

**MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday, June 9, 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. 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: Bilka, Cavanaugh, Garrelts, Harris, Hinrichs, Johnson, Larson, Raffety, Ryan, Reynolds and Lundeen. Cavanaugh and Johnson were present via video conference. Bergstrom 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**

There were no absences to excuse.

**MINUTES**

Thorburn presented the minutes of the May 12, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting, May 20, 2020 Special Board Meeting, May 28, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting and June 1, 2020 Projects & Construction Committee Meeting. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Garrelts, to approve the minutes for the May 12, 2020 Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Garrelts, to approve the minutes for the May 20, 2020 Special Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Harris and Raffety

ABSENT: Bergstrom

Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Hinrichs, to approve the minutes for the May 28, 2020 Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Larson, seconded by Raffety, to approve the minutes for the June 1, 2020 Projects & Construction Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

Accrual Expenditures for Month .....	\$107,663.29
Cash Expenditures for Month.....	\$129,920.74
Accrual Revenues for Month.....	\$345,634.16
Cash Revenues for Month.....	\$343,741.46
Bank Balance—May 31, 2020.....	\$324,295.81
Accounts Receivable – May 31, 2020.....	\$2,680.88
Investments – Pinnacle Bank – May 31, 2020.....	\$264,464.58

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Building Sinking Fund – May 31, 2020-----	\$167,055.62
Vehicle Sinking Fund – May 31, 2020-----	\$91,699.85
Water Resources Fund – May 31, 2020-----	\$562,507.24
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – May 31, 2020-----	\$2,614.68
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – May 31, 2020-----	\$5,479.91
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – May 31, 2020-----	\$13,467.06
Fort Kearny IPA Balance – May 31, 2020-----	\$8,104.12
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance – May 31, 2020-----	\$4,536.41
North Dry Creek IPA Balance – May 31, 2020-----	\$9,805.65
Water Jamboree – May 31, 2020-----	\$7,914.30
NR MDMA – May 31, 2020-----	\$7,634.75
Odessa IPA – May 31, 2020-----	\$10,709.88

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

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom

**SPECIAL BILLS**

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

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

NAY: Cavanaugh

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom

**NRCS REPORT**

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

**Activity and Progress Report:** Kerner reported staff has been working on CSP and EQIP. She updated the board on new staff and Covid-19 office procedures.

**COST SHARE REPORT**

**Well Abandonment** – Thorburn presented one well abandonment cost-share application for approval. Moved by Larson, seconded by Ryan, to approve one well decommissioning cost-share application. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom

**NSWCP & NRD Applications** – Thorburn presented five NSWCP and two TBNRD cost-share applications. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety, to approve five NSWCP and two TBNRD cost-share applications. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom

**WCIP** – There were no WCIP applications to approve.

**GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT**

**Groundwater & Certified Acre Transfers** – Thorburn presented two groundwater transfers for Edward Classen and one irrigated acre transfer for Mike Thorell. Lance Thorell was present to answer questions. Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka, to approve two groundwater transfers for Edward Classen and one irrigated acre transfer for Mike Thorell. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom

**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. Dale Needham presented information about wells in Kearney County.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Tree Program Report:** Munter gave a presentation on the 2020 Tree Planting Program.

**Select Replacement for Sub-District #6 Director:** Thorburn reported that one application for Director for Sub-District #6 was submitted by David Grimes. Grimes would fill the remainder of the term for Greg Jorgensen. Jorgensen's term ends on January 1, 2020. Grimes was present and spoke about his farming history. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Hinrichs, to appoint David Grimes as director for Sub-District #6 for the remainder of Jorgensen's term ending January 1, 2020. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom

**Allocate NSWCP Cost-Share Funds for FY 2020-21:** Thorburn stated that the Projects and Construction Committee recommended the following category percentages for NSWCP funding: Erosion – 10%, Range Management – 20% and Water Management 70%. Moved by Raffety, seconded by Reynolds, to accept the Projects & Construction Committee's recommendation for NSWCP fund allocation: Erosion – 10%, Range Management – 20% and Water Management 70%. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom

**NARD REPORT**

**NARD Report:** Reynolds reported that the NARD office in Lincoln was totaled in a fire. NARD is making a plan to relocate. Reynolds mentioned that health insurance rates will increase 7.5% this year. Dental rates will remain the same. Little gave a presentation on Spring 2020 Water Level Data.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Projects & Construction Committee:** Thorburn reviewed agenda items from the meeting. Max Murray was also present at the meeting.

**Executive Committee:** Thorburn mentioned the main topic was the Cottonwood Ranch Project.

**STAFF REPORTS & NECESSARY ACTION**

**Board Directives to Staff:** Thorburn mentioned TBNRD and NRCS are holding a food drive.

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

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

**Republican Basin:** Thorburn mentioned that a Drought Management Plan will be developed.

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

**Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin:** Thorburn, Sorensen, Lutz and Contractor will meet at site.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**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:** Budget is in process and Water Right Application will be filed.

**CNPPID:** Ford reported Lake McConaughey is at 3256.7 elevation.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Agreement with PRRIP for Cottonwood Ranch Project:** This agenda item will be discussed in executive session.

**PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTERS**

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Garrelts to move to executive session at 2:46 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom

Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Cavanaugh to move out of executive session at 3:03 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom

**COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

There were no comments or concerns.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING**

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 14, 2020, 1:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Joe Bilka, Mike Cavanaugh, Todd Garrelts, 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, Tammy Fahrenbruch, Lance Thorell, Nancy Pemberton, Cammie Kerner, Jeff Marshall, Dale Needham and David Grimes.

Respectfully Submitted:

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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	
	2020-06-09-01	Meeting Administration		12			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Garrelts, to approve the minutes for the May 12, 2020 Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.
	2020-06-09-02	Meeting Administration		10		2	Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Garrelts, to approve the minutes for the May 20, 2020 Special Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.
	2020-06-09-03	Meeting Administration					Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Hinrichs, to approve the minutes for the May 28, 2020 Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
	2020-06-09-04	Meeting Administration					Moved by Larson, seconded by Raffety, to approve the minutes for the June 1, 2020 Projects & Construction Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
	2020-06-09-05	Meeting Administration		12			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Reynolds, to approve the May 2020 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.
	2020-06-09-06	Budget		11	1		Moved by Bilka, seconded by Reynolds, to approve the VISA, attorney, Flatwater and PRD bills. Motion carried.
	2020-06-09-07	Meeting Administration		12			Moved by Larson, seconded by Ryan, to approve one well decommissioning cost-share application. Motion carried.
	2020-06-09-08	Meeting Administration		12			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety, to approve five NSWCP and two TBNRD cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2020-06-09-09	Certification & Transfers	Classen, Thorell	12			Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bilka, to approve two groundwater transfers for Edward Classen and one irrigated acre transfer for Mike Thorell. Motion carried.
	2020-06-09-10	Director	David Grimes, Sub-District 6	12			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Hinrichs, to appoint David Grimes as director for Sub-District #6 for the remainder of Jorgensen's term ending January 1, 2020. Motion carried.

	2020-06-09-11	District Plans & Programs	NSWCP allocation	12			Moved by Raffety, seconded by Reynolds, to accept the Projects & Construction Committee's recommendation for NSWCP fund allocation: Erosion – 10%, Range Management – 20% and Water Management 70%. Motion carried.
	2020-06-09-12	Meeting Administration		12			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Garrelts to move to executive session at 2:46 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.
	2020-06-09-13	Meeting Administration		12			Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Cavanaugh to move out of executive session at 3:03 p.m. for the protection of the public to discuss legal matters. Motion carried.