

MINUTES OF THE TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, November 8, 2011, 7:30 p.m.
Tri-Basin Natural Resources District

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with ten directors present: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Nickel, Olsen and Winz. Larson, Raffety and Reynolds were absent. Notice of the meeting was published in the Holdrege Citizen, Bertrand Herald, Elwood Bulletin and the Minden Courier and announced over radio stations KRVN, Lexington and KUVR, Holdrege.

EXCUSE ABSENCES

There were no absences to excuse.

MINUTES

Nickel presented the minutes of the October 18, 2011 Board of Director's Meeting and November 2, 2011 Planning Committee Meeting.

Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Johnson, to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2011 Board of Directors Regular Meeting. Motion carried.

AYE: Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Winz and Nickel

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Bergstrom, Garrelts and Olsen

ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

Moved by Johnson, seconded by Larson, to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2011 Planning Committee Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Garrelts presented the financial report for the month of October 2011 as follows:

Accrual Expenditures for Month -----	\$66,640.38
Cash Expenditures for Month-----	\$99,960.11
Accrual Revenues for Month-----	\$80,910.40
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Cash Revenues for Month-----	\$242,481.24
Bank Balance—October 31, 2011-----	\$140,770.93
Accounts Receivable – October 31, 2011-----	\$14,088.16
Investments – October 31, 2011-----	\$203.55
Investments – Pinnacle Bank – October 31, 2011-----	\$845,670.26
Whiskey Slough IPA Balance – October 31, 2011-----	\$16,626.55
Fort Kearny-West IPA Balance – October 31, 2011-----	\$5,785.69
South Dry Creek IPA Balance – October 31, 2011-----	\$8,964.54
Fort Kearny IPA Balance – October 31, 2011-----	\$12,491.77
North Dry Creek IPA Balance – October 31, 2011-----	\$16,215.18
Sacramento Creek IPA Balance – October 31, 2011 -----	\$31,061.20

Moved by Helms, seconded by Bergstrom, to accept the October 2011 financial reports and file for audit. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Winz and Nickel
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

SPECIAL BILLS

Thorburn presented the VISA bills for approval. Thorburn mentioned two bills for an adjustment in property taxes from Kearney County Treasurer were included in the packet.

Moved by Olsen, seconded by Harris to approve the visa bills. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Winz and Nickel
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

Moved by Johnson, seconded by Olsen to approve the Kearney County Treasurer bills. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Winz and Nickel
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

NRCS REPORT

FSA Farm Plans: There were no farm plans for approval.

Activity and Progress Report: Breece reported staff finished TIS inventory and should be able to assign acres to each pivot, three new contract employees have been hired and Breece and John Laux are working on a replacement program for EQIP Special Initiative Conservation Corners.

COST SHARE REPORT

Well Abandonment – Thorburn presented twelve well decommissioning cost-share applications to approve. Moved by Winz, seconded by Bergstrom to approve well decommissioning cost-share applications #35-#46. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Winz and Nickel
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

NSWCP & NRD Applications – Thorburn recommended two NSWCP cost-share applications for approval. Moved by Olsen, seconded by Winz to approve NSWCP Cost-Share applications for Tri-Miller - \$2,590 and John J. Carlson - \$300. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Winz and Nickel
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

Groundwater & Certified Acre Transfers – Thorburn presented a groundwater transfer request for John & Marlys Carlson and three irrigated acre transfer requests for Allen & Geraldine Steinbrink being transferred to property owned by Stagemeyer Family Ltd.

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The Planning Committee reviewed the Steinbrink-Stagemeyer request and recommended it for approval. Doug Stagemeyer was present to answer questions and mentioned that he will request transfer of additional acres at a later date. The Planning Committee approved transfer of 110 acres but only 70 acres are being transferred now. Glenn & Bonnie Poppert are requesting recertification of a home site. Bonnie Poppert was present to answer questions.

