

MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, April 14, 2020, 7:30 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 7:30 p.m. Lundeen noted Public Meeting Law is posted in the boardroom. Lundeen noted that the meeting is an in-person and virtual meeting as allowed by an Executive Order of Governor Ricketts.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with eleven directors present: Bergstrom, Cavanaugh, Harris, Hinrichs, Johnson and Reynolds were present virtually and Bilka, Garrelts, Larson, Raffety and Lundeen were in person. Jorgensen was 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

Jorgensen was not present, so his absence could not be excused.

MINUTES

Thorburn presented the minutes of the March 10, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting and March 25, 2020 Information and Education Committee Meeting. Moved by Larson, seconded by Raffety, to approve the minutes for the March 10, 2020 Board of Director meeting. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Bilka and Garrelts

ABSENT: Jorgensen

Moved by Johnson, seconded by Harris, to approve the minutes for the March 25, 2020 Information and Education meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

Accrual Expenditures for Month -----	\$105,619.88
Cash Expenditures for Month-----	\$131,417.41
Accrual Revenues for Month-----	\$210,415.47
Cash Revenues for Month-----	\$210,415.47
Bank Balance—March 31, 2020-----	\$201,199.21
Accounts Receivable – March 31, 2020-----	\$492.07
Investments – Pinnacle Bank – March 31, 2020-----	\$264,377.30
Building Sinking Fund – March 31, 2020-----	\$167,055.62
Vehicle Sinking Fund – March 31, 2020-----	\$91,699.85
Water Resources Fund – March 31, 2020-----	\$562,507.24
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – March 31, 2020-----	\$1,663.45
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – March 31, 2020-----	\$5,170.41
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – March 31, 2020-----	\$12,945.41
Fort Kearny IPA Balance – March 31, 2020-----	\$7,690.92
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance – March 31, 2020-----	\$3,727.50
North Dry Creek IPA Balance – March 31, 2020-----	\$9,356.40
Water Jamboree – March 31, 2020-----	\$8,862.06
NR MDMA – March 31, 2020-----	\$7,634.38
Odessa IPA – March 31, 2020-----	\$7,800.26

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

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jorgensen

SPECIAL BILLS

Thorburn presented the VISA, CNPPID and PRD bills for approval. Garrelts asked about billing the PRD for time and expenses. Thorburn reviewed the terms of the Interlocal Agreement, which mentions reimbursement for expenses but does not specify employee hours. Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Raffety, to talk about changing the Interlocal agreement to include time employees spent on the PRD. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jorgensen

There was discussion about the Remboldt Ludke part of the PRD billing. Lynch checked after the meeting and there was not a double billing. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Larson, to approve the VISA, CNPPID and PRD bills. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jorgensen

NRCS REPORT

FSA Farm Plans: Kerner presented farm plans for approval. Moved by Larson, seconded by Raffety, to approve two farm plans for Grant Schutz and Rowe Inc. Motion carried.

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

NAY: Harris and Johnson

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jorgensen

Activity and Progress Report: Cammie Kerner reported that staff is working on CSP and EQIP, Lisa Berkeypile is the new resource conservationist in the Minden office, there are new employees in Holdrege and Elwood offices and she explained the office policy for Covid-19.

COST SHARE REPORT

Well Abandonment – Thorburn presented two well abandonment cost-share applications for approval. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Bergstrom, to approve two well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jorgensen

NSWCP & NRD Applications – Thorburn presented one NSWCP and one TBNRD cost-share application. Moved by Johnson, seconded by Hinrichs, to approve one NSWCP and one TBNRD cost-share application. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jorgensen

WCIP – This item will be discussed later in the meeting.

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

Discuss Whether to Establish Lower North Dry Creek IPA: Thorburn reviewed the final vote count for Lower North Dry Creek and Lost Creek IPAs. The total opposed for Lower North Dry Creek was: 51,135.18 UOB and 36,890.57UOB or 67% opposed. The total for Lost Creek was: 20,534.27 UOB was 11,317.25 UOB or 56% opposed. Thorburn explained the IPAs cannot proceed as presented. The projects could be resubmitted, provided the boundaries change. Raffety suggested sending a card to landowners showing the results. Moved by Raffety, seconded by Bilka, to send a notification to landowners showing the results of the voting process for Lower North Dry Creek and Lost Creek IPAs. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jorgensen

Discuss Whether to Establish Lost Creek IPA: This item was discussed in the previous agenda item.

Review and Approve ‘Commingled WCIP’ Applications: Thorburn presented WCIP applications for consideration. He explained the ranking process. There was discussion about the points that would be required for approval. Garrelts suggested providing the information in a table form showing what points each application received. Thorburn reviewed the funding sources for the applications.

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Garrelts, to approve Water Conservation Incentive Program applications that had three points or more. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Lundeen

ABSENT: Jorgensen

Appoint At-Large Director: Thorburn explained that an election vacancy notice was published to find a replacement for David Olsen, who resigned in March 2020. Thorburn stated that Jeff Ryan of Heartwell, NE was the only applicant. The remaining term for Director at Large would run until December 31, 2022 Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Hinrichs, to appoint Jeff Ryan as Director-At-Large for the remainder of David Olsen's term, which will be effective on May 12, 2020 and end on December 31, 2022. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jorgensen

NARD REPORT

NARD Report: Reynolds mentioned the National Envirothon has been cancelled and the NARD Papio Basin tour in June could be cancelled.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Information and Education Committee: Thorburn reviewed items discussed at the Information and Education Committee Meeting on March 25, 2020 which included the new website design, evapotransfer survey, water use hotline, mass texting and new NRD logo. There was discussion about the frequency and cost of mass texting.

