

**MINUTES**  
**LOWER REPUBLICAN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**  
*30 John Street, Alma, NE*  
*Immediately following the Budget and Variance Hearing*  
*September 11, 2014 @ 7PM*

**Board of Directors Meeting**

A notice of the meeting was published in the local newspapers within the District and on the District Website at [www.lmrnd.org](http://www.lmrnd.org).

Budget Hearing, Public Hearing and Variance Hearing at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Regular Board Meeting

**FY2015 Budget Hearing**

The Lower Republican NRD FY2015 Budget Hearing was called to order by Chairperson Marlin Murdoch at 6:45 p.m. Michael Clements stated that a notice of this hearing was published in all the newspapers in the District. Michael Clements presented the highlights of the LRNRD FY2015 budget. A copy is in the minute book. Directors absent: Nelson Trambly. Chairperson Marlin Murdoch adjourned the hearing at 6:55 p.m.

**INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL MAILED OUT PRIOR TO THE MEETING**

1. Agenda, 9/14
2. LRNRD Board Meeting, Variance Hearing Minutes, & Index of Decisions, 8/14
3. Treasurer's Report, 8/14
4. Manager's Report
5. NRCS Report
6. Variance Request –  
*a.) Paul E. Kral #221*
7. Change in Location of Certified Acres on Contiguous Property  
*a.) STEPHEN F. JOHNSON*
8. N-CORPE Budget Comparison
9. Rural Water District Treasurer Report, 8/14

**MATERIALS HANDED OUT AT THE MEETING:**

1. Mark Steinkruger Meter Information
2. 2014 Annual Conference Resolutions

Chairperson Marlin Murdoch called the meeting of the Lower Republican NRD Board of Directors to order at 7:00PM. Murdoch noted that guests should sign the attendance roster and noted the location of a current copy of the statutes dealing with public meetings laws and the booklet with the information provided to directors.

Directors present: Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf.

Absent: Nelson Trambly.

Others present: Jerry Kovarik, NRCS, Troy Fletcher, Oxford, Andy Raun, Hasting Tribune, Mark Steinkruger, Franklin, Tammy Fahrenbruch, TBNRD, Chelsea Erickson, Stockton, KS. Staff present: Mike Clements, Shirlee Poyser and Kristen Heft.

**Motion #1 by Roger Nelson seconded by Matt Harrison to approve the August Board, and Variance Minutes as presented. Motion carried.** Ayes 10 – Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf. Nays 0. Absent 1 – Nelson Trambly.

**Motion #2 by Brad Wulf seconded by Bill Bose to approve the LRNRD Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.** Ayes 10 – Dave Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews. Nays 0. Absent 1 – Nelson Trambly.

Mike Clements gave the manager's report. A copy of this report is in the minute book.

Jerry Kovarik, gave the NRCS report. A copy of this report is in the minute book.

Mike Clements presented the Change in Location of Certified Acres on Contiguous Property for Stephen Johnson. The board decided they needed clarification as to when the pivot was installed and used. The board asked that Stephen Johnson be invited to the next board meeting to give them some explanation.

**Motion #3 by Brad Wulf seconded by Bill Bose to table Change in Location of Certified Acres on Contiguous Property as presented for: Stephen Johnson. Motion carried.** Ayes 10 – Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels. Nays 0. Absent 1 – Nelson Trambly.

Mike Clements presented Paul Kral's variance request to drill a replacement well approximately 2,600 feet from the existing well.

**Motion #4 by Matt Harrison seconded by Roger Nelson to approve Variance Request #221 for Paul Kral. Motion carried.** Ayes 10 – Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Bill Bose. Nays 0. Absent 1 – Nelson Trambly.

Mark Steinkruger addressed the board about adjusting the reading on meter 04-9-1005. Scot Lennemann included a note that said he noticed the meter was not plugged in 2012 and the prop was turning as the wind blew. Scot contacted Steinkruger as to what he found. Scot also did an ultrasonic test and found that the meter was 6% off.

