

MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 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, Todd Garrelts at 7:30 p.m. Garrelts noted Public Meeting Law is posted in the boardroom.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with nine directors present: Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Larson, Philips, Raffety and Reynolds. Lundeen and Bergstrom arrived at 7:31 p.m. Harris and Ryan 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 April 11, 2023, Board of Directors meetings. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Grimes, to approve the minutes for the April 11, 2023 Regular Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Larson, Lundeen, Philips, Raffety and Reynolds

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Harris and Ryan

FINANCIAL REPORT

Hinrichs presented the financial report for the month of April 2023 as follows:

Accrual Expenditures for Month -----	\$80,886.45
Accrual Revenues for Month-----	\$139,621.02
Actual Expenditures for Month -----	\$132,298.95
Actual Revenues for Month-----	\$108,800.81
Bank Balance–April 30, 2023-----	\$84,632.58
Accounts Receivable – April 30, 2023-----	\$98,932.20
Investments – Pinnacle Bank – April 30, 2023-----	\$14,901.16
Building Sinking Fund – April 30, 2023-----	\$169,716.85
Vehicle Sinking Fund – April 30, 2023-----	\$71,766.53
Water Resources Fund – April 30, 2023-----	\$444,495.66
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – April 30, 2023-----	\$14,159.16
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – April 30, 2023-----	\$8,380.69
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – April 30, 2023-----	\$6,050.29
Fort Kearny IPA Balance – April 30, 2023-----	\$10,676.07
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance – April 30, 2023-----	\$2,150.02
North Dry Creek IPA Balance – April 30, 2023-----	\$2,150.02
Water Jamboree – April 30, 2023-----	\$6,380.29
NR MDMA – April 30, 2023-----	\$7,637.86
Odessa IPA – April 30, 2023-----	\$20,035.66
Sacramento Creek IPA Loan Balance – April 30, 2023-----	8,336.72

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

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Larson, Lundeen, Philips, Raffety and Reynolds

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Harris and Ryan

SPECIAL BILLS

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

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Larson, Lundeen, Philips, Raffety and Reynolds

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Harris and Ryan

NRCS REPORT

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

Activity and Progress Report: Tim Schaaf reported USDA/NRCS will be receiving special funding.

COST SHARE REPORT

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

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Larson, Lundeen, Philips, Raffety and Reynolds

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Harris and Ryan

NSWCP & NRD Applications – Thorburn presented four NSWCP applications and one Tri-Basin Cost-Share application for approval. The Walbridge tree planting was cancelled. Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Bilka to approve four NSWCP cost-share applications and one Tri-Basin cost-share application. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Larson, Lundeen, Philips, Raffety and Reynolds

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Harris and Ryan

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

Groundwater, Certified Acre Transfers & WCIP – 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 or discussion. Gary Robison, Citizens Against the Merger, asked TBNRD to consider a meeting with CNPPID to discuss opposition to the merger.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NARD REPORT

NARD Report: Reynolds reported the Basin Tour will be June 12-13, 2023, starting in Kearney. Reynolds commented on the purpose of the UNL TAPS program and the effects of limiting nitrogen.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

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: Thorburn reported not a “water short” year yet.

Platte Basin: Drought Task Force meeting will be held in Ogallala, NE on May 23, 2023. Larson and Reynolds are planning on attending.

Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin: Thorburn explained a plan by the City of Minden to drill an aquaculture well at Minden West Estate. Lundeen asked for a presentation prior to approving the well permit.

North Dry Creek: Nothing to report.

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: Item will be discussed under another agenda item.

Platte-Republican Diversion & Republican Basin Augmentation Well: Nothing to report.

CNPPID Report: Dicke reported the canals are full, deliveries are being made and Lake McConaughy is at 53% capacity. Dicke thanked Nate Munter for keeping him updated on a prescribed burn recently. Dicke mentioned TBNRD Directors, and staff are welcome to attend a CNPPID Tour scheduled for 5-23-23.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Support for RBJV Integrated Water Management Specialist Proposal: Thorburn explained that RBJV is applying for a three-year grant that will fund two Integrated Water Program Coordinators. One will operate in UBBNRD and the other work in CPNRD and TBNRD. NRDs would provide matching funds for office space and vehicles. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Philips to support the RBJV Integrated Water Program Coordinator grant. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Bilka, Grams, Grimes, Hinrichs, Larson, Lundeen, Philips, Raffety and Reynolds

NAY: Garrelts

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Harris and Ryan

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There were no comments or concerns.

PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTERS

There were no personnel or legal matters.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

John Thorburn, Sasha Hahn, Scott Dicke, Tim Schaaf, Gary Robison, Reed McClymont, Ed Schrock, Matt Wells and Carie Lynch.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carie Lynch, Asst. Secretary

INDEX OF BOARD DECISIONS
 TRI-BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
 May 9, 2023

ID	Motion #	Category	Subject	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Motion
	2023-05-09-01	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Grimes, to approve the minutes for the April 11, 2023 Regular Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.
	2023-05-09-02	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Bergstrom, to accept the April 2023 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.
	2023-05-09-03	Budget		11			Moved by Raffety, seconded by Hinrichs, to approve the Visa and attorney bills. Motion carried.
	2023-05-09-04	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Bilka, seconded by Grimes to approve two well decommissioning cost-share applications. Motion carried.
	2023-05-09-05	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Bilka to approve four NSWCP cost-share applications and one Tri-Basin cost-share application. Motion carried.
	2023-05-09-06	Budget	RBJV Grant	10	1		Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Philips to support the RBJV Integrated Water Program Coordinator grant. Motion carried.