

MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, July 14, 2020, 1:30 p.m.
Tri-Basin NRD

The regular monthly board meeting of the Tri-Basin Natural Resources District (NRD) was called to order by Chairman, Bradley Lundeen, at 1:31 p.m. Lundeen noted Public Meeting Law is posted in the boardroom.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with thirteen directors present: Bergstrom, Bilka, Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Johnson, Larson, Raffety, Ryan, Reynolds and Lundeen. 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 June 9, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting and June 25, 2020, Special Board Meeting. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety, to approve the minutes for the June 9, 2020 Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Harris, Hinrichs, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Raffety, Ryan and Reynolds

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Bergstrom

ABSENT: None

Moved by Johnson, seconded by Hinrichs, to approve the minutes for the June 25, 2020 Special Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Harris, Hinrichs, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Raffety, Ryan and Reynolds

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Bergstrom

ABSENT: None

FINANCIAL REPORT

Hinrichs presented the financial report for the month of June 2020 as follows:

Accrual Expenditures for Month	\$162,476.42
Cash Expenditures for Month.....	\$140,319.43
Accrual Revenues for Month.....	\$181,518.42
Cash Revenues for Month.....	\$234,074.88
Bank Balance—June 30, 2020.....	\$230,538.21
Accounts Receivable – June 30, 2020.....	\$47,133.27
Investments – Pinnacle Bank – June 30, 2020.....	\$264,487.77
Building Sinking Fund – June 30, 2020.....	\$185,163.52
Vehicle Sinking Fund – June 30, 2020.....	\$93,503.20
Water Resources Fund – June 30, 2020.....	\$613,663.66
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – June 30, 2020.....	\$1,954.80
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – June 30, 2020.....	\$4,071.23
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – June 30, 2020.....	\$12,654.42
Fort Kearny IPA Balance – June 30, 2020.....	\$8,035.08
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance – June 30, 2020.....	\$3,918.63
North Dry Creek IPA Balance – June 30, 2020.....	\$8,311.78

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Water Jamboree – June 30, 2020-----	\$7,914.37
NRRMDA – June 30, 2020-----	\$7,634.95
Odessa IPA – June 30, 2020-----	\$13,767.40

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Larson, to approve the June 2020 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

SPECIAL BILLS

Thorburn presented the VISA, attorney and PRD bills for approval. Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Johnson, to approve the VISA, attorney and PRD bills. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

NRCS REPORT

FSA Farm Plans: There were no farm plans to approve

Activity and Progress Report: Kerner reported staff has been working on CSP, introduced Levi Adam and updated the board on other new staff.

COST SHARE REPORT

Well Abandonment – Thorburn presented three well abandonment cost-share applications for approval. Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Raffety, to approve three well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

NSWCP & NRD Applications – Thorburn presented one NSWCP cost-share application for approval. Moved by Raffety, seconded by Reynolds, to approve one NSWCP cost-share application. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

WCIP – There were no WCIP applications to approve.

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

Groundwater & Certified Acre Transfers – There were no transfers to approve.

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

Agreement with PRRIP for Cottonwood Ranch Project: Thorburn reviewed minor changes to the PRRIP agreement. Jason Farnsworth was present to answer questions. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety, to the Water Augmentation Agreement for Cottonwood Ranch. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Review Bids Received for Shelf Racks: Thorburn explained that only one bid was submitted. Lundeen suggested listing the pallet racks on an auction site. Garrelts suggested the Building Committee determine how to sell the racks. Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bergstrom, to reject the bid for the pallet racks. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

NARD REPORT

NARD Report: Reynolds reported that the NARD staff are still operating out of their homes. There will be a zoom meeting to discuss building options.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee Structure and Membership: Thorburn presented the committee structure Lundeen developed that includes assignments for new board members.

STAFF REPORTS & NECESSARY ACTION

Board Directives to Staff: There were no directives.

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

MONTHLY REPORTS

Republican Basin: Zoom meeting is being held this afternoon for MRNRD, LRNRD and URNRD.

Platte Basin: Platte Basin-Wide meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2020 at The Roadway Inn in Holdrege.

Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin: Thorburn showed a picture of the completed Sorensen recharge structure.

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North Dry Creek: Staff has been spraying weeds.

