

MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, October 22, 2025, 7:30 p.m.
Tri-Basin Natural Resources District
1723 Burlington, Holdrege, NE

The regular monthly board meeting of the Tri-Basin Natural Resources District (NRD) was called to order by Chairman, Todd Garrelts at 7:30 p.m. Garrelts noted Public Meeting Law was posted in the meeting room.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with 10 directors present: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Philips, Reynolds, and Ryan.

Notice of the meeting was published in the Holdrege Citizen, Valley Voice and Minden Courier and announced on radio station KRVN, Lexington.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

No absences to excuse

MEETING AGENDA

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Ryan to accept the meeting agenda for the October 22, 2025 Board Meeting. Motion carried

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Philips, Reynolds, Ryan

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Grams, Grimes, Harris, Larson

MINUTES

Thorburn presented the minutes of September 17, 2025, Board of Directors meeting and NRD FY 2025-26 Levy hearing.

Moved by Bilka seconded by Grams, to approve the minutes for the September 17, 2025, Regular Board of Directors meeting as corrected. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Philips, Reynolds, Ryan

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Grams, Grimes, Harris, Larson

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Ryan presented the financial report for the month of September 2025 as follows:

Accrual Expenditures for Month -----	\$147,272.21
Accrual Revenues for Month-----	\$353,530.79
Actual Expenditures for Month -----	\$153,775.13
Actual Revenues for Month-----	\$320,021.46
Main Checking- September 30, 2025-----	\$295,965.25
Accounts Receivable – September 30, 2025-----	\$424.18
CD/Sinking Funds – Bruning Bank – September 30, 2025-----	\$161,966.21
Building Sinking Fund – September 30, 2025-----	\$87,457.87
Vehicle Sinking Fund – September 30, 2025-----	\$80,383.62
Water Resources Fund – September 30, 2025-----	\$135,156.52
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – September 30, 2025-----	\$7,703.34
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – September 30, 2025-----	\$13,014.30
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – September 30, 2025-----	\$11,656.88
Fort Kearny IPA Balance – September 30, 2025-----	\$10,829.74

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South Dry Creek IPA Balance—September 30, 2025-----	\$11,656.88
North Dry Creek IPA Balance – September 30, 2025-----	\$10,113.62
Water Jamboree – September 30, 2025-----	\$3,964.29
Odessa IPA – September 30, 2025-----	\$20,815.99
Sacramento Creek IPA Loan Balance – September 30, 2025-----	\$0

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Bilka to accept the September 2025 Financial Report and submit for audit. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Philips, Reynolds, Ryan

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Harris, Larson

SPECIAL BILLS

Thorburn presented the VISA and attorney bills for approval.

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Bergstrom to approve the Visa and attorney bills. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Philips, Reynolds, Ryan

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Harris, Larson

NRCS REPORT

FSA Farm Plans: Nothing to report

Activity and Progress Report: Nothing to report

COST SHARE REPORT

Well Decommissioning – Thorburn presented three Well Decommissioning cost-share application for approval.

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grimes, to approve three Well Decommissioning cost-share application for approval. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Philips, Reynolds, Ryan

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Harris, Larson

NSWCP & NRD Applications – Nothing to approve

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

Nothing to report

Educational Land Leases – There were no Educational Lands and Funds applications for approval.

OTHER BUSINESS

The public was given the opportunity to bring other specific business or non-agenda items before the board for comment or discussion.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Thorburn mentioned that Kerner had talked to the board last month about renewing our scope of work agreement. The agreement is an ongoing agreement, cooperative agreement between the two agencies.

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Lundeen, to approve the renewal of the USDA/NRCS Scope of Work Agreement. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Philips, Reynolds, Ryan

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Harris, Larson

Thorburn mentioned that last month he talked about needing to select three Platte Basin Stakeholders. Board decided to appoint two of the three stakeholders and leave third spot open for the time being.

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Ryan, to appoint Reed McClymont and Ty Carlson as stakeholders for the Platte Basin for approval. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Philips, Reynolds, Ryan

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Harris, Larson

NARD REPORT

There are no legislative resolutions presented at the NARD Fall Conference. Directors were asked if there was any interest in attending the Legislative Conference in Lincoln in January. At NARD Annual Conference Larry Reynolds received his 40 years of service and John Thorburn received his 30 years of service awards. Tri-Basin received ACE Camp Champion Award for sending students every year since it started as well as Friend of ACE Camp by sending students in 2025.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Thorburn suggested scheduling a Executive Committee Meeting and a Planning Committee Meeting in November. It was decided that the Executive Committee Meeting will be held November 10, 2025 at 9:00 am and the Planning Committee Meeting will be November 10, 2025 at 10:00 am.

STAFF REPORTS & NECESSARY ACTION

Vaccination Clinic is November 3rd, if you plan to participate, please let Sasha know by Friday, October 24th. Tri-Basin Food Drive runs now until October 31st, there is a box in the entryway. Regenerative Ag Conference November 11th - tickets available.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Republican Basin: Nothing to report

Platte Basin: Nothing to report

Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin: Nothing to report.

North Dry Creek: Spraying for Canadian Thistle

Odessa IPA: Nothing to report

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: Nothing to report.

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: Nothing to report

CNPPID Report: Dicke reported that they had to drop Johnson Lake last month to put some boat ramps in. They are coordinating getting the lake down and doing some maintenance work and then getting it back up so they can get the docks out and then getting it back down for those hydro cycling.

NEW BUSINESS

Thorburn asked the board to consider the resignation of Raffety's position as director and advertise Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grams, to accept the resignation of Dave Raffety as NRD director in sub-district #6 and to advertise for a replacement, with applications due by November 7, 2025. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Philips, Reynolds, Ryan

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Harris, Larson

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Nothing to report

PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTERS

NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. at Tri-Basin Natural Resource District, Holdrege, NE.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm

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DIRECTORS PRESENT

Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Philips, Reynolds, Ryan

OTHERS PRESENT:

John Thorburn, Sasha Hahn, Scott Dicke, Andrew Stade, Nolan Little, Nicole Simeon

Respectfully Submitted:

Nicole Simeon, Asst. Secretary

INDEX OF BOARD DECISIONS
TRI-BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
August 20, 2025

ID	Motion #	Category	Subject	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Motion
	2025-10-22-01	Meeting Administration		9			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Ryan to accept the meeting agenda for the October 22, 2025 Board Meeting. Motion carried.
	2025-10-22-02	Meeting Administration		9			Moved by Bilka seconded by Grams, to approve the minutes for the September 17, 2025, Regular Board of Directors meeting as corrected. Motion carried.
	2025-10-22-03	Meeting Administration		10			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Bilka to accept the September 2025 Financial Report and submit for audit. Motion carried.
	2025-10-22-04	Meeting Administration		10			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Bergstrom to approve the Visa and attorney bills. Motion carried.
	2025-10-22-05	Meeting Administration		10			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grimes, to approve three Well Decommissioning cost-share applications for approval. Motion carried.
	2025-10-22-06	District Plan & Programs		10			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Lundeen, to approve the renewal of the USDA/NRCS Scope of Work Agreement. Motion carried.
	2025-10-22-07	Meeting Administration		10			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Ryan, to appoint Reed McClymont and Ty Carlson as stakeholders for the Platte Basin for approval. Motion carried.
	2025-10-22-08	Meeting Administration		10			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grams, to accept the resignation of Dave Raffety as NRD director in sub-district #6 and to advertise for a replacement, with applications due by November 7, 2025. Motion carried.

