

**North Platte Natural Resources
District Board of Directors Meeting**

October 8, 2020

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 8, 2020, by Kent Andreas at the North Platte NRD Conference room, 100547 Airport Road, Scottsbluff, Nebraska (Agenda item #1). Notice of the meeting was given to the public by publishing a legal notice in the October 1, 2020, 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 (Agenda item #2).

Board members present: Kent Andreas, Gary Darnall, Dave Deines, Roger Eirich, Chuck Henkel, Pete Lapaseotes, Ryan Reuter, Dan Weinreis, and Mark Westphal.

Others present: John Berge, Barb Cross, Danielle Schafer, Lydia Hendrickson, NPNRD staff; Thad Kuntz, Adaptive Resources, Inc; Steve Smith, Simmons Olsen Law Firm; Sarah Gray, NRCS; Lindsay Schroeder, J G Elliot Co.

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

1. Agenda - Draft
2. Minutes, North Platte Natural Resources District, September 10, 2020
3. Preliminary Treasurer's Report
4. Manager's Report
5. Grand Plan Memo to the Board
6. Foundational Elements toward Broader Long-Term Agreement
7. Signature Authority Authorization

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

1. Agenda - Final
2. Minutes, North Platte Natural Resources District, District Board of Director's Meeting, September 10, 2020.
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Manager's Report
5. Grand Plan Memo to the Board
6. Foundational Elements toward Broader Long-Term Agreement
7. Signature Authority Authorization

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes of the September 10, 2020, regular Board meeting.

Moved by Eirich, seconded by Reuter, to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2020 regular Board meeting. Motion passed.

Ayes: Andreas, Deines, Eirich, Henkel, Lapaseotes, Reuter, Westphal

Nay: none

Abstain: Darnall, Weinreis

Absent: none

4. Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable

Ryan Reuter reviewed the Treasurer's report with the Board. Moved by Deines, seconded by Eirich, to accept the Treasurer's report and pay the bills as listed. Motion passed.

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

Westphal

Nay: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

5. Comments from the Public

None

6. Manager's Report

General Manager John Berge indicated that the report was submitted to members before the meeting. Berge asked the group if there were any questions and there were none.

7. Discussion with DNR Staff on the "Grand Plan"

Jesse Bradley, Interim Director, and Jennifer Schellpeper, Water Planning Division Head of The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (DNR), met via Zoom with the board to discuss the preliminary provisions of the "Grand Plan". The plan is designed to bring the basin back to a fully appropriated state. The plan includes all five NRD's in the basin, CNPPID, and NPPD. This NRD would be able to maintain the current level of attrition through the plan. Bradley thinks that this can be done under the current IMP budget. NPNRD would be responsible for maintaining the current allocations. The plan is still in draft form. After the zoom meeting, the board decided to have Berge and Steve Smith draft a letter about the boards concerns with the plan. They will discuss the pros and cons and put it in writing. The plan looks good for us as we will not have to change our allocations or anything else we are doing to meet our goals, but our concerns need to be addressed. This item will be on the agenda again in November. Berge and Smith will work on a draft letter and bring it back to the board.

8. Report from the Budget and Personnel Committee

The Budget Committee met at 2:00 p.m. today to discuss the health insurance rates that this NRD is currently paying. Lindsay Schroeder from J G Elliot met with the group to go over a preliminary study to determine what kind of a savings we could realize from changing

health insurance companies. The Board asked Mrs. Schroeder to do a more in-depth study of NPNRD's actual employee health status to determine the exact premiums that would be charged per the different companies she has researched. She will get back to the Board with exact numbers.

9. Signature Authority at Banner Capital Bank and Meridian Trust Federal Credit Union

In a memo, Berge asked the board to consider a recommendation to add two additional alternates for the signature cards at Banner Capital Bank: Mark Westphal, Board Member and Member of the Budget and Personnel Committee and Danielle Schafer, Office Manager. He also recommend that the following three employees and three board members be authorized to sign documents for accounts at Meridian Trust Federal Credit Union: John Berge, General Manager – Barbara S. Cross, Assistant Manager - Danielle Schafer, Office Manager – Ryan Reuter, Treasurer, Board of Directors – Chuck Henkel, Member, Board of Directors – Mark Westphal, Member, Board of Directors.

Moved by Weinreis, seconded by Darnall, to approved signature authority as listed in the memo at the above banks.

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

Westphal

Nay: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

10. Flow Meter Update

Berge indicated that the staff began reading flow meters on October 1st. Of the 2300 meters that this district has, they have read 586 meters and completed 361 telemetry reads.

They are approximately 40% complete. The staff is also completing maintenance on approximately 350 meters this fall. It is anticipated that the reads and maintenance should be complete by the third week in October. Staff also project that they will be processing water use reports during the first week of December.

11. Adjourn

There being no further business, the Chairman called for a motion to adjourn.

Moved by Reuter, seconded by Eirich to adjourn at 4:05 pm., MDT. Motion passed.

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

Westphal

Nay: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none