

MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, August 11, 2020, 1:30 p.m.
Blue Moose Restaurant, Bertrand, NE 68927

The regular monthly board meeting of the Tri-Basin Natural Resources District (NRD) was called to order by Chairman, Bradley Lundeen, at 1:30 p.m. Lundeen noted Public Meeting Law is posted in the boardroom. The FY 2020-2021 Budget Hearing was opened before this meeting was opened.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with eleven directors present: Bergstrom, Bilka, Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Johnson, Larson, Raffety, Ryan, Reynolds and Lundeen. Cavanaugh and Hinrichs 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 July 14, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting, July 23, 2020, Special Board Meeting and July 9, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting. Moved by Johnson, seconded by Raffety, to approve the minutes for the June 14, 2020 Board of Directors. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh and Hinrichs

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Larson, to approve the minutes for the July 23, 2020 Special Board of Directors Meeting. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Larson, Lundeen, Raffety, Ryan and Reynolds

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Garrelts and Johnson

ABSENT: Cavanaugh and Hinrichs

Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka, to approve the minutes for the July 9, 2020 Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Thorburn presented the financial report for the month of July 2020 as follows:

Accrual Expenditures for Month	\$113,251.46
Cash Expenditures for Month.....	\$125,136.90
Accrual Revenues for Month.....	\$12,748.28
Cash Revenues for Month.....	\$53,754.03
Bank Balance—July 31, 2020.....	\$159,133.24
Accounts Receivable – July 31, 2020.....	\$6,015.64
Investments – Pinnacle Bank – July 31, 2020.....	\$264,510.23
Building Sinking Fund – July 31, 2020.....	\$185,163.52
Vehicle Sinking Fund – July 31, 2020.....	\$93,503.20
Water Resources Fund – July 31, 2020.....	\$613,663.66
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – July 31, 2020.....	\$464.85
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – July 31, 2020.....	\$4,073.28
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – July 31, 2020.....	\$12,743.41

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Fort Kearny IPA Balance – July 31, 2020-----	\$8,051.04
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance – July 31, 2020-----	\$3,921.02
North Dry Creek IPA Balance – July 31, 2020-----	\$8,317.69
Water Jamboree – July 31, 2020-----	\$7,914.43
NRRMDA – July 31, 2020-----	\$7,635.14
Odessa IPA – July 31, 2020-----	\$13,767.75

Lynch mentioned that TBNRD made Whiskey Slough a short-term loan of \$500. Moved by Harris, seconded by Ryan, to approve the July 2020 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.
AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Grimes, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Raffety, Ryan and Reynolds
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Cavanaugh and Hinrichs

SPECIAL BILLS

Thorburn presented the VISA, attorney and PRD bills for approval. Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka, to approve the VISA, attorney and PRD bills. Motion carried.
AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Grimes, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Raffety, Ryan and Reynolds
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Cavanaugh and Hinrichs

NRCS REPORT

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

Activity and Progress Report: Kerner reported staff has been working on CSP, EQIP and CRP. She introduced Jesse Johnson, soil conservationist. USDA/NRCS has opened the office to appointments.

COST SHARE REPORT

Well Abandonment – Thorburn presented seven well abandonment cost-share applications for approval. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Johnson, to approve seven well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.
AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Grimes, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Raffety, Ryan and Reynolds
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Cavanaugh and Hinrichs

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, Garrelts, Grimes, Harris, Johnson, Larson, Lundeen, Raffety, Ryan and Reynolds
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Cavanaugh and Hinrichs

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

Approve FY 2020-21 TBNRD Budget: This agenda item will be addressed after the budget hearing is closed.

NARD REPORT

NARD Report: Reynolds reported a committee is looking at options for NARD office.

NARD Resolutions: There were no resolutions to consider.

NARD Fall Conference Delegates: Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Bilka, to designate Raffety as delegate and Reynolds as alternate delegate for the NARD Fall Conference. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh and Hinrichs

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Schedule Building Committee Meeting: Thorburn mentioned a Building Committee meeting is needed to discuss pallet racks, plumbing, roofing bid and storage trailer. The committee will meet Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. at the armory.

Lundeen asked that the Joint Meeting with CNPPID on August 27, 2020 be advertised as a special board meeting. Items of discussions will be the Fully Appropriated Plan, Cottonwood Ranch, other recharge projects, PRD, WCIP and the Drought Mitigation Plan.

STAFF REPORTS & NECESSARY ACTION

Board Directives to Staff: Thorburn reported on progress of the committee tasked with finding the new Director for NDNR.

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

MONTHLY REPORTS

Republican Basin: MRNRD, LRNRD and URNRD are meeting with NDNR to discuss compact accounting within the state.

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Platte Basin: POAC meeting was held. Thorburn reported that approximately \$180,000 will be available for matching for WCIP,

Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin: Sorensen Structure is completed. Thorburn and engineer looked at other opportunities and will provide cost estimates.

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 reported he is on a committee that is working on property tax incentives for habitat and best management practices.

Platte-Republican Diversion & Republican Basin Augmentation Well: The water right application was refiled.

CNPPID: Ford reported Lake McConaughey is at 3243.8 elevation and 67% capacity.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Approve FY 2020-21 TBNRD Budget: Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Grimes, to approve the budget and hold a hearing to set the FY 2020-2021 levy different from the previous year. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh and Hinrichs

PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTERS

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Raffety to move to executive session at 2:07 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh and Hinrichs

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Garrelts to move out of executive session at 2:30 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Cavanaugh and Hinrichs

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There were no comments or concerns.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Brian Bergstrom, Joe Bilka, Todd Garrelts, David Grimes, Ed Harris, 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, Jesse Johnson, Cammie Kerner, Nate Munter, Levi Adam, Curtis Scheele and Lori Potter.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carie Lynch, Asst. Secretary

INDEX OF BOARD DECISIONS
 TRI-BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
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ID	Motion #	Category	Subject	Aye	Nay	Abstain	
	2020-08-11-01	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Johnson, seconded by Raffety, to approve the minutes for the June 14, 2020 Board of Directors. Motion carried.
	2020-08-11-02	Meeting Administration		9		2	Moved by Bilka, seconded by Larson, to approve the minutes for the July 23, 2020 Special Board of Directors Meeting. Motion carried.
	2020-08-11-03	Meeting Administration					Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka, to approve the minutes for the July 9, 2020 Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
	2020-08-11-04	Budget		11			Moved by Harris, seconded by Ryan, to approve the July 2020 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.
	2020-08-11-05	Budget		11			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka, to approve the VISA, attorney and PRD bills. Motion carried.
	2020-08-11-06	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Johnson, to approve seven well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2020-08-11-07	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Raffety, seconded by Reynolds, to approve one NSWCP cost-share application. Motion carried.
	2020-08-11-08	Directors	NARD Fall Conference Delegates	11			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Bilka, to designate Raffety as delegate and Reynolds as alternate delegate for the NARD Fall Conference. Motion carried.
	2020-08-11-09	Budget	Hearing	11			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Grimes, to approve the budget and hold a hearing to set the FY 2020-2021 levy different from the previous year. Motion carried.
	2020-08-11-10	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Raffety to move to executive session at 2:07 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.
	2020-08-11-11	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Garrelts to move out of executive session at 2:30 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.