

**NORTH PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES
DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

March 8, 2018

The regular meeting of the North Platte Natural Resources District (NRD) Board of Directors was called to order at 3:00 p.m. MDT, March 8, 2018, by Kent Andreas at the North Platte NRD conference room, 100547 Airport Road, Scottsbluff, Nebraska. Notice of the meeting was given to the public by publishing a legal notice in the March 1, 2018, Scottsbluff *Star-Herald*. Andreas informed meeting attendees that this meeting would be conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, a copy of which is posted in the meeting room for public inspection.

Board members present: Kent Andreas, Gary Darnall, Roger Eirich, Chuck Henkel, Pete Lapaseotes, and Dave Ostdiek. Absent: Dave Deines and Dan Weinreis. Others present: Barb Cross, Tracy Zayac, Lydia Hendrickson, Kyle Ann Hopkins, Scott Schaneman, Jackie Bishop, and David Wolf, NPNRD staff; Thad Kuntz, Adaptive Resources, Inc; Sarah Gray, National Resource Conservation Service; Steve Smith and Megan Dockery, Simmons Olson; and Ryan Rueter.

The following items of informational material were made available to the Directors electronically prior to the Board Meeting:

1. Meeting Notice
2. Agenda
3. Minutes, North Platte Natural Resources District, Board of Directors Meeting, February 8, 2018.
4. Treasurer's Report (Preliminary)

The following items were provided to the Directors at the Board Meeting:

1. Agenda
2. Minutes, North Platte Natural Resources District, Board of Directors Meeting, February 8, 2018.
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Appointment & Seating of Ryan Reuter to Serve as Director for Sub-District 1 in the North Platte Natural Resources District.
5. Manager's Report
6. Minutes, North Platte Natural Resources District, Budget & Personnel Committee, February 22, 2018.
7. Letter from the North Platte Natural Resources District to Cow Camp LLC, c/o Mike Hoehn, and Central Irrigation District, c/o Richard Hass, regarding Notice of Termination of Lease Agreement, dated March 5th, 2018.
8. Project Information & Funding Details for Building of a Subsurface Drip Irrigation System at Panhandle Research & Extension Center (PHREC).
9. North Platte Natural Resources District, Notice of Meeting & Public Hearings, Policy Statement.
10. Procedures governing conduct of Informal Public Hearings which are Non-Adjudicatory in Nature.
11. Procedures governing conduct of Formal Adjudicatory Hearings before the North Platte Natural Resources District, Effective March 8, 2018.
12. North Platte Natural Resources District, Policy Statement for Non-Compliance with District Rules & Regulations and Eligibility to Participate in District Programs.

13. Addition to Rules & Regulations for Enforcement of the Groundwater Management & Protection Act, Section C: Level II Quality Controls for Lisco-Oshkosh-Lewellen Groundwater Management Sub-Area, Amended 2004 – Effective Date November 8, 2004.
14. North Platte Natural Resources District, Living Snow Fence Policy.
15. North Platte Natural Resources District, Policy Statement, Road Structures.

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes of the February 8, 2018, regular Board meeting. Moved by Eirich, seconded by Henkel, to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2018, regular Board meeting. Motion passed.

Ayes: Andreas, Darnall, Eirich, Henkel, Lapaseotes, Ostdiek,

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Deines, Weinreis

4. Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable

Dave Ostdiek reviewed the Treasurer's report with the Board. Moved by Darnall seconded by Eirich, to accept the Treasurer's report and pay the bills as listed. Motion passed.

Ayes: Andreas, Darnall, Eirich, Henkel, Lapaseotes, Ostdiek,

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Deines, Weinreis

5. Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

6. Consider the Appointment and Seating of Ryan Reuter to serve as Director for Sub-

District 1 Per Executive Committee Recommendation

The executive committee interviewed the three candidates that applied to fill Jerry Dillman's vacancy representing Sub-District 1. The committee recommended to the full board to appoint Ryan Reuter. Moved by Lapaseotes, seconded by Eirich, to appoint Ryan Reuter to fill Jerry Dillman's spot on the Board of Directors. Motion passed.

Ayes: Andreas, Darnall, Eirich, Henkel, Lapaseotes, Ostdiek,

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Deines, Weinreis

Reuter was then seated with the rest of the Board of Directors.

7. Manager's Report

Cross reported while the Board will be opening bids later in the agenda for the major Yensen Drain repairs, the District is also working on fixes for individual landowners related to drainage off individual fields. They are working with Paul Reed Construction on those potential repairs and are gathering temporary easements for repairs. The producer roundtables were again a major success. In total, staff interacted with well over one hundred producer/landowners across the district. Berge will be speaking at the World Water Forum in Brasilia, Brazil. The trip is 100 percent sponsored by the Daugherty Water for Food Institute at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He will also be at the Manager's Meeting in Lincoln on March 7, returning the afternoon of March 8. He may or may not be here for the reading of this report.

The District will break ground on the Greenhouse project on Friday, March 9 at 10 a.m., Cross and Jenifer Berge-Sauter presented about the Greenhouse project to the local rotary club at

their recent meeting. Shipments of this fiscal year's telemetry units were necessarily delayed given some supplier issues related to the antennas. Those issues have been resolved and installations will have only been delayed a couple of weeks. The rest of the manager's report was included in the board packet.

