

**MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday, October 13, 2020, 7:30 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 Chairman, Bradley Lundeen, at 7:30 p.m. Lundeen noted Public Meeting Law is posted in the boardroom.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken with 8 directors present: Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Raffety, Reynolds, Ryan and Lundeen. Bergstrom, Garrelts, Larson, Cavanaugh and Johnson 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 September 8, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting and Budget Hearing and August 27, 2020 Joint Meeting with CNPPID. Moved by Harris, seconded by Raffety, to approve the minutes for the September 9, 2020 Board of Directors meeting and hearing. Motion carried.

AYE: Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen and Raffety

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Bilka, Reynolds and Ryan

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Larson, Cavanaugh and Johnson

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Hinrichs, to approve the minutes for the August 27, 2020 Joint Meeting with CNPPID. Motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

Accrual Expenditures for Month -----	\$91,885.84
Cash Expenditures for Month-----	\$113,113.89
Accrual Revenues for Month-----	\$278,688.79
Cash Revenues for Month-----	\$287,955.49
Bank Balance–September 30, 2020-----	\$277,492.50
Accounts Receivable – September 30, 2020-----	\$30,733.30
Investments – Pinnacle Bank – September 30, 2020-----	\$164,528.20
Building Sinking Fund – September 30, 2020-----	\$185,210.19
Vehicle Sinking Fund – September 30, 2020-----	\$93,526.77
Water Resources Fund – September 30, 2020-----	\$613,814.34
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – September 30, 2020-----	\$517.42
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – September 30, 2020-----	\$4,243.16
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – September 30, 2020-----	\$13,236.49
Fort Kearny IPA Balance – September 30, 2020-----	\$8,432.80
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance – September 30, 2020-----	\$4,497.91
North Dry Creek IPA Balance – September 30, 2020-----	\$8,389.10
Water Jamboree – September 30, 2020-----	\$7,914.57
NR MDMA – September 30, 2020-----	\$7,635.32
Odessa IPA – September 30, 2020-----	\$18,845.49

Lynch mentioned Whiskey Slough paid back the \$500 loan and that a \$10 service charge was accrued because the balance dropped below the checking account minimum. Raffety suggested Lynch contact the bank about refunding the service charge. Moved by Raffety, seconded by Bilka, to approve the September 2020 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Larson, Cavanaugh and Johnson

#### **SPECIAL BILLS**

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

AYE: Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Larson, Cavanaugh and Johnson

#### **NRCS REPORT**

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

**Activity and Progress Report:** Kerner reviewed conservation contracts and updated the board on staff changes.

#### **COST SHARE REPORT**

**Well Abandonment** – Thorburn presented three well decommissioning cost-share applications to approve. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grimes, to approve three well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Larson, Cavanaugh and Johnson

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

AYE: Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Larson, Cavanaugh and Johnson

**WCIP** – Thorburn presented one WCIP application for approval. There was discussion about WCIP enrollment guidelines. This item is on the agenda later in the meeting. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Harris, to table approval of WCIP application until later in the meeting. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Larson, Cavanaugh and Johnson

**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**

**Republican Basin IMP Compliance:** Thorburn presented a handout analyzing Republican Basin streamflow depletions and projections of depletions and mound accretions.

**Discuss Armory Remodeling Options** Thorburn explained that Raffety, Grimes, Munter and Thorburn met with a building designer, Todd Koopman, at the armory. Koopman looked over the building and will provide a layout of the current building. Designs made by Koopman will have to be approved by an architect. Thorburn suggested the building committee meet to discuss floor plan options. Grimes commented that he has a connection to someone that might know where the original blueprints are for the armory. Thorburn will investigate.

**Discuss WCIP Sign-Up Options:** Thorburn explained that there is not a designated sign-up period for groundwater and commingled WCIP applications. Thorburn recommended that groundwater applications be approved monthly. Reynolds suggested standardizing sign-up times and setting a sign-up period from December 1<sup>st</sup> to February 28th every year for commingled applications. There was discussion about changing the ranking system to favor applications west of Hwy 183 and adjacent to E-67. There was discussion about the costs associated with installing a new pumping plant. Lundeen asked Thorburn to investigate using Water Sustainability Funds for infrastructure costs on commingled WCIP contracts and present the information to the Planning Committee. Lundeen suggested staff from CNPPID attend the Planning Committee meeting tentatively scheduled for the last week in October. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Raffety, to send revisions to the WCIP application process to the Planning Committee and that the meeting be held prior to the November Board Meeting. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Larson, Cavanaugh and Johnson

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Reynolds, to table the Wohlgemuth WCIP application until the November board meeting. Motion failed.

AYE: Bilka and Raffety

NAY: Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Reynolds and Ryan

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Larson, Cavanaugh and Johnson

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Bilka, to approve the Wohlgemuth WCIP application. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: Raffety

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Larson, Cavanaugh and Johnson

### **NARD REPORT**

**Support for NARD and Foundation:** Reynolds reported that NARD purchased a building for the office. The NARD Foundation will own the building and pay with a loan and funding from NARD Foundation, NARD and Health Insurance Risk Pool fund. There was discussion about the Fall Conference and fundraising shortfall. TBNRD's expenses related to the Fall Conference for Staff and Directors totaled approximately \$3400. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety, to support NARD's decision to purchase a building. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Larson, Cavanaugh and Johnson

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety, to pay the NARD Foundation \$3400 representing TBNRD's expenses related to the NARD Fall Conference that was cancelled. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Larson, Cavanaugh and Johnson

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Schedule Augmentation Committee Meeting:** Thorburn explained that an Augmentation Committee meeting is needed to discuss the PRRIP Cottonwood Ranch project. Thorburn will try to set the Augmentation Committee meeting the same day as the Planning Committee Meeting.