Moved by Olsen, seconded by Lundeen to approve a groundwater transfer request for John & Marlys Carlson. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Winz and Nickel

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

Moved by Helms, seconded by Winz to accept the recommendation of the Planning Committee to accept Stagemeyer Ltd. irrigated acre transfer requests of up to 110 acres onto S ½ of S29-T6-R23 and well variance permit. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Winz and Nickel

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Johnson to approve three irrigated acre transfer requests for Allen & Geraldine Steinbrink. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Winz and Nickel

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

Moved by Helms, seconded by Lundeen to approve one well variance (flowmeter required) for Stagemeyer Family Ltd. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Winz and Nickel

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Olsen to certify an additional 16.9 irrigated acres for Glenn & Bonnie Poppert. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Winz and Nickel

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

New Well Variances – Well variance was approved in preceding agenda item.

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. Rick Campbell and Max Murray were present to ask the board to consider forming a new IPA. Campbell visited with Thorburn and Olsen about revisiting TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MINUTES

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the formation of an IPA because Lost Creek needs to be cleaned out. The project would include six miles of creek, from 23 Road to 26 Road. Campbell met with Kearney Co. Board of Supervisors. Kearney County is responsible for tree removal from ditch center to the middle of the road. Kearney County could work in conjunction with TBNRD on the project. Beaver dam removal was discussed with a cost of \$50/beaver with a \$50 setup fee. Nickel suggested the Projects & Construction Committee review the item at the next committee meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Consider Deadline for Revising Certified Irrigated Acres: Thorburn presented a memo explaining how other NRDs handled deadlines for revising certified irrigated acres. MRMRD and LRNRD both set deadlines, but MRNRD sent letters asking landowners to verify irrigated acres and LRNRD did not. Neither district had a large number of corrections prior to the deadline, but both Districts communicated individually with landowners during the certification process. TBNRD only met with landowners that had questions or changes during the certification process. Thorburn outlined potential problems with setting a deadline. A March 1, 2012 deadline is too soon because of staff time limitations; a phased deadline would work better. Gosper County irrigated acres aren't digitized so showing where the actual irrigated acres in a parcel might be a challenge. Thorburn mentioned some parcels can't be identified as irrigated because it isn't assessed as irrigated, such as homesteads, land within city limits, etc., which means landowners wouldn't receive notification. A deadline would give the TBNRD a more accurate estimate of offset requirements. Property tax issues were discussed. Nickel suggested the Projects & Construction Committee discuss issues created by deadline. Garrelts asked for the total amount of acres that have been recertified. Nickel suggested comparing 2005 vs. 1997 certified irrigated acres. Lundeen suggested charging an offset fee for correcting certified acres.

Consider Purchase of Projector and "Smart" Board for Boardroom: Thorburn explained the Executive Committee asked for proposals for a projector and smart board. Two proposals were included in the packet. The original budget was \$2,300, but savings from other office equipment could be used for the purchase. Moved by Garrelts, seconded by Bergstrom to approve purchase of a Smart Board and projector from CCS Presenting. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Olsen and Nickel

NAY: Nelson and Winz

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

NEW BUSINESS

Request from Kearney County Pheasants Forever to Schedule Grass Drill Rental: Jeff Pettz, Landmark Implement, and Chris Birkestrand, Pheasants Forever asked the board to consider allowing the Minden NRCS Office to manage a 10 ft. Great Plains grass drill owned by Pheasants Forever Local Chapter. The Minden NRCS Office would be responsible for billing, scheduling, paper work, instruction and watching for maintenance issues or damage. Landowners would be responsible for any damage to the drill. A \$100 deposit will be required with a rental cost of \$12/acre or \$50/day for Pheasants Forever members. Moved by Nelson, seconded by Winz to allow the Kearney County NRCS Field Office Secretary to manage and schedule the Pheasants Forever Grass Drill. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Winz and Nickel
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

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NARD REPORT

Nelson reported on the board meeting in Gothenburg and tour of 30 Mile Canal and suggested TBNRD Directors tour the Monsanto Water Conservation Facility.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Committee: Thorburn suggested Planning Committee meet December 13, 2011 at 9:30 am. with NDNR staff to discuss the Republican Basin IMP. HEL transfers will need to be discussed also.

