelts

Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Bilka, to approve the minutes for the December 8, 2021, Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Hinrichs presented the financial report for the month of December 2021 as follows:

Accrual Expenditures for Month .....	\$794,331.09
Cash Expenditures for Month.....	\$816,609.21
Accrual Revenues for Month.....	\$3,343.67
Cash Revenues for Month.....	\$25,216.03
Bank Balance–December 31, 2021.....	\$402,460.38
Accounts Receivable – December 31, 2021.....	\$60,732.80
Investments – Pinnacle Bank – December 31, 2021.....	\$114,593.14
Building Sinking Fund – December 31, 2021.....	\$163,914.30
Vehicle Sinking Fund – December 31, 2021.....	\$110,854.40
Water Resources Fund – December 31, 2021.....	\$424,368.42
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – December 31, 2021.....	\$5,322.58
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – December 31, 2021.....	\$5,846.23
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – December 31, 2021.....	\$5,155.71
Fort Kearny IPA Balance – December 31, 2021.....	\$9,680.84
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance – December 31, 2021.....	\$1,640.36
North Dry Creek IPA Balance – December 31, 2021.....	\$5,968.07
Water Jamboree – December 31, 2021.....	\$8,387.93
NR MDMA – December 31, 2021.....	\$7,636.87
Odessa IPA – December 31, 2021.....	\$20,224.92

Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Ryan, to accept the December 2021 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Philips, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh (for voting purposes), Larson, Lundeen and Garrelts

#### **SPECIAL BILLS**

Thorburn presented the VISA and NDNR (Flatwater) bills for approval. Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Philips, to approve the VISA and Flatwater bills. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Philips, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh (for voting purposes), Larson, Lundeen and Garrelts

#### **NRCS REPORT**

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

**Activity and Progress Report:** Kerner reported staff has been working on 2021 and 2022 CSP payments, EQIP and CSP funding was approved and looks favorable for Tri-Basin NRD and Kerner mentioned that she has been working with Munter and Refior on RCPP.

#### **COST SHARE REPORT**

**Well Abandonment** – Thorburn presented four well decommissioning cost-share applications to approve. Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Ryan, to approve four well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Philips, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh (for voting purposes), Larson, Lundeen and Garrelts

**NSWCP & NRD Applications** – Thorburn presented five NSWCP cost-share applications to approve. Moved by Philips, seconded by Ryan to approve five NSWCP cost-share applications. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Philips, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh (for voting purposes), Larson, Lundeen and Garrelts

#### **GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT**

**Groundwater, Certified Acre Transfers & WCIP** – Thorburn presented one ground water transfer (Wayne Anderson) and four irrigated acre transfer applications (Frith, Kuehn and Herrick (2)) for approval. Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Harris to approve one groundwater transfer application and four irrigated acre transfer applications. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Philips, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh (for voting purposes), Larson, Lundeen and Garrelts

**Educational Land Leases** – Thorburn presented one Board of Educational Lands & Funds application to approve. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Philips to approve Board of Educational Lands & Funds application. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Philips, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh (for voting purposes), Larson, Lundeen and Garrelts

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

The public was given the opportunity to bring other specific business or non-agenda items before the board for comment or discussion. Jeff Moore, Holdrege Ag Education instructor, and three students accepted awards for land judging. Moore mentioned the Holdrege team needs funding to attend the national contest. Thorburn will put funding for the Holdrege Land Judging team on the February 2022 agenda.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Fall GW Levels Update - Little:** Nolan Little presented information on fall 2021 groundwater levels.

**Bid to Replace 2015 Ram Pickup:** Thorburn mentioned that only one car dealer bid on a new pickup but wouldn't commit to a trade-in price. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety to accept the bid proposal for a new pickup from Janssen Ford. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Philips, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh (for voting purposes), Larson, Lundeen and Garrelts

**IWMS Report – Curtis Scheele:** Curtis Scheele presented information on 2021 water management activities: TAPS, field demos, ET readings, nitrogen certification, presentations, newsletter and outreach.