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

**Board Directives to Staff:** Thorburn mentioned that the boardroom was set up according to social distancing guidelines. Thorburn explained that the tables will be arranged differently when more directors attend. Bilka suggested the armory could be used for bigger crowds.

Thorburn asked how to proceed on the Recognition Banquet usually held in January every other year. Bilka suggested discussing the item at the November meeting.

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

### **MONTHLY REPORTS**

**Republican Basin:** Republican Basin Forecast Zoom meeting on November 9-2020 at 10 a.m.

**Platte Basin:** Thorburn working on Water Smart Grant with other Platte Basin NRDs.

**Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin:** NDNR is still working on the IMP Report. A Joint meeting with NDNR, LBNRD and TBNRD will be held when all the reports are completed.

**North Dry Creek:** Staff has been spraying and shredding.

**Odessa IPA:** Staff has been spraying and shredding.

**Sacramento Creek:** Staff has been spraying and shredding.

**Fort Kearny:** Staff has been spraying and shredding.

**Fort Kearny West:** Staff has been spraying and shredding.

**South Dry Creek:** Staff has been spraying and shredding.

**Whiskey Slough:** Staff has been spraying and shredding.

**Middle Lost Creek:** Staff has been spraying and shredding.

**Lake Seldom:** Nothing to report.

**CoHyst/Platte Basin Coalition:** Platte Basin Coalition meeting will be held in December 2020.

**Rainwater Basin Joint Venture:** RBJV committee is working on property tax incentives for habitat and best management practices.

**Platte-Republican Diversion & Republican Basin Augmentation Well:** The agreement was approved earlier in the meeting.

**CNPPID:** Devin Brundage reported Dave Ford will be retiring and repairs that are being done at Elwood Reservoir. Brundage also presented an annual report on deliveries.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Accept Resignation of Phyllis Johnson – SD #1 Director:** Thorburn reported that Phyllis Johnson, Director Sub-District #1 has resigned after service of almost 26 years. Thorburn explained that two years are left on her term. The vacancy will be advertised in local papers. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Grimes, to accept the resignation of Phyllis Johnson, Director, Sub-District #1. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Larson, Cavanaugh and Johnson

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

There were no personnel or legal matters to discuss.

#### **COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

There were no comments or concerns.

#### **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 10, 2020, at 7:30 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

#### **DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Joe Bilka, David Grimes, Ed Harris, Rob Hinrichs, Dave Raffety, Larry Reynolds, Jeff Ryan, and Brad Lundeen

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**OTHERS PRESENT**

Carie Lynch, John Thorburn, Sasha Hahn, Devin Brundage, Nolan Little, Cammie Kerner, and Nate Munter.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Carie Lynch, Asst. Secretary

INDEX OF BOARD DECISIONS  
 TRI-BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
 October 13, 2020

ID	Motion #	Category	Subject	Aye	Nay	Abstain	
	2020-10-13-01	Meeting Administration		5		3	Moved by Harris, seconded by Raffety, to approve the minutes for the September 9, 2020 Board of Directors meeting and hearing. Motion carried.
	2020-10-13-02	Meeting Administration					Moved by Bilka, seconded by Hinrichs, to approve the minutes for the August 27, 2020 Joint Meeting with CNPPID. Motion carried unanimously.
	2020-10-13-03	Meeting Administration		8			Moved by Raffety, seconded by Bilka, to approve the September 2020 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.
	2020-10-13-04	Budget		8			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Ryan, to approve the VISA, attorney and PRD bills. Motion carried.
	2020-10-13-05	Meeting Administration		8			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grimes, to approve three well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2020-10-13-06	Meeting Administration		8			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Ryan, to approve one NSWCP cost-share application. Motion carried.
	2020-10-13-07	Certifications & Transfers	Wohlgemuth WCIP	8			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Harris, to table approval of WCIP application until later in the meeting. Motion carried.
	2020-10-13-08	District Plans & Programs	WCIP	8			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Raffety, to send revisions to the WCIP application process to the Planning Committee and that the meeting be held prior to the November Board Meeting. Motion carried.
	2020-10-13-09	Certifications & Transfers	Wohlgemuth WCIP	2	6		Moved by Bilka, seconded by Reynolds, to table the Wohlgemuth WCIP application until the November board meeting. Motion failed.
	2020-10-13-10	Certifications & Transfers	Wohlgemuth WCIP	7	1		Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Bilka, to approve the Wohlgemuth WCIP application. Motion carried.
	2020-10-13-11	Associations	Support NARD new building	8			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety, to support NARD's decision to purchase a building. Motion carried.

	2020-10-13-12	Budget	NARD Fall Conf. Donation	8			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety, to pay the NARD Foundation \$3400 representing TBNRD's expenses related to the NARD Fall Conference that was cancelled. Motion carried.
	2020-10-13-13	Directors	Phyllis Johnson – SD #1 Resign	8			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Grimes, to accept the resignation of Phyllis Johnson, Director, Sub-District #1. Motion carried.