Executive Committee: The Executive Committee will meet with Ron Bishop about CPNRD's filing for permission to take high flows out of Platte and put into Cozad and 30 Mile Canal. This would potentially lower priority for water right application by Tri-Basin NRD and CNPPID to fill Elwood Reservoir or CNPPID canal. An interim step would be to participate in consultation. Lundeen suggested a joint application with different purposes. The meeting is set for Nov. 28, 2011 at 10:00 am.

Projects & Construction Committee: A meeting date will need to be set for the Projects and Construction to talk about a potential IPA.

STAFF REPORTS & NECESSARY ACTION

Board Directives to Staff: There were not staff items to discuss.

Out-of-State Travel: Thorburn mentioned the GMDA Conference will be held in New Orleans this winter. Moved by Nelson, seconded by Lundeen to approve out-of-state travel for a director to go to the GMDA Conference in New Orleans on January 11-13, 2012. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Winz and Nickel
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

MONTHLY REPORTS

Republican Basin (NRRMD): NRRMD will meet in Red Cloud on Nov. 29, 2011 at noon. RRTF will meet Dec. 12, 2011.

Platte Basin: Thorburn met with COE and PRRIP on the 404 permit and hearing.

South Dry Creek: Nothing to report.

Sacramento Creek: Nothing to report.

Middle Lost Creek: Nothing to report.

Fort Kearny West: Nothing to report.

Fort Kearny: Nothing to report.

North Dry Creek: Phragmites was sprayed and road work done.

Whiskey Slough: Nothing to report.

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Lake Seldom: Nothing to report.

CoHyst/PBHEP: CoHyst model will be calibrated late in November 2011 when Gosper County irrigated acres are added.

Weed Management Areas – Riparian Vegetation Task Force Platte: Nothing to report.

Sand Creek/Little Blue Basin: This item will be discussed under new business.

CNPPID: Ford reported measurements for snow pack, lake fill and storage are very similar to the same time last year.

NEW BUSINESS

Request from Kearney County Pheasants Forever to Schedule Grass Drill Rental: This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Review Draft RFP for Sand Creek Recharge Reservoir Design: Thorburn mentioned Jay Bitner, UBBNRD helped with RFP. Thorburn asked the board if bidders should present their proposals or provide written response. Thorburn suggested a January 2012 due date and Johnson suggested the Board Workshop in February. Moved by Nelson, seconded by Johnson to approve distributing the Sand Creek Reservoir RFP for bids. Motion carried.

AYE: Bergstrom, Garrelts, Harris, Helms, Johnson, Lundeen, Nelson, Olsen, Winz and Nickel

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Larson, Raffety and Reynolds

PERSONNEL & LEGAL MATTERS

There were no personnel or legal matters to discuss.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There were no comments or concerns.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBNRD Regular Board meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at the Tri-Basin NRD.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Brian Bergstrom, Todd Garrelts, Ed Harris, Dick Helms, Phyllis Johnson, Brad Lundeen, David Nelson, David Nickel, David Olsen and Ray Winz.

OTHERS PRESENT

John Thorburn, Carie Lynch, Nicole Salisbury, Kevin Breece, Dave Ford, Rick Campbell, Scott Olson, Doug Stagemeyer, Bonnie Poppert, Allen Steinbrink, Jeff Pettz, Chris Birkestrand.

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Respectfully Submitted:

Carie Lynch, Asst. Secretary

INDEX OF BOARD DECISIONS
TRI-BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
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- #1 Moved by Lundeen, seconded by Johnson, to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2011 Board of Directors Regular Meeting. Motion carried.
- #2 Moved by Johnson, seconded by Larson, to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2011 Planning Committee Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
- #3 Moved by Helms, seconded by Bergstrom, to accept the October 2011 financial reports and file for audit. Motion carried.
- #4 Moved by Olsen, seconded by Harris to approve the visa bills. Motion carried.
- #5 Moved by Johnson, seconded by Olsen to approve the Kearney County Treasurer bills. Motion carried.
- #6 Moved by Winz, seconded by Bergstrom to approve well decommissioning cost-share applications #35-#46. Motion carried.
- #7 Moved by Olsen, seconded by Winz to approve NSWCP Cost-Share applications for Tri-Miller - \$2,590 and John J. Carlson - \$300. Motion carried.
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