#### **NARD REPORT**

**Legislative Voting Delegates:** Thorburn explained that Raffety won't be attending the NARD Legislative Conference and he was designated as Alternate Delegate. Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Reynolds to appoint Hinrichs as alternate delegate for the 2022 NARD Legislative Conference. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Philips, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Hinrichs

ABSENT: Cavanaugh (for voting purposes), Larson, Lundeen and Garrelts

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **STAFF REPORTS & NECESSARY ACTION**

**Board Directives to Staff:** Nothing to report.

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

##### **MONTHLY REPORTS**

**Republican Basin:** Thorburn has been contacting potential stakeholders.

**Platte Basin:** Nothing to report.

**Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin:** Amy Zoller developed GIS coverage of TBNRD irrigated acres.

**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:** Next meeting is in February.

**Rainwater Basin Joint Venture:** Meeting will be held January 28, 2022

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

**CNPPID:** Dicke reported the E65 siphon project was awarded a grant and snowpack is 100%.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Schedule NRD Board Work Session:** Moved by Harris, seconded by Bergstrom, to set a special board meeting (work session) for February 8, 2022, at 9 a.m. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Philips, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh (for voting purposes), Larson, Lundeen and Garrelts

#### **COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

There were no comments or concerns.

#### **PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTERS**

Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Raffety to move to executive session at 2:45 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Philips, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh (for voting purposes), Larson, Lundeen and Garrelts

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Moved by Philips, seconded by Raffety to move out of executive session at 2:49 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Philips, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh (for voting purposes), Larson, Lundeen and Garrelts

**NEXT BOARD MEETING**

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 1:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Brian Bergstrom, Joe Bilka, Mike Cavanaugh (Zoom), Ed Harris, Rob Hinrichs, Reed Philips, Larry Reynolds, Jeff Ryan and Dave Raffety.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

John Thorburn, Nate Munter, Tammy Fahrenbruch, Sasha Hahn, Scott Dicke (zoom), Nolan Little, Cammie Kerner, Curtis Scheele, James Kuehn, Jeff Moore (plus 4 students), Lee Herrick 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  
 January 11, 2022

ID	Motion #	Category	Subject	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Motion
	2022-01-14-01	Meeting Administration		8		1	Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Harris, to approve the minutes for the December 14, 2021, Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.
	2022-01-14-02	Meeting Administration					Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Bilka, to approve the minutes for the December 8, 2021, Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
	2022-01-14-03	Meeting Administration		9			Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Ryan, to accept the December 2021 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.
	2022-01-14-04	Budget		9			Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Philips, to approve the VISA and Flatwater bills. Motion carried.
	2022-01-14-05	Meeting Administration		9			Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Ryan, to approve four well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2022-01-14-06	Meeting Administration		9			Moved by Philips, seconded by Ryan to approve five NSWCP cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2022-01-14-07	Certification & Transfers		9			Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Harris to approve one groundwater transfer application and four irrigated acre transfer applications. Motion carried.
	2022-01-14-08	Meeting Administration		9			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Philips to approve Board of Educational Lands & Funds application. Motion carried.
	2022-01-14-09	Budget	New pickup	9			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety to accept the bid proposal for a new pickup from Janssen Ford. Motion carried.
	2022-01-14-10	Directors	Leg. Delegate	8		1	Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Reynolds to appoint Hinrichs as alternate delegate for the 2022 NARD Legislative Conference. Motion carried.
	2022-01-14-11	Meeting Administration		9			Moved by Harris, seconded by Bergstrom, to set a special board meeting (work session) for February 8, 2022, at 9 a.m. Motion carried.
	2022-01-14-12	Meeting Administration		9			Moved by Bergstrom, seconded by Raffety to move to executive session at

							2:45 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.
	2022-01-14-13	Meeting Administration		9			Moved by Philips, seconded by Raffety to move out of executive session at 2:49 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.