

MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, October 8, 2024, 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 ten directors present: Garrelts, Grams, Grimes, Harris, Hinrichs, Lundeen, Philips, Ryan, Raffety and Reynolds. Larson arrived at 7:37. Bergstrom and Bilka were absent. Notice of the meeting was published in the Holdrege Citizen, Valley Voice and Minden Courier and announced on radio station KRVN, Lexington.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

There were no absences to excuse.

MINUTES

Thorburn presented the minutes of the September 10, 2024, Board of Directors meeting and hearings, and September 10, 2024, Building Committee meeting. Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Raffety, to approve the minutes for the September 10, 2024, Regular Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Philips

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Bilka and Larson

Moved by Ryan, seconded by Grams, to approve the 2024-2025 Budget Hearing and Eaton Township Hearing. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Harris and Philips

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Bilka and Larson

Moved by Grimes, seconded by Ryan, to approve the minutes for the September 10, 2024, Building Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ryan presented the financial report for the month of September 2024 as follows:

Accrual Expenditures for Month	\$123,182.69
Accrual Revenues for Month.....	\$264,141.37
Actual Expenditures for Month	\$123,005.98
Actual Revenues for Month.....	\$268,297.83
Main Checking-August 31, 2024.....	\$485,246.65
Accounts Receivable – August 31, 2024.....	\$7,925.92
CD/Sinking Funds – Bruning Bank – September 30, 2024.....	\$158,480.00
Building Sinking Fund – September 30, 2024.....	\$3,815.67
Vehicle Sinking Fund – September 30, 2024.....	\$54,643.63
Water Resources Fund – September 30, 2024.....	\$9,713.02
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – September 30, 2024.....	\$19,714.59
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – September 30, 2024.....	\$11,037.13
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – September 30, 2024.....	\$9,614.30
Fort Kearny IPA Balance – September 30, 2024.....	\$10,815.78
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance – September 30, 2024.....	\$2,095.64
North Dry Creek IPA Balance – September 30, 2024.....	\$9,861.83

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Water Jamboree – September 30, 2024-----	\$4,661.02
Odessa IPA – September 30, 2024-----	\$20,508.99
Sacramento Creek IPA Loan Balance – September 30, 2024-----	\$1,011.61

Moved by Raffety, seconded by Reynolds, to accept the October 2024 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom, Bilka and Larson

SPECIAL BILLS

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

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Bilka

NRCS REPORT

FSA Farm Plans: There were no plans to approve.

Activity and Progress Report: Cammie Kerner reported CSP payments will be made soon and CSP and EQP payment limitations were lifted.

COST SHARE REPORT

Well Decommissioning – Thorburn presented one well decommissioning cost-share application to approve. Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Ryan, to approve one well decommissioning cost-share application. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Bilka

NSWCP & NRD Applications – There were no NSWCP cost-share applications to approve.

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

Groundwater, Certified Acre Transfers & WCIP – Thorburn presented two irrigated acre transfer requests for Lee Anderson and Bradley S. Lundeen and two variance requests for M&R Lundeen and David Olsen. Mike Ryan was present to answer questions. Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Reynolds, to approve two irrigated acre transfer requests and two variances. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Bilka

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

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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

Auditor's Report: Kyle Overturf, AMGL, gave the 2024-2025 audit report, noting no issues except segregation of duties. Overturf mentioned seventy-five percent of revenue comes from property tax.

Moved by Grimes, seconded by Larson, to approve to approve the FY 2023-2024 Auditor's report and file with the State of Nebraska. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Bilka

IPA Management Report (Munter): Nate Munter reported on work done on all the Improvement Project Areas.

Approve Property Tax Resolution: Moved by Raffety, seconded by Reynolds, to approve the FY 2024-2025 property tax resolution. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Bilka

NARD REPORT

NARD Report: Reynolds reported that the ACH payment resolution passed and resolution about board meeting schedules was withdrawn.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Schedule Projects & Construction Committee Meeting: The Projects and Construction Committee meeting was scheduled for October 24, 2024, at 1 p.m. to discuss the Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Program details.

STAFF REPORTS & NECESSARY ACTION

Board Directives to Staff: Thorburn will be interviewing candidates for the Administrative Secretary position in the next few days and invited directors to attend.

