

UPPER LOUP NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The regular meeting of the Upper Loup Natural Resources District Board of Directors was held at the District office in Thedford, NE on Thursday, February 11, 2010. Gary Schaeffer called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

Directors Present

Wayne Eatinger
Darwin Frey
Judy Ridenour
Gary Schaeffer
Gordon Simonson
Chris Vinton
Wynn Wiens

Directors Absent & Excused

Steve Boyer
Byron Cox
Eric Storer

Directors Unexcused

Staff in Attendance

Anna Baum, General Manager
Jack Brummet, Resource Technician
Leslie Reiser, Admin. Secretary

Guests

Kevin Hood, NRCS

Call Regular Monthly Meeting to Order

Gary called the regular meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

Notice of Open Meeting Law Posting

Gary made note of the Open Meetings Act posted on the wall by the Board meeting table.

Agenda Modification

Gary asked if there were any modifications to the agenda. Anna announced that there is a letter from a producer interested in being a board member. The board will vote on it when we get to elections.

Action on Minutes of December Meeting

Gary asked for additions and/or corrections to the December 10, 2009 meeting minutes. No additions or corrections. Minutes approved as circulated.

Public Forum

Agency Reports

NRCS Report

Kevin passed out a handout and gave an oral report to directors.

Sandhills RC&D – No Report

District Staff Reports

Ann reported that all three projects that were sent to the Environmental Trust for grant dollars have been preliminarily approved. They include the recycling grant, the stream gages as well as the third year funding of the monitoring well network.

Financial Report

The January financial report was reviewed by staff and directors. Wayne moved to accept the financial report and Chris seconded the motion. Motion carried. (RCV#1)

NE Soil & Water Conservation Program

Kyle has been busy doing tree plans and more tree plans have been sent out.

Wildlife – No Report

Water Quantity

We are on hold with our Integrated Management Plan as we are waiting to see the outcome of LB 764 which would allow NRD's to develop their own IMP as well as the outcome of the Niobrara full appropriated appeal.

UNL published their groundwater level report. Wells across most of the state, except the western edge of the panhandle, are up one to five feet. UNL attributes this to the increase in precipitation and a decrease in the amount of groundwater being pumped.

Water Quality

NDEQ sent out their annual report regarding nitrates and other contaminants. Our district has very low nitrate levels with only a few hot spots where people are using reverse osmosis or evaporation to bring nitrate down to a safe level.

District Interlocal Cooperative Agreements

The Niobrara Coalition met at Legislative Conference where Don Blankenou talked about the appeal. There might be some changes to the boundaries which would drop the ULNRD out of the designatin.

Grant Reports

We received out third year funding for the monitoring well network through the Environmental Trust.

Elections

Anna read a letter from Tom Johnson stating that he was interested in serving on the board for sub-district 5 taking the spot left vacant by Louis Jacobson. Gordon made a motion to appoint Tom to the board and Chris seconded the motion. Motion carried. (RCV#2)

Treasurer: Wynn nominated Judy as treasurer and Wayne seconded. Wynn moved that nominations cease. Motion carried. (RCV#3)

Secretary: Wynn nominated Gordon as secretary and Judy seconded. Gordon declined his nomination. Chris nominated Wynn and Wayne seconded. Motion carried. (RCV#4)

Vice Chair: Wayne nominated Byron as vice chair and Chris seconded. Gordon moved that nominations cease. Motion carried. (RCV#5)

Chair: Wynn nominated Gary for chair and Gordon seconded. Chris moved that nominations cease. Motion carried. (RCV#6)

NARD Report

Judy gave a report to the directors.

Correspondence & Informational Items

Directors will need to vote at the next meeting to allow NRD manager to sign off on CRP and other conservation compliance plans.

Adjournment

Gary adjourned the meeting at 4:05 pm.

Wynn Wiens, Secretary

Tally of votes cast on motions, Financial Reports, Manager's Report and Valentine NRCS Reports are on file with the official minutes of this meeting. Notice of this meeting was published in all eight county newspapers and broadcast on KRVN radio. The next Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2010 7:00 pm CST at the District Office in Thedford, NE.