STAFF REPORTS & NECESSARY ACTION

Board Directives to Staff: There were no directives to staff.

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

MONTHLY REPORTS

Republican Basin (NRRMDA): Nothing to report.

Platte Basin: Platte Basin-Wide meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 15, 2020 at TBNRD.

Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin: Advertisement for bids for the Sorenson Structure deadline is May 1, 2020.

North Dry Creek: Nothing to report.

Odessa IPA: Loan has been paid in full.

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: Kuck did excavation work.

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: PRD Board meeting was held to approve invoices, discuss the water right application and the prescribed burn. The application for the water right will be resubmitted without CNPPID as an applicant.

CNPPID: Ford reported Lake McConaughey is at 85% capacity.

NEW BUSINESS

Review Interim Office Management Policy: Thorburn presented the Personnel and Office Management During Coronavirus Pandemic. Thorburn mentioned that some employees are working from home and the armory is getting ready to have staff move there if necessary. Moved by Raffety, seconded by Larson to approve the Personnel and Office Management During Coronavirus Pandemic Policy subject to any federal, state, or local changes. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jorgensen

Consider Consolidating ad hoc Project Management Committees: Thorburn reviewed current ad hoc committees relating to projects and suggested combining them but because Jeff Ryan will be new to the board, other committees will need to be adjusted. Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Bilka to table reorganization of committees until the May board meeting. Motion carried.

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

NAY: Garrelts

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jorgensen

Authorize NRD Logistical Assistance to Two Rivers Public Health Department: Thorburn mentioned that staff has been participating in conference calls, using the armory for FEMA deliveries and distributions and staff has been transporting supplies using NRD vehicles. Time is being tracked for potential FEMA reimbursement. Garrelts mentioned names of others willing to help.

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Moved by Bilka, seconded by Garrelts to authorize TBNRD to offer logistical assistance to Two Rivers Public Health. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jorgensen

Authorize Plumbing Repairs at Armory: Thorburn presented an estimate for plumbing repairs at the armory. Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka to approve the plumber's estimate for at the armory. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jorgensen

PERSONELL AND LEGAL MATTERS

There were no legal or personnel matters to discuss.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There were no comments or concerns.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Carie Lynch, John Thorburn, Sasha Hahn, Dave Ford, Nolan Little, Jeff Ryan, Cammie Kerner, David Grimes and Wayne Anderson and Dave Ford.

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	
	2020-04-14-01	Meeting Administration		9	2		Moved by Larson, seconded by Raffety, to approve the minutes for the March 10, 2020 Board of Director meeting. Motion carried.
	2020-04-14-02	Meeting Administration					Moved by Johnson, seconded by Harris, to approve the minutes for the March 25, 2020 Information and Education meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
	2020-04-14-03	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka, to approve the March 2020 Financial Report and submit for audit. Motion carried.
	2020-04-14-04	Agreements	PRD Interlocal Agreement	11			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Raffety, to talk about changing the Interlocal agreement to include time employees spent on the PRD. Motion carried.
	2020-04-14-05	Budget		11			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Larson, to approve the VISA, CNPPID and PRD bills. Motion carried.
	2020-04-14-06	Meeting Administration		9	2		Moved by Larson, seconded by Raffety, to approve two farm plans for Grant Schutz and Rowe Inc. Motion carried.
	2020-04-14-07	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Bergstrom, to approve two well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2020-04-14-08	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Johnson, seconded by Hinrichs, to approve one NSWCP and one TBNRD cost-share application. Motion carried.
	2020-04-14-09	Projects	LNDC & LC IPAS	11			Moved by Raffety, seconded by Bilka, to send a notification to landowners showing the results of the voting process for Lower North Dry Creek and Lost Creek IPAs. Motion carried.
	2020-04-14-10	District Plans & Programs	WCIP	10		1	Moved by Bilka, seconded by Garrelts, to approve Water Conservation Incentive Program applications that had three points or more. Motion carried.
	2020-04-14-11	Directors	Jeff Ryan	11			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Hinrichs, to appoint Jeff Ryan as Director-At-Large for the remainder of David Olsen's term, which will be

							effective on May 12, 2020 and end on December 31, 2022. Motion carried.
	2020-04-14-12	Personnel	Covid-19	11			Moved by Raffety, seconded by Larson to approve the Personnel and Office Management During Coronavirus Pandemic Policy subject to any federal, state, or local changes. Motion carried.
	2020-04-14-13	Meeting Administration		10	1		Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Bilka to table reorganization of committees until the May board meeting. Motion carried.
	2020-04-14-14	Agreements	TRPH Covid 19 - Armory	11			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Garrelts to authorize TBNRD to offer logistical assistance to Two Rivers Public Health. Motion carried.
	2020-04-14-15	Budget	Armory	11			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka to approve the plumber's estimate for at the armory. Motion carried.;