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

MONTHLY REPORTS

Republican Basin: Republican Basin Annual meeting will be held in Imperial in November.

Platte Basin: Nothing to report.

Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin: Basin Annual meeting was held in Minden at the Minden Exchange Bank on September 18, 2024.

North Dry Creek: Reported in another agenda item.

Odessa IPA: Reported in another agenda item.

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Sacramento Creek: Reported in another agenda item.

Fort Kearny: Reported on another agenda item.

Fort Kearny West: Reported on another agenda item.

South Dry Creek: Reported in another agenda item.

Whiskey Slough: Reported in another agenda item.

Middle Lost Creek: Reported in another agenda item.

Lake Seldom: Nothing to report.

CoHyst/Platte Basin Coalition: Nothing to report.

Rainwater Basin Joint Venture: Board meeting was held in David City, NE on September 17, 2024, and RBJV Conservation Day was held September 19, 2024, at Sacramento Game WMA.

Platte-Republican Diversion & Republican Basin Augmentation Well: Item will be discussed in executive session.

CNPPID Report: Dicke reported CNPPID purchased a new dredge and is applying for a grant for a Rubicon gate and would like a letter of support from TBNRD. Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Lundeen, to write a letter of support for CNPPID on the Rubicon gate grant. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Bilka

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss Term Limits for NRD Directors: Thorburn mentioned that no other NRDs have term limits for directors but some have term limits for officers, and suggested consulting with legal if pursuing term limits. Garrelts suggested the topic be discussed at a later date.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There were no comments or concerns.

PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTERS

Moved by Grams, seconded by Ryan to move to Executive Session to discuss contractual issues for the protection of the public at 8:18 p.m. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Bilka

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety to move out of the Executive Session to discuss contractual issues for the protection of the public at 8:31 p.m. Motion carried.

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bergstrom and Bilka

NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBNRD Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Todd Garrelts, Joel Grams, David Grimes, Rob Hinrichs, Joe Larson, Brad Lundeen, Reed Philips, Larry Reynolds, Dave Raffety and Jeff Ryan

OTHERS PRESENT:

John Thorburn, Tammy Fahrenbruch, Nolan Little, Nate Munter, Cammie Kerner, Mike Ryan, Nate Munter, Kyle Overturf, Scott Dicke, and Carie Lynch.

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	Motion
	2024-10-08-01	Meeting Administration		9	1		Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Raffety, to approve the minutes for the September 10, 2024, Regular Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.
	2024-10-08-02	Meeting Administration		8	2		Moved by Ryan, seconded by Grams, to approve the 2024-2025 Budget Hearing and Eaton Township Hearing. Motion carried.
	2024-10-08-03	Meeting Administration					Moved by Grimes, seconded by Ryan, to approve the minutes for the September 10, 2024, Building Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.
	2024-10-08-04	Meeting Administration		10			Moved by Raffety, seconded by Reynolds, to accept the October 2024 Financial Report, and submit for audit. Motion carried.
	2024-10-08-05	Budget		11			Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Grimes, to approve the Visa and attorney bills. Motion carried.
	2024-10-08-06	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Ryan, to approve one well decommissioning cost-share application. Motion carried.
	2024-10-08-07	Certification & Transfers		11			Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Reynolds, to approve two irrigated acre transfer requests and two variances. Motion carried.
	2024-10-08-08	Budget	Audit	11			Moved by Grimes, seconded by Larson, to approve to approve the FY 2023-2024 Auditor's report and file with the State of Nebraska. Motion carried.
	2024-10-08-09	Budget	Audit	11			Moved by Raffety, seconded by Reynolds, to approve the FY 2024-2025 property tax resolution. Motion carried.
	2024-10-08-10	Projects	Rubicon Gate	11			Moved by Hinrichs, seconded by Lundeen, to write a letter of support for CNPPID on the Rubicon gate grant. Motion carried.
	2024-10-08-11	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Grams, seconded by Ryan to move to Executive Session to discuss contractual issues for the protection of the public at 8:18 p.m. Motion carried.
	2024-10-08-12	Meeting Administration		11			Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Raffety to move out of the Executive Session to discuss contractual issues for the protection of the public at 8:31 p.m. Motion carried.