**Motion #5 by Tim Kahrs seconded by Dave Bartels to adjust Mark Steinkruger's meter 04-9-1005 back 6% for years 2012, 2013, 2014. Motion carried.** Ayes 10 – Terry Hoit, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison. Nays 0. Absent 1 – Nelson Trambly.

Mike informed the board that we had not officially approved the \$10 per acre for 2015 Occupation Tax and that LB1098 has extended the time when a person can sign the occupation tax exemption forms from March 1 to June 1.

**Motion #6 by Dave Bartels seconded by Roger Nelson to approve the \$10 per acre Occupation Tax for FY 2015 and to extend the 2015 Occupation Tax Exemption sign up date from March 1, 2015 to June 1, 2015. Motion carried.** Ayes 8 – Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Bill Bose, Terry Hoit. Nays 2 – Matt Harrison, Tim Kahrs. Absent 1 – Nelson Trambly.

Mike and Jack Russell toured work being done on Medicine Creek below Wellfleet. They visited two stream crossings where ten foot coverts are being installed to better handle the stream flow. They also visited a field where metal pilings are being installed to prevent bank erosion. Lastly, they visited an area which had experienced some minor low level flooding. N-CORPE has a meeting next week and a decision will be made on hiring a manager for the project.

Terry Hoit asked where the N-CORPE water was going and if it was making it to the lake. Mike explained that the water was making it to the lake when the creek was being charged then July came along and dried everything out. Mike explained that they can put N-CORPE water on top of other water then it gets to the lake. It was asked if the water was being held in Harry Strunk. To Mike's understanding it is all coming downstream. Mike explained that we are pumping 85cfs and the Department said we only needed 50cfs going down the river and they allowed Frenchman Cambridge to use the other 35cfs along with natural flows to irrigate. The DNR paid Frenchman \$150,000 for July and August. Clark Andrews said there is nothing coming out of Harry Strunk. Mike thinks they are possibly holding it there. Marlin Murdoch and Bill Bose said that Carter has been running water all year. Bill Bose asked if DNR is going to explain how this all happened. Mike said Jim Schneider would answer any questions the board may have. Mike thinks DNR made a deal with Bostwick not to divert any of their natural flows. Bostwick also received \$300,000 from DNR. Tim Kahrs has a problem with this because the NRD is paying for it and DNR is taking it away from the NRD just like they did the surface water. Mike understands the concern and thinks we need to look at how the state intended for this whole process to work. Mike is going to look into someone coming and discussing this with the board.

Michael Clements presented the highlights of the LRNRD FY2015 budget.

**Motion #7 by Clark Andrews seconded by Tim Kahrs to approve the FY2015 LRNRD Budget and approve a 1% increase in Restricted Funds Authority as presented. Motion carried.** Ayes 9 – Marlin Murdoch, Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Tim Kahrs. Nays 1 – Bill Bose. Absent 1 – Nelson Trambly.

The Board discussed and considered the 2014 Resolutions for the NARD Annual Conference. A vote was taken on each of the proposed resolutions to provide the delegates with direction on how to vote. (Copies of the resolutions are attached to the minutes.)

Resolution #2014-1	Exempt Small Dams Built Before 1973 from certain DNR Regulations, Vote at Conference – 5 yes
Resolution #2014-2	NE Chemigation Act Amendments, Vote at Conference – 5 yes
Resolution #2014-3	Biennial Budgeting for NRD's, Vote at Conference – 5 yes
Resolution #2014-4	Waive County Election Costs Withdrawn

There was no update on the Rural Water Project.

**Motions #8 by Bill Bose seconded by Matt Harrison to approve the Rural Water Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.** Ayes 10 – Roger Nelson, Toby tenBensel, Brad Wulf, Clark Andrews, Dave Bartels, Bill Bose, Matt Harrison, Terry Hoit, Tim Kahrs, Marlin Murdoch. Nays – 0. Absent 1 – Nelson Trambly.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00PM.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7PM at the Lower Republican NRD office.

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Secretary

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Date