

**MINUTES**  
**LOWER REPUBLICAN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**  
*Lower Republican NRD Meeting Room, 30 North John Street, Alma, NE*  
November 9, 2017 at 2:00 pm

**Board of Directors Meeting**

A notice of the meeting was published on the District Website at [www.lrnrd.org](http://www.lrnrd.org).

Chairperson, Marlin Murdoch, called the meeting of the Lower Republican NRD Board of Directors to order at 2:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Matt Harrison, Brad Wulf.

Marlin Murdoch noted that guests should sign the attendance roster and noted the location of a current copy of the statutes dealing with Open Meetings Act.

Others present: Jerry Kovarik, NRCS, John Thorburn, TBNRD, Andy Raun, Hastings Tribune, Randy Robinson, North Platte, Ryan McIntosh, Lincoln, Ray Winz, Holdrege, Trevor Urbom, Holdrege. Staff present: Todd Siel, Scott Dicke, and Kristi Heft.

**MATERIAL E-MAILED OUT PRIOR TO THE MEETING & HANDED OUT AT THE MEETING**

1. Agenda
2. LRNRD Board Meeting and Variance Hearing Minutes, Index of Decisions, 10/17
3. LRNRD/RWP Treasurer's Report, 10/17
4. Staff Report, NRCS Report
5. The Economic Impact of NCORPE's Lincoln Co. Farmland Purchase on the Local Economy, 2014-2021
6. Memo from Attorney Strommen – Landowners for a Common Purpose, LLC

Comments from the public: none.

**Motion #1 by Roger Nelson seconded by Toby tenBensel to approve the board and variance minutes. Motion carried. 9 Ayes, 0 Nays. Absent 2.**

**Motion #2 by Tim Kahrs seconded by Roger Nelson to approve the LRNRD and RWP Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried. 9 Ayes, 0 Nays. Absent 2.**

Jerry Kovarik gave the NRCS report. Jerry reported on EQIP, RCPP, CStwP renewals. A copy of this report is in the minute book.

Todd Siel and Scott Dicke reviewed details of the written staff report. Discussion included efforts related to water conservation strategies with the DNR, LRNRD, and NBID. The LRNRD will be a co-sponsor with CNPPID and TBNRD at the 2018 Holdrege Water Conference Scheduled for January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Updates on the PRD and Harlan County water elevations were also provided. A copy of the written report is in the minute book.

Rural Water Update: The doors on the storage shed in Franklin are being replaced due to wind damage.

Randy Robison, representing, Landowners for a Common Purpose addressed the board. They requested the sale of the NCORPE surface ground be sold to private entities for lost tax revenue. They believe that water rights could be legally maintained for the purpose of augmentation. The Landowners for a Common Purpose had their attorney provided legal review for the Board indicating that selling the surface land while retaining water rights was an option. Ryan McIntosh, briefly spoke to the board the legal opinion on the two related issues relative to the NCORPE. Randy provided handouts to the Board regarding the economic impact of NCORPE Lincoln County Farmland Purchase on the Local Economy, 2014-2021. Mr. Robinson provide a prepared motion for our NCORPE representative to make at the next NCORPE meeting that directs the sale of the land by public auction while maintaining groundwater rights to continue the water augmentation project. Any questions Board members had after reviewing the information would be passed along to staff. A copy of this is in the minute book.

Matt Harrison arrived at the meeting at 2:26 p.m.

NCORPE Update: Scott Dicke, heard positive feedback on the availability of public access hunting at NCORPE. There is still opportunity for economic development. Todd Siel and Jack Russell met with Randy Robison and looked at the issues that Landowners for a Common Purpose have. Randy Robison had pictures of tumble weeds that have become an issue. Lastly, NCORPE will not be pumped this year.

NARD Update: Roger Nelson reported on the NARD Annual conference. The money raised at the conference from the trap shoot, golfing, silent auction and raffle were distributed to several organizations. Roger Nelson also spoke about the Risk Pool Management.

**Motion #3 by Clark Andrews seconded by Nelson Trambly moved that the Board go into Executive session at 2:42 p.m. to discuss contractual negotiations. Motion carried. Chairman admonished the board that this is the only subject that can be discussed in closed session. 10 Ayes, 0 Nays. Absent 1.**

**Motion #4 by Terry Hoit seconded by Nelson Trambly to move that the Board come out of Executive Session at 3:45p.m. and declare that no actions of the board, official or unofficial, were taken during said Closed Session. Motion carried. 10 Ayes, 0 Nays. Absent 1.**

**Motion #5 by Dave Bartels seconded by Toby tenBensel to give authority to the Board's Ad Hoc Committee to negotiate a land purchase agreement consistent with the parameters discussed by the board and subject to final review and approval by the board at the next meeting. Motion carried. 10 Ayes, 0 Nays. Absent 1.**

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be December 14<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:51 pm.

---

Secretary

---

Date