

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Board Meeting Minutes
July 28, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Ed Kyes called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. He reported that the NRD abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business and said that a copy of the Open Meetings Act was displayed on the south wall of the conference room, that the Board reserves the right to change the order of an item on the agenda, and some items on the agenda are subject to closed session.

ATTENDANCE: Board members present were:

LeRoy Arends	Charles Maser	Bob Schanou
Alicia Haussler	Barry Obermiller	Steve Sheen
Chris Henry	Ladd Reeves	Keith Stafford
Brian Keiser	Mick Reynolds	Deborah VanMatre
Ed Kyes	Jay Richeson	Jerry Wiese
Dwayne Margritz		

Excused Absences – Jim Bendfeldt, Charles Bicak, Jerry Milner, Marvion Reichert and Ed Stoltenberg.

Staff present: Lyndon Vogt – General Manager, Duane Woodward – District Hydrologist, Mark Czaplewski – District Biologist, Dianne Miller – Administrative Director, Jesse Mintken – Assistant Manager, Kelly Cole – Programs Coordinator, Marcia Lee – Information/Education Specialist, Luke Zakrzewski – GIS Image Analyst, Shane Max – Resource Conservationist, Tricia Dudley – Resource Conservationist.

Others present – Jim Stulken – Doniphan, Lori Potter – Kearney Hub.

MEETING NOTICES: Chairman Kyes reported that the notices of the meeting had been sent to the news media as required by law.

MEETING MINUTES: Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the June board meeting minutes. Deborah VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Brian Keiser, Bob Schanou and Steve Sheen who abstained. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS: Chairman Kyes asked if there were any announcements or suggestions for future meetings. There were none.

PUBLIC FORUM: Chairman Kyes asked if anyone wanted to address the board on any item not included on the agenda. No one requested time to speak.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) REPORT: Written report was put on drop box for directors prior to the board meeting. (See

enclosed report from Shanda Spurgeon, Acting District Conservationist, Grand Island).

General Manager Lyndon Vogt also said that we have received a request for some assistance to help NRCS bring a speaker into Ord to talk about no till and soil health issues on December 5th. He said this will be turned over to the Programs Committee for review and possible recommendation.

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Chairman Kyes reported that Jim Bendfeldt, Charles Bicak, Jerry Milner, Marvion Reichert and Ed Stoltenberg had requested to be excused from the board meeting.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the absences as requested. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

VARIANCE/APPEALS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT: Jay Richeson reported on the variance hearing and subcommittee's meeting held earlier that day. He said they heard a request for certification of irrigated acres from Randall and Lori Gibson of Hall County.

Jay Richeson said the Variance/Appeals Subcommittee is recommending, and he made the motion, that the appeal from Randall and Lori Gibson of Hall County be denied based on the lack of information provided to the Subcommittee. Barry Obermiller seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

BUDGET COMMITTEE – REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS: Chairman Kyes said the Budget Committee had met earlier that day and asked General Manager Vogt to review the proposed budget and Budget Committee's recommendations.

General Manager Vogt said the budget as advertised would require property taxes of \$6,328,571.82, which is an increase of \$212,862.18 from last year. He said the Budget Committee is recommending amendments to what was advertised. The amendments would reduce the General Fund expenditures in the Project Construction item by \$780,300.00. This is because the engineering firm for the Prairie/Silver/Moores Creek Project have updated the estimates for that project. Revenue in the General Fund would also be reduced by that same amount. The committee is also recommending that the Sinking Fund Current Expenditures for the Prairie/Silver/Moores Creek project be reduced by \$219,700.00, and also reduce County Treasurer's Collection Fees in the Sinking Fund by \$2,197.00. These changes would result in a total property tax requirement of \$6,106,764.82 which would be \$9,034.82 less than last year.

General Manager Vogt said it will be necessary to have a public hearing to set the levy. He said based on our preliminary estimate of a 9 percent valuation increase the levy for next year would be approximately .03519 compared to last year's levy of .03842. Valuations from the 11 county assessors will not be available until August 20th.

Charles Maser made the motion to approve the proposed Fiscal Year 2016/2017 budget with the following amendments: In the General Fund reduce the Prairie/Silver/Moores Creek Flood Control Construction item by \$780,300.00 which also reduces revenue by the same amount, the net result is no change in the Property Tax Request in the General Fund; and in the Sinking Fund reduce Current Expenditures for the Prairie/Silver/Moores Creek Flood Control Project by \$219,700.00 and the County Treasurers' Commission by \$2,197.00. With these amendments the proposed Property Tax Request for the Fiscal Year 2016/2017 budget would be: General Fund of \$4,841,431.20 and Sinking Fund of \$1,265,243.62 for a total of \$6,106,674.82 which would be a net decrease of \$9,034.82 from last year's request. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

FISCAL YEAR 2016/2017 BUDGET: Reopen Public Budget Hearing -- Chairman Kyes reopened the public budget hearing at 2:13 p.m. He asked if there was any testimony on the proposed budget as amended. Hearing none he closed the hearing at 2:15 p.m.

