

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 January 15, 2009. Gary Schaeffer called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm.

Directors Present

Steve Boyer via telephone
Byron Cox
Wayne Eatinger
Judy Ridenour
Gary Schaeffer
Chris Vinton
Wynn Wiens

Directors Absent & Excused

Gordon Simonson

Directors Absent & Unexcused

Travis Hansen
Eric Storer

Staff in Attendance

Anna Baum, General Manager
Jack Brummet, Resource Tech.
Kyle Yrkoski, Resource Tech.
Leslie Reiser, Admin. Secretary
Denise Vinton, Information & Education Coordinator

Guests

Kevin Hood, NRCS

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. No modifications.

Swearing in of Newly Elected Directors

Directors taking the oath of office were Judy Ridenour, Gary Schaeffer and Chris Vinton.

2009 Election of Officers and NARD Delegate.

- a. Chair: Judy nominated Gary for Chair, Byron seconded the nomination. Wynn moved that nominations cease. Motion carried. (RCV#1)
- b. Vice Chair: Wayne nominated Byron for Vice Chair, Judy seconded the nomination. Wynn moved that nominations cease. Motion carried. (RCV#2)
- c. Secretary: Judy nominated Wynn for Secretary, Chris seconded the nomination. Wayne moved that nominations cease. Motion carried. (RCV#3)
- d. Treasurer: Byron nominated Judy for Treasurer, Wayne seconded the nomination. Wynn moved that nominations cease. Motion carried. (RCV#4)

Wynn nominated Judy for the NARD Delegate, Wayne seconded the nomination. Byron moved that nominations cease. Motion carried. (RCV#5)

Wynn nominated Wayne for the NARD Alternate, Byron seconded the nomination. Judy moved that nominations cease. Motion carried. (RCV#6)

Selection of RC&D Representatives

Wayne made a motion to keep all representatives the same, Wynn seconded the motion. Motion carried. (RCV#7)

- a. Sandhills Representative for 2009 remains Steve Boyer
- b. Loup Basin Representative for 2009 remains Byron Cox
- c. North Central Representative for 2009 remains Gordon Simonson

Action on Minutes of December Meeting

Gary asked for additions and/or corrections to the December 11, 2008 meeting minutes. No additions or corrections. Minutes approved as circulated.

Financial Report

The December financial report was reviewed by staff and directors. Byron moved to accept the financial report and Chris seconded the motion. Motion carried. (RCV#8)

Public Forum - No Report

Basin Appropriation Preliminary Determination – Information & Comments

Anna brought it to the director's attention that on December 16, 2009, we received official notification from DNR that the Loup Basin was preliminarily deemed fully appropriated. Anna asked the board if they would like to provide testimony at any of the scheduled hearings either on their own or as a collective group with the other seven affected NRD's. The board discussed providing comments for testimony to the legal group that would be representing the 8 NRD's. Wynn moved to send agreed upon comments to the legal group, Chris seconded the motion. Motion carried. (RCV#9)

Directors are to send any comments to the office by Tuesday January 20th for compilation review.

Discussion was held on whether or not to participate in the technical and legal review group that would be representing the 8 NRD's and provide monetary support with the caveat that all other affected NRD's need to participate. Wayne moved to join the group with the conditions set forth, Byron seconded the motion. Motion carried. (RCV#10)

Agency Reports

NRCS Report

Kevin gave an oral report to directors.

Sandhills RC&D – No Report

North Central RC&D – No Report

Central Sandhills Area Extension - No Report

District Staff Reports

Kyle reported that he has drawn up several tree plans so far. Phil from Twin Platte NRD came and helped with the GIS mapping.

Denise reported on the Master Conservation award nominees. She has been working with local communities on a recycle program.

NE Soil & Water Conservation Program

Wildlife – No Report

Water Quantity

29 total high capacity well construction permits were approved in 2008. As of date, 14 of those wells have not been drilled.

Water use reminder postcards have been sent out to those that have not returned their water use reports.

Several people have expressed interest in being a part of the stake holders group for the IMP

Water Quality – No Report

Yard Enhancement Program – No Report

District Interlocal Cooperative Agreements

The Lower Platte Coalition and Nebraska Game & Parks are working together to determine agreed upon water needs.

Grant Reports

Hazard Mitigation packets are in and JEO is putting together the initial draft to be sent to FEMA.

To date seven producers have taken advantage of the free soil testing offered as part of the 319 grant that was put in the newsletter stating we would provide no-cost soil testing to the first 70 participants who call in. This would be spread out throughout the district.

NARD Report

Judy reported that Legislative session begins January 26, 2009

A copy of the bills submitted to the legislature was distributed to the directors.

Correspondence & Informational Items

Adjournment

Gary adjourned the meeting at 6:22 pm.

Eric Storer, 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, February 12, 2009 7:00 pm CST at the District Office in Thedford, NE.