

MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 1:30 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, Todd Garrelts at 1:31 p.m. Garrelts noted Public Meeting Law is posted in the boardroom.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with eleven directors present: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Philips, Raffety, Ryan and Reynolds. Bergstrom and Larson were absent. Notice of the meeting was published in the Holdrege Citizen, Valley Voice and Minden Courier and announced on radio station KRVN, Lexington.

EXCUSE ABSENCES

There were no absences to excuse.

MINUTES

Thorburn presented the minutes of the February 21, 2023, Board of Directors meetings and March 8, 2023, Planning Committee meeting. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Lundeen, to approve the minutes for the February 21, 2023 Regular Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Philips, Raffety and Garrelts

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Grimes, to approve the minutes for the March 8, 2023 Planning Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ryan presented the financial report for the month of February 2023 as follows:

Accrual Expenditures for Month -----	\$108,789.76
Accrual Revenues for Month-----	\$69,324.62
Actual Expenditures for Month -----	\$121,787.13
Actual Revenues for Month-----	\$189,249.94
Bank Balance–February 28, 2023-----	\$149,455.39
Accounts Receivable – February 28, 2023-----	\$46,108.87
Investments – Pinnacle Bank – February 28, 2023-----	\$14,893.94
Building Sinking Fund – February 28, 2023-----	\$169,562.62
Vehicle Sinking Fund – February 28, 2023-----	\$71,701.31
Water Resources Fund – February 28, 2023-----	\$444,091.72
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – February 28, 2023-----	\$13,681.98
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – February 28, 2023-----	\$8,030.37
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – February 28, 2023-----	\$10,675.90
Fort Kearny IPA Balance – February 28, 2023-----	\$15,251.35
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance – February 28, 2023-----	\$7,637.74
North Dry Creek IPA Balance – February 28, 2023-----	\$6,820.71
Water Jamboree – February 28, 2023-----	\$15,251.35
NR MDMA – February 28, 2023-----	\$7,637.74
Odessa IPA – February 28, 2023-----	\$20,035.34
Sacramento Creek IPA Loan Balance – February 28, 2023-----	\$8,336.72

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Hinrichs, to accept the February 2023 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

SPECIAL BILLS

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

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

NRCS REPORT

FSA Farm Plans: There was one farm plan to approve. Moved by Bilka, seconded by Reynolds to approve one farm plan for Brandon Jameson. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

Activity and Progress Report: Kerner reported staff has been working CSP, FSA status reviews and RCPP dual connections. Bilka commented on the large amount of funding brought to the area by USDA/NRCS staff.

COST SHARE REPORT

Well Decommissioning – Thorburn presented three well decommissioning applications for approval. Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Philips to approve three well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

NSWCP & NRD Applications – Thorburn presented two NSWCP applications and one Tri-Basin Cost-Share amendment for approval. Moved by Grimes, seconded by Harris to approve two NSWCP Cost-Share applications and one Tri-Basin cost-share amendment. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

Groundwater, Certified Acre Transfers & WCIP – Thorburn presented two irrigated acre transfer requests (Dornhoff, Burchell and Hassebrook), one well variance for CNPPID.

Moved by Ryan, seconded by Larson to approve two irrigated acre transfers, one well variance and one HEL compliance request. Motion carried.

AYE: Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Philips, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: Bilka

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

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 or discussion.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Groundwater Quality Update - Thorburn: Thorburn reviewed TBNRD groundwater quality and quantity information. Thorburn reviewed the Producer Connect Nitrogen Dashboard program being developed by Longitude 103.

NARD REPORT

NARD Report: Reynolds commented on the Producer Connect program and the NARD 2023-2024 budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Committee: Garrelts commented that committee meetings can only have six directors attending unless advertised. He asked that if directors want to attend a committee meeting, call Carie or John. Thorburn reviewed action from the Planning Committee meeting.

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Grimes to accept the following Planning Committee recommendations: 1. To not allow transfers of canal water from a high depletion area to a low depletion area and 2. To allow renewal of WCIP contracts for both surface and groundwater and review the budget concerning WCIP contracts. Motion carried.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Harris, Hinrichs, Philips, Raffety, Reynolds and Ryan

NAY: Grimes and Lundeen

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

Executive Committee Meeting: Thorburn reviewed topics discussed at the March 13, 2023, Joint Executive Committee meeting with CPNRD. The main topics were the excess flow agreement and Longitude 103 software.

STAFF REPORTS & NECESSARY ACTION

Board Directives to Staff: There were no staff directives.