Barry Obermiller made the motion to approve the proposed budget as amended. Bob Schanou seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Levy Hearing – Consider Moving August Meeting to Accommodate Budget Schedule – Chairman Kyes said the deadline for receiving the valuations from the county assessors is August 20th. He said this would not give us enough time to publish the notice of the public hearing which is required to set the levy. It was suggested that the next meeting be held Thursday, September 1st which would be one week later than the normal August board meeting date.

Bob Schanou made the motion to hold the public hearing to set the Fiscal Year 2016/2017 levy on Thursday, September 1st at 1:55 p.m. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

HYDROGEOLOGIC FRAMEWORK DATA COLLECTION REPORT: Duane Woodward, District Hydrologist, showed a series of slides and reported on the research that Central Platte NRD is participating in titled the Advanced Hydrogeologic Frameworks for Aquifer Management in the Platte and Republican Rivers. The project is being funded through a grant from the NE Environmental Trust, Central Platte NRD and Twin Platte NRD. He explained that data is collected using a helicopter equipped with electromagnetic technology that can read 600 to 800 feet below the surface and said the project will provide detailed information of the aquifer conditions and the subsurface hydrogeologic framework to effectively design and apply integrated management plans. The new information will allow new infrastructure and future sub-regional groundwater model investigations to be developed for evaluation of proposed management practices.

PLATTE RIVER PROGRAM UPDATE: Mark Czaplewski, District Biologist, reported that the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (PRRIP) met in Denver on July 26 and 27 in the first of a series of special sessions focused on an extension of the Program's first increment beyond the current end date of December 31, 2019. Mark referred to a current press release from the Office of the Executive Director, Platte River Recovery Implementation Program that included information on the J2 Regulating Reservoir Project that stated "rising costs resulting in the need to reconfigure the project caused delays with many issues yet to be resolved. Due primarily to institutional and cost issues, the Governance Committee directed the project be put on hold until further notice while the PRRIP pursues other water project opportunities involving groundwater recharge, smaller scale storage projects and water acquisition and transfer opportunities".

PROPOSED 2016-2021 LONG RANGE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN: Marcia Lee, I&E Specialist, reported that the draft plan had been posted on drop box with the request for suggestions or corrections if needed. She said there were a couple of grammatical changes that have been made and asked if there were any other changes. There were none. She asked for approval of the plan so it can be forwarded to the required state agencies.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the 2016-2021 Long Range Implementation Plan with the grammatical changes that were made. Deborah VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

NE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION REPORT: NNRC member Mick Reynolds reported the Commission had met in Kearney on June 27th. He said they recommended that the Director approve the revised Erosion and Sediment Control Program for the NRDs that had submitted them. He said they allocated and obligated funds for the Fiscal Year 2017 Resources Development Funds. He said they also added variable rate irrigation and variable frequency drive to eligible NC-17 irrigation management practices. He said they will have a special meeting in December where they hope to award the next round of Water Sustainability Funds and said they are going over a list of possible changes to the rules for that fund. He said their next meeting is September 8th at Gothenburg at the Monsanto research site.

COST SHARE PROGRAM: Applications – Programs Coordinator Kelly Cole reported that we have received applications for the following cost share programs: NE Soil and Water Conservation Program, Grassland Conservation, Center Pivot Incentive and Flow Meters (see enclosed). She said the applicants are in compliance with the District's rules and regulations, funds are available, and recommended they be approved.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the cost share applications as reported. Ladd Reeves seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Barry Obermiller made the motion to approve the July financial report as presented. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

UPCOMING EVENTS: As listed on the agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS: Next Meeting – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, September 1st. Details to follow.

ADJOURN: Chairman Kyes adjourned the board meeting at 2:38 p.m.

NRCS Report to Central Platte NRD

July 28 2016

I am Shanda Spurgeon the current Acting DC in the Central Platte NRCS offices. My regular job is as the Resource Conservationist in the Hastings office. I have been in Hastings about 10 years. I have been with the NRCS for just over 30 years so I know my way around a little.

The DC position in Grand Island has been advertised and interviews completed. We are just awaiting final Human Resources paperwork completion to find out who was selected. James isn't sharing that info!

A new Resource Soil Scientist began work with us on Monday. Her name is Isabelle Giuliani. She comes to us from Powell Wyoming. She is getting settled into the Grand Island office which includes getting all of her info moved from the computer servers in Wyoming to Nebraska. She was mapping soils in Wyoming so she has experience with both the job and the service. She will be responsible for soils assistance in Central Platte, Lower Loup, Tri-Basin and Lower Republican NRD's.

The Resource Conservationist position in Grand Island will be re-advertised again soon. Last time around we didn't get the applications we were wanting. It should be out again in the next month or so.