8. Legislative Update

Cross reported LB 98 was unable to overcome a filibuster attempt, so it was defeated. Cross provided a list of how each Senator voted, with Senator Steve Erdman leading the effort to defeat the bill. Senator John Stinner led the effort to get the bill passed.

9. Yensen Drain Repair Bid Opening

The District has asked for bids for the repairs needed for the Yensen Drain. The bids were closed on March 8, 2018. The District received only one bid, which was from Paul Read Construction of Gering. The bid was for \$917,032.90 and will cover all costs associated with the general repair of the Yensen Drain from Rubidoux Rd, south to Cedar Canyon Rd. Unfortunately, the bid was nearly double of the amount available from NRCS. After some discussion, the board decided to see if additional funds from NRCS could be made available and decided to table the bid proposal. Moved by Erich, seconded by Darnall, to table the bid from Paul Reed Construction due to the bid being more then the funding budget. Motion passed.

Ayes: Andreas, Darnall, Eirich, Henkel, Lapaseotes, Ostdiek, Reuter

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Deines, Weinreis

10. Budget Committee Report

Dave Ostdeik reported \$850,000 will be made available for redistribution under the

current budget. On the revenue side, funds that have become available are budgeted items for Yensen Drain, the Greenhouse, Platte Basin Coalition reimbursements for retirements, excess flows, and a Ducks Unlimited project. He also reported that Berge went through each line item in the memo with Committee Members and addressed in detail how the reallocation of revenue would be made as certain revenues are unknown at the time of budget approval. The committee was satisfied with the reallocations proposed under the current budget.

11. Consideration of Cow Camp Termination

Cross reported that the contract for the Cow Camp lease has come to the end. The contract specifies an option for the District to renew the contract after five years, but the staff has recommended to the board to terminate the contract. If the board agrees to terminate the contract, Berge will send a letter notifying the landowners of the board's action. Moved by Lapaseotes, seconded by Henkel, to terminate the Cow Camp contract. Motion passed.

Ayes: Andreas, Darnall, Eirich, Henkel, Lapaseotes, Ostdiek, Reuter

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Deines, Weinreis

12. Consideration of Donation to UNL Sub-Surface Drip Project

Cross reported Xin Qiao, Irrigation Management Specialist, has asked for donations for a sub-surface drip project and has asked the NRD if they are interested in donating to the study. The project has some interest for the NRD as sub-surface drip can provide water savings for the District and producers. Cross said that she was unfamiliar with some of the details of the project when asked by board members, as Berge was the one involved in the discussions. The board decided to table the issue until the next board meeting, so they can get a better understanding of the proposal. Moved by

Darnall, seconded by Henkel, to table the UNL Sub-Surface Drip Project donation until the April board meeting. Motion passed.

Ayes: Andreas, Darnall, Eirich, Henkel, Lapaseotes, Ostdiek, Reuter

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Deines, Weinreis

13. Consideration of the Designation Board Members to the Integrated Management Planning (IMP) Process

Cross asked the board to assign two board members to serve on the IMP process representing the NRD. The staff recommended the board members not be up for reelection, so in the event of an appointed board member loss the election in November, NRD representation would not be interrupted and a different director brought up to speed. Moved by Ostdiek, seconded by Darnall, to appoint Roger Eirich and Chuck Henkel as representatives to the Integration Management Planning Process. Motion passed.

Ayes: Andreas, Darnall, Eirich, Henkel, Lapaseotes, Ostdiek, Reuter

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Deines, Weinreis

14. Consent Calendar – Policy Approvals

- a. Notice of Meetings and Public Hearings Policy Statement
- b. Procedures Governing Conduct of Informal Public Hearings which are Non-Adjudicatory in Nature
- c. Procedures Governing Conduct of Formal Public Hearings Which are Adjudicatory

in Nature

d. Non-Compliance with District Rules Policy Statement

The policies above have been updated, with Steve Smith reviewing and recommending their adoption. Moved by Henkel, seconded by Lapaseotes, to approve the Consent Calendar – Policy Approvals. Motioned passed.

Ayes: Andreas, Darnall, Eirich, Henkel, Lapaseotes, Ostdiek, Reuter

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Deines, Weinreis

15. Consent Calendar – Policy Rescissions

- a. Section C Level II Quality Controls for Lisco-Oshkosh-Lewellen Groundwater Management Sub-Area
- b. Living Snow Fence Policy
- c. 1980 Road Structures Policy

The policies above have been recommended to be cancelled. Steve Smith has reviewed and recommended the rescissions. Moved by Eirich, seconded by Ostdiek, to approve the Consent Calendar – Policy Rescissions. Motioned passed.

Ayes: Andreas, Darnall, Eirich, Henkel, Lapaseotes, Ostdiek, Reuter

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Deines, Weinreis

16. Adjourn

Moved by Henkel, seconded by Darnall, to adjourn at 3:40 p.m., MDT. Motion passed.

Ayes: Andreas, Darnall, Eirich, Henkel, Lapaseotes, Ostdiek, Reuter

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Deines, Weinreis