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

MONTHLY REPORTS

Republican Basin: Nothing to report.

Platte Basin: Thorburn presented video of the North Platte NRD reuse pit project. Reuse pit size is limited to under 1500-acre feet.

TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MINUTES

March 14, 2023

Page Four

Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin: Nothing to report.

North Dry Creek: IPA meetings were held. Proposed assessment will be presented at April board meeting.

Odessa IPA: IPA meetings were held. Proposed assessment will be presented at April board meeting.

Sacramento Creek: IPA were meetings held. Proposed assessment will be presented at April board meeting.

Fort Kearny: IPA were meetings held. Proposed assessment will be presented at April board meeting.

Fort Kearny West: IPA were meetings held. Proposed assessment will be presented at April board meeting.

South Dry Creek: IPA were meetings held. Proposed assessment will be presented at April board meeting.

Whiskey Slough: IPA were meetings held. Proposed assessment will be presented at April board meeting.

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 Well: Nothing to report.

CNPPID Report: Scott Dicke reported Lake McConaughy is at 49.5% capacity.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There was discussion about offset requirements for Platte Basin NRDs. Lundeen asked that Curtis Scheele and Pat Nott be present at the Planning Committee meeting. Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Hinrichs to have a Planning Committee meeting to discuss nitrogen parameters, identify potential intentional recharge sites and to advertise as a Special Board meeting. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Reynolds to amend the By-Laws to hold all regular board meetings at 1:30 in all months. Motion failed.

AYE: Bilka, Garrelts and Raffety

NAY: Grams, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Philips, Ryan

ABSTAIN: Reynolds

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTERS

Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Ryan to move to Executive Session to discuss legal matters for the protection of the public at 2:52 p.m. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grimes to move out of the Executive Session to discuss legal matters for the protection of the public at 3:12 p.m. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Larson

NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Brian Bergstrom, Joe Bilka, Ed Harris, Todd Garrelts, Joel Grams, David Grimes, Rob Hinrichs, Joe Larson, Brad Lundeen, Reed Philips, Dave Raffety, Jeff Ryan and Larry Reynolds.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Curtis Scheele, John Thorburn, Scott Dicke, Nate Munter, Cammie Kerner, Gary Robinson, Reed McClymont, Anton Hassebrook, Bob Burchell, Amy Dutton, Tammy Fahrenbruch, Sasha Hahn, and Carie Lynch.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carie Lynch, Asst. Secretary

INDEX OF BOARD DECISIONS
 TRI-BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
 March 14, 2023

ID	Motion #	Category	Subject	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Motion
	2023-03-14-01	Meeting Administration		8		3	Moved by Bilka, seconded by Lundeen, to approve the minutes for the February 21, 2023 Regular Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.
	2023-03-14-02	Meeting Administration					Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Grimes, to approve the minutes for the March 8, 2023 Planning Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
	2023-03-14-03	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Hinrichs, to accept the February 2023 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.
	2023-03-14-04	Budget		11			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety, to approve the Visa and attorney bills. Motion carried.
	2023-03-14-05	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Reynolds to approve one farm plan for Brandon Jameson. Motion carried.
	2023-03-14-06	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Philips to approve three well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2023-03-14-07	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Grimes, seconded by Harris to approve two NSWCP Cost-Share applications and one Tri-Basin cost-share amendment. Motion carried.
	2023-03-14-08	Certification & Transfers	CNPPID Well variance	10	1		Moved by Ryan, seconded by Larson to approve two irrigated acre transfers, one well variance and one HEL compliance request. Motion carried.
	2023-03-14-09	Policies – By-Laws	High depletion to low depletion and WCIP contract renewal	9	2		Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Grimes to accept the following Planning Committee recommendations: 1. To not allow transfers of canal water from a high depletion area to a low depletion area and 2. To allow renewal of WCIP contracts for both surface and groundwater and review the budget concerning WCIP contracts. Motion carried.
	2023-03-14-10	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Hinrichs to have a Planning Committee meeting to discuss nitrogen parameters, identify potential intentional recharge sites and to

							advertise as a Special Board meeting. Motion carried.
	2023-03-14-11	Directors	Change Board meeting time-Failed	3	7	1	Moved by Bilka, seconded by Reynolds to amend the By-Laws to hold all regular board meetings at 1:30 in all months. Motion failed.
	2023-03-14-12	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Ryan to move to Executive Session to discuss legal matters for the protection of the public at 2:52 p.m. Motion carried.
	2023-03-14-13	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grimes to move out of the Executive Session to discuss legal matters for the protection of the public at 3:12 p.m. Motion carried.