NRCS staff in the NRD are getting lots of contracts finished up in Conservation Programs. There are 20 CSP applications in for final approval and another 2 soon to go in. We are down to 8 EQIP contracts to complete the paperwork on for this year.

Shanda K Spurgeon
Acting District Conservationist
Grand Island

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
 Cost Share
 July 28, 2016

NEBRASKA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COST SHARE PROGRAM...		\$ 67,938.36
Lanny Ingram – Buffalo – Pasture Planting	\$ 1,132.90	
David Hanna – Dawson – Brush Management	3,582.67	
William Stovall – Merrick – Brush Management	2,292.31	
Andy Spracklen – Buffalo – Pasture Planting	270.46	
The Findlay Family Trust – Dawson – Windbreak Renovation	1,835.13	
Darrell R Quaring – Buffalo – Brush Management	3,117.80	
Neben Farm Trust – Dawson – Planned Grazing	3,506.04	
David K Beck – Merrick – Underground Pipeline	3,402.25	
Jon Strong – Merrick – Underground Pipeline	5,000.00	
TSN Farms Inc – Merrick – Brush Management	9,354.00	
Bradley Jones – Hall – Underground Pipeline	5,000.00	
Kline Farm Ltd. – Dawson – Underground Pipeline	5,000.00	
JK Land LLC – Dawson – Planned Grazing	7,500.00	
Beulah M John Living Trust – Dawson – Underground Pipeline	5,000.00	
Daniel Leiser – Merrick – Underground Pipeline	5,000.00	
Randy John – Buffalo – Planned Grazing	6,944.80	
 GRASSLAND CONSERVATION COST SHARE PROGRAM		 \$ 33,582.50
Randy John – Buffalo	\$ 4,935.00	
Arlys M Torrey – Buffalo	7,840.00	
Joyce A Linn – Buffalo	11,182.50	
Tim Dean – Dawson	9,625.00	
 CENTER PIVOT INCENTIVE COST SHARE PROGRAM		 \$ 30,000.00
Dan Oppliger – Merrick	\$ 7,500.00	
Bradley Jones – Hall	7,500.00	
Jaime Webben – Buffalo	7,500.00	
Daniel Leiser – Merrick	7,500.00	
 FLOW METER COST SHARE PROGRAM		 \$ 1,600.00
Bradley Jones – Hall	\$ 800.00	
Daniel Leiser – Merrick	800.00	
 Total		 \$ 133,120.86

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Fiscal 2015/2016 Budget Hearing Minutes

July 28, 2016

OPEN HEARING: Chairman Ed Kyes opened the public budget hearing at 1:45 p.m. He stated that the public hearing was an open meeting and abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business. He reported that there was a copy of the Open Meetings Act displayed on the south wall of the conference room as required by State law.

ATTENDANCE: (See 07/28/16 Board Meeting Minutes Attendance.)

Chairman Kyes reported that the purpose of the hearing was to receive support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the proposed budget and to consider amendments relative to the proposed budget. Notices of the hearing and budget summary were published in the Grand Island Independent, Kearney Hub, Central City Republican Nonpareil, Lexington Clipper Herald and Tri-City Tribune. Chairman Kyes entered the hearing notice and summary into the record (see enclosed Grand Island Independent notice.)

Chairman Kyes said the Budget Committee had met prior to the board meeting and asked General Manager Lyndon Vogt to report on the proposed budget and committee recommendations. A "Budget Summary Comparison" showing last year's adopted budget and proposed FY 2016/2017 budget was made available to the directors prior to the meeting.

General Manager Vogt said the budget as advertised would require property taxes of \$6,328,571.82 which would be an increase of \$212,862.18 from last year. The Budget Committee is recommending the following changes: Reduce General Fund Project Construction expenditures by \$780,300.00 due to the engineering firms' updated estimates for the Prairie/Silver/Moores Creek project. This would also result in a reduction of \$780,300.00 in General Fund revenue due to less State and Cosponsor reimbursements. Also reduce the Sinking Fund Current Expenditures for the Prairie/Silver/Moores Creek Flood Control Project by \$219,700.00, and also reduce County Treasurer's Collection Fees in the Sinking Fund by \$2,197.00. The recommended changes would result in a property tax requirement of \$6,106,764.82 which would be \$9,034.82 less than last year. Valuations for the District are estimated to increase 9 percent, which would result in a levy of approximately .03519 for both funds. Valuations from the 11 county assessors will not be available until August 20th.

Chairman Kyes asked if there was any testimony on the proposed budget. There was none. He suspended the budget hearing at 1:52 p.m. until the item was reached on the board meeting agenda. At 2:13 p.m. he resumed the hearing. The proposed budget with recommended changes was briefly reviewed. Chairman Kyes again asked if there was any testimony. There was none. He closed the public hearing at 2:15 p.m.

See July 28, 2016 board meeting minutes for action on the proposed Fiscal 2016/2017 budget.