Odessa IPA: Staff has been spraying weeds.

Sacramento Creek: Staff has been spraying weeds.

Fort Kearny: Staff has been spraying weeds.

Fort Kearny West: Staff has been spraying weeds.

South Dry Creek: Staff has been spraying weeds.

Whiskey Slough: Staff has been spraying weeds.

Middle Lost Creek: Staff has been spraying weeds.

Lake Seldom: Nothing to report.

CoHyst/Platte Basin Coalition: Nothing to report.

Rainwater Basin Joint Venture: Thorburn is on a committee to look at property tax incentives for conservation practices.

Platte-Republican Diversion & Republican Basin Augmentation Well: The water right application was refiled. Munter and Jack Gibbons completed a grazing plan and will advertise for prospects to lease pasture.

CNPPID: Ford reported Lake McConaughey is at 3249.7 elevation and 75% capacity.

NEW BUSINESS

Drainage Improvement Assistance Request from Village of Axtell: Thorburn presented a funding request from the Village of Axtell for a drainage project. Thorburn said funding the project would create a precedent. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Ryan to deny the funding request from the Village of Axtell, Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Set FY 2020-2021 Budget Review Session Date: Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Larson to schedule a Special Board Meeting to review the FY 2020-21 budget on Thursday, July 23, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTERS

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Garrelts to move to executive session at 2:09 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Garrelts to move out of executive session at 3:10 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Sanctions Against Director Cavanaugh for Violating Cease and Desist Order:

Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Johnson to table considering sanctions against Director Cavanaugh for violating cease and desist order until the July 23, 2020 Special Board Meeting. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Harris, Hinrichs, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Raffety and Ryan

NAY: Bilka and Reynolds

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There were no comments or concerns.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting and Board of Directors Tour will be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2020, at 1:30 p.m. and 8:30 a.m., respectively.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Brian Bergstrom, Joe Bilka, Mike Cavanaugh, Todd Garrelts, David Grimes, Ed Harris, Rob Hinrichs, Phyllis Johnson, Joe Larson, Jeff Ryan, Dave Raffety, Larry Reynolds, and Brad Lundeen

OTHERS PRESENT

Carie Lynch, John Thorburn, Sasha Hahn, Dave Ford, Nolan Little, Levi Adam, Cammie Kerner, Don Blankenau, Nate Munter and Jason Farnsworth.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carie Lynch, Asst. Secretary

INDEX OF BOARD DECISIONS
 TRI-BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
 July 14, 2020

ID	Motion #	Category	Subject	Aye	Nay	Abstain	
	2020-07-14-01	Meeting Administration		12		1	Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety, to approve the minutes for the June 9, 2020 Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.
	2020-07-14-02	Meeting Administration		12		1	Moved by Johnson, seconded by Hinrichs, to approve the minutes for the June 25, 2020 Special Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.
	2020-07-14-03	Meeting Administration		13			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Larson, to approve the June 2020 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.
	2020-07-14-04	Budget		13			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Johnson, to approve the VISA, attorney and PRD bills. Motion carried.
	2020-07-14-05	Meeting Administration		13			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Raffety, to approve three well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2020-07-14-06	Meeting Administration		13			Moved by Raffety, seconded by Reynolds, to approve one NSWCP cost-share application. Motion carried.
	2020-07-14-07	Agreements	Cottonwood Ranch - PRRIP	13			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety, to the Water Augmentation Agreement for Cottonwood Ranch. Motion carried.
	2020-07-14-08	Meeting Administration	Pallet Racks	13			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bergstrom, to reject the bid for the pallet racks. Motion carried.
	2020-07-14-09	Agreements	Deny Village of Axtell	13			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Ryan to deny the funding request from the Village of Axtell, Motion carried.
	2020-07-14-10	Meeting Administration		13			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Larson to schedule a Special Board Meeting to review the FY 2020-21 budget on Thursday, July 23, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried.
	2020-07-14-11	Meeting Administration		13			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Garrelts to move out of executive session at 3:10 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.

	2020-07-14-12	Director	Cavanaugh - Sanctions	11	2		Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Johnson to table considering sanctions against Director Cavanaugh for violating cease and desist order until the July 23, 2020 Special Board Meeting. Motion carried.
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