

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

**October 11, 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, October 11, 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 October 4, 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, Dave Deines, Roger Eirich, Chuck Henkel, Pete Lapaseotes, Dave Ostdiek, Ryan Reuter, and Dan Weinreis. Absent: None. Others present: John Berge, Barb Cross, Travis Preston, Kyle Ann Hopkins, and David Wolf, NPNRD staff; Thad Kuntz, Adaptive Resources, Inc; Steve Smith, Simmons Olson Law Firm; and Dave Fisher.

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

1. Meeting Notice
2. Agenda (Draft)
3. Minutes, North Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors Meeting, September 13, 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, September 13, 2018.
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Manager's Report
5. Employee Email & Internet Usage Update, October 2018.
6. Brown's Canyon Watershed Maintenance Agreement with Scotts Bluff County, North Platte Natural Resources District, Gering-Fort Laramie Irrigation District, Mitchell Irrigation District, Gering Irrigation District, and the Department of Roads, regarding participation in the inspection, operation and maintenance of that portion of the Browns Canyon Drain.
7. North Platte Natural Resources District Member Sample Database.

### **3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the September 13, 2018, regular Board meeting.

Moved by Eirich, seconded by Ostdiek, to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2018 regular Board meeting. Motion passed.

Ayes: Andreas, Deines, Eirich, Henkel, Lapaseotes, Ostdiek, Reuter, Weinreis

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Darnall

\*Gary Darnall arrives for the meeting 3:05 pm\*

### **4. Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable**

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

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

## **5. Comments from the Public**

Dave Fisher offered an update to the Platte Basin's Integrated Management Plan and concerns with the board.

## **6. Manager's Report**

John Berge reported Danielle Schaffer, Barb Cross and himself are embarking on an informal review of our expenditures, hoping to identify areas of potential savings. He has asked all of the department heads to review processes in their departments and in their office to ensure that extra steps are removed and opportunities for improvements are seized upon. The Basin Wide Plan was approved in September by the BWP Stakeholder Group. It is now being re-drafted to include some minor changes and will be distributed to our IMP stakeholders on November 12. At that time, it will be distributed to the Board of Directors as well. The process includes several opportunities for public comment until it is finalized next spring and adopted by all of the Platte Basin NRDs by August.

The next meeting of our Integrated Management Plan Stakeholders Group is November 15, and they are on track to complete this process by January. Rules changes with edits will be sent to the Board and to legal counsel simultaneously in the coming ten days for your review before the committee meetings. Berge met with representatives from the PAWS project at length on Wednesday to discuss how the NRD intersects with it and the need for it. Staff will be preparing transfer applications for the Surface Water Projects under contract 1023 in order to

seek reimbursement from the Water Resources Cash Fund. These reimbursements total over \$177,000. The District will also be submitting additional evidence (meter reads) from our EPIC contracts to ensure reimbursement for those contracts from WRCF as well. This will total \$171,000. Berge added that DNR is not holding up their end of the bargain, and they are making the NRD jump through unnecessary hoops to progress through the process. Kyle Ann Hopkins updated the Board on the new database and gave dates on when the NRD will transition over from Beehive to the new database.

The rest of the managers report was submitted in the Board packet.

#### **7. Greener Gardens Greenhouse Update**

Cross updated on the greenhouse and reported that over 650 pounds of produce was donated to the Veterans Home and CAPWN. The greenhouse is going great, and they are excited to see how well it does once the weather turns cold. Cross also reported the Greenhouse is now working with UNL Extension and WNCC Ag program to develop curriculum for their agriculture/natural resources programs.

#### **8. Update on Flowmeter Inspections and Flow Meter Maintenance**

Berge updated the Board on the flow meter inspections and maintenance. Staff are speeding through the readings and have been able to get basic maintenance accomplished, even with some minor setbacks. The 750 meters with telemetry attached have also worked well.

#### **9. Consideration of Employee Manual Amendment: “EMAIL AND INTERNET USAGE”**

Berge reported the email and internet usage policy needed edited, due to personal use of some of the NRD equipment. The changes simply state that any personal usage on NRD equipment could be open to disclosure in the case of a lawsuit. Board approval is needed for the change. Moved by Lapaseotes, seconded by Ostdiek, to adopt the Employee Manual

Amendment, “EMAIL AND INTERNET USAGE” changes. Motion passed.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

## **10. Consideration of Approval of the Browns Canyon Watershed Maintenance Agreement**

### **Conditional on the Support by All Parties to the Agreement**

Berge reminded the Board on the background of Brown’s Canyon, and the Board approved additional funds to help with the permanent fix to the drain with the caveat of a permanent maintenance committee being established. Staff and legal counsel have drawn up a draft agreement, based on other drain maintenance committees. Staff recommends approval of the agreement. Moved by Deines, seconded by Weinreis, to approve the draft Browns Canyon Watershed Maintenance Agreement conditional on the support of all parties to the Agreement.

Motion passed.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

## **11. Adjourn**

Moved by Eirich, seconded by Reuter, to adjourn at 3:42 p.m., MDT. Motion passed.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None