

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, November 9, 2006. Chairman Gary Schaeffer called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Directors Present

Steve Boyer
Byron Cox
Wayne Eatinger
Ginger Fouse
Travis Hansen
Louis Jacobson
Judy Ridenour
Gary Schaeffer
Gordon Simonson

Directors Absent & Excused

Eric Storer

Directors Absent

Joan Marland

Guests Present

Kevin Hood, NRCS
Terri Licking, SSS Byway
Jim Cannia, USGS

Staff in Attendance

Anna Baum, General Manager
Angie Jensen, Admin. Secretary
Jack Brummet, Resources Technician
Scott Hajek, Resources Technician

Agenda Modification

Chairman Schaeffer made note of the Open Meetings Act posted by the Board meeting table. He asked if there were any modifications to the agenda. Agenda item 12, Filling Sub-District #4 Vacancy was moved up after Agenda Modification.

Filling Sub-District #4 Vacancy

Introductions were made to newly appointed director Gordon Simonson for sub-district 4. Director Gordon Simonson signed his oath and was sworn in by Chairman Gary Schaeffer.

Action on Minutes of October Meeting

Chairman Gary Schaeffer asked for additions and/or corrections to the October 12, 2006 minutes of the Regular Board of Directors Meeting. There were none. Chairman Schaeffer approved the minutes as circulated.

Financial Report

The November financial report was reviewed by staff and directors. Director Wayne Eatinger moved to accept the financial report and Director Byron Cox seconded the motion. Motion carried. (RCV#1)

Public Forum-None

Update on Elkhorn-Loup Modeling Study-USGS Jim Cania or Steve Peterson

Jim Cania handed out a report to directors from Steve Peterson. He also handed out the USGS book on Canal Leakage. Jim reported to directors on the progress of the ELM study and answered questions from directors.

NRCS Report

District Conservationist, Kevin Hood, reported to the board of directors the EQIP cut off date will be at the end of January, 2007. The railroad, BNSF, is looking for mitigation sights. Some wetlands and uplands will be sought for exchanges where a new line will be laid.

Sandhills RC&D-None

Central Sandhills Area Extension-None

District Reports

General Manager Anna Baum sent her written report to directors in the mail. She informed directors of Governor Heineman's signing of the Platte River Recovery Agreement, the 35th anniversary in 2007 for Nebraska's Natural Resource Districts and gave examples of the brochure and newsletter she has been working on to send out to the public. Attorney General Bruning has designated funds, \$3,000 for each NRD district, to use toward information and education.

Resources Technician Scott Hajek sent his written report to directors in the mail. He stated the survival checks on tree windbreaks have been completed.

Resources Technician Jack Brummet sent his report to directors in the mail. He reported on the seepage run conducted by the USGS for the ELM study. Most of his work is complete on the water levels this fall and wells are down with a 1 foot decline being the lowest. The Logan County monitoring well is down .06' this month.

Administrative Secretary Angie Jensen sent her report to directors in their board packet. She reminded directors of the meal/start time for the December meeting.

NE Soil & Water Conservation Program

One NC-10 Range Seeding application and one NC-12 Windbreaks application had been completed and presented for review. Director Judy Ridenour moved to accept the application for NC-12 Windbreaks and approve the NC-10 Range Seeding at a reduced amount \$2,485.80 to meet the annual minimum of \$5,000/fiscal year and Director Ginger Fouse seconded the motion.

1097-Lo	Lamoine Hall	Logan County	\$2,865.33
1098-Mc	Arlan Paxton	McPherson County	\$2,485.80

Motion carried. (RCV#2)

Natural Resources Water Quality Funds

Leafy Spurge and Soil Testing applications are still coming in to the office.

Election Results of Representatives

Wynn Wiens is the unofficial at-large newly elected director. All others, Eric Storer, Dist. 1, Steve Boyer, Dist. 2, Wayne Eatinger, Dist. 3, Bryon Cox, Dist. 4 and Travis Hansen, Dist. 5, were uncontested.

NARD Report

Director Judy Ridenour reported she will be going to O'Neill for the next NARD Board Meeting.

Correspondence & Informational Items

GM Anna Baum asked directors to come up with some well qualified nominees/landowners by January 1, 2007 for the Master Conservationist Awards.

At the October meeting, directors and staff started some discussion on rules and regulations for the groundwater management plan. Plans are to start on a couple of the areas with highest priority. Committee members are Byron Cox, Louis Jacobson and Judy Ridenour.

Big Business on the Byway-Terri Licking

Terri had a brochure and some handouts for the directors along with a presentation on the Sandhills Scenic Byway Highway 2.

Personnel Change

Scott Hajek, Resources Technician, gave directors his resignation letter stating he will be leaving Upper Loup NRD November 22, 2006 to take a job in Lincoln with the Department of Environmental Quality in Air Construction. Resumes will be taken for the open position up through November 20, 2006. GM Anna Baum asked for at least 3 directors to be on the hiring committee. Directors Wayne Eatinger, Judy Ridenour and Gary Schaeffer agreed to be here on the tentative interview date of November 29th.

Adjournment

Chairman Gary Schaeffer adjourned the meeting at 9:23 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, December 14, 2006 at 6:00 pm CST at the District Office in Thedford, NE.