

UPPER LOUP NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Special Budget Hearing and regular meeting of the Upper Loup Natural Resources District Board of Directors were held at the District office in Thedford, NE on Thursday, September 14, 2006. Chairman Gary Schaeffer called the meeting to order at 4:20 pm.

Directors Present

Byron Cox  
Ginger Fouse  
Travis Hansen  
Judy Ridenour  
Gary Schaeffer  
Eric Storer

Directors Absent & Excused

Steve Boyer  
Wayne Eatinger  
Louis Jacobson

Directors Absent

Joan Marland  
Marvin Schmitz

Staff in Attendance

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

Guests Present

Heidi Brummet  
Kevin Hood, NRCS

Chairman Schaeffer made note of the Open Meetings Act posted by the Board meeting table. He indicated we would skip through the agenda to items that did not require action at this time while waiting for a 6<sup>th</sup> board member to arrive to form a quorum.

NRCS Report

District Conservationist, Kevin Hood, reported on the upcoming NRCS workshop for September 19, 2006 in Thedford. He reported federally mandated 50% cost share will be in effect across Nebraska NRCS offices for new sign ups of EQIP. Two area livestock drainage lagoons are nearing completion and should be certified and functional soon. NRCS received approval to attend the NARD Annual Conference in Kearney September 25-26.

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 reported on the change in direction for the Middle Loup River Dam and Lake project. The initial core group involved with the project have been contacted and invited to the Upper Loup NRD October 12, 2006 board meeting. Mike Siedschlag will be giving an update to all in attendance.

Anna and Joe Bob Atkins from Arnold Insurance Agency reviewed the Upper Loup NRD property insurance policy. Anna believes Arnold Insurance would provide better service and told board ULNRD would be switching agents.

Resources Technician Scott Hajek sent his written report to directors in the mail. Scott gave a brief summary of the August 28<sup>th</sup> meeting he had attended in Lincoln with HDR and DNR on the dam and lake project.

Resources Technician Jack Brummet sent his report to directors in the mail. In addition, he reported on the drills requiring some repair. He said the Logan County monitoring well was up 4.51' from last month.

Administrative Secretary Angie Jensen sent her report to directors in their board packet. She commented on Husker Harvest Days and the "River Run" at State Fair.

Unexcused board member absences will be handled according to state statutes and those board members will be contacted via registered, return receipt mail to make their position on the board vacant. The Upper Loup NRD will

seek to appoint someone for that position through newspaper advertising through "The Advertiser" and other local papers for those sub-districts.

General Manager Anna Baum discussed the authorization of office closings due to inclement weather and directors confirmed her authority to close with no annual leave or comp time to be taken by employees in that situation.

#### Insurance

Administrative Secretary Angie Jensen attended the last two employee insurance benefits committee meetings at York and Kearney. She gave a brief overview of what has been covered and the Flex Plan to be presented at Annual Conference.

#### NE Soil & Water Conservation Program

Directors looked at four new NC-14 Planned Grazing Applications. The directors reviewed and were satisfied with the new wording on the planned grazing information sheets. Application approval will take place once a quorum is formed this evening.

#### Natural Resources Water Quality Funds

GM Anna Baum made changes to the Leafy Spurge Application and had a copy for directors to see the changes made in regards to the dates covered by fall cost share. Director Eric Storer arrived at 6:35 pm.

#### Agenda Modification

Chairman Gary Schaeffer asked for agenda modifications. There were none.

#### Action on Minutes of August Meeting

Chairman Gary Schaeffer asked for changes or corrections to the August 10, 2006 Regular Board of Directors Meeting of the Upper Loup NRD minutes. There were none. Chairman Schaeffer approved the minutes as circulated.

#### Financial Report

The September financial report was reviewed by staff and directors. Director Judy Ridenour moved to accept the financial report and Director Eric Storer seconded the motion. Motion carried. (RCV#1)

#### Public Forum-None

#### Public Hearing on 2006-2007 Fiscal Year Budget

Chairman Gary Schaeffer opened a public hearing at 5:45 pm for the Fiscal Year Budget 2006-2007. Directors and staff reviewed the copy of the budget presented by General Manager Anna Baum. Chairman Schaeffer asked if everybody had heard what was presented. Hearing no comment nor objections from the public, he closed the budget hearing at 5:56 pm.

#### Public Hearing to Set Final Tax Request

Chairman Gary Schaeffer opened a public hearing at 5:57 pm setting final tax request. Directors and staff reviewed the resolutions directors had received in their packets. Chairman Schaeffer closed the hearing at 5:59 pm.

#### Adopt Budget and Approve Tax/Levy Resolutions

Director Judy Ridenour moved to adopt the budget and approve the resolutions. Director Ginger Fouse seconded the motion. Motion carried. (RCV#2)

### NE Soil & Water Conservation Program

Four NC-14 Planned Grazing applications had been completed and were presented for review. Directors upheld the \$5,000 limit on the two applications that were presented over that amount. Director Byron Cox moved to accept the four applications with the two limited to \$5,000 and Director Travis Hansen seconded the motion.

1092-BL	Dalene Hanna	Blaine County	\$2,917.20
1093-Mc	Arlan Paxton	McPherson County	\$2,548.00
1094-Th	Steven Reed	Thomas County	\$5,000.00
1095-BI	Dean Wright	Blaine County	\$5,000.00

Motion carried. (RCV#3)

### Proposed Dam and Lake Project

The group had discussed this item earlier in the District Reports.

### NARD Report

GM Anna Baum reported to the board that our Field Office Clerk, Cleo Jacobs, would be in the NRD office September 25 & 26 to cover for the staff to attend Annual Conference at Kearney this year. She will be working on newsletter information and other office work.

Director Judy Ridenour reported to directors and staff she had no resolutions to present for the NARD Conference. Judy will be our NARD voting delegate and will attend annual conference and the NARD board meeting Tuesday, September 26, 2006.

### Correspondence & Informational Items

Administrative Secretary Angie Jensen had a thank you note from Kory Phillips for the 4-H Champion Horticulture trophy at the Hooker County Fair.

GM Anna Baum encouraged directors to be a host site for the Documentary "Price of Water". Which is a project sponsored by the Groundwater Association. The event will be an opportunity for local residents to learn more about and discuss Nebraska water issues. Director Ginger Fouse suggested the Gudmundsen Ranch Learning Facility as a potential site also.

Anna reminded directors of the Project WET and Project Learning Tree workshop to be held here at the ULNRD toward the end of October.

All non-participating NERain Volunteers have been contacted to let them know we will be collecting the rain gauges. The gauges will be dispersed to other locations to those willing to be active participants.

### Adjournment

Chairman Gary Schaeffer adjourned the meeting at 6:14 pm.

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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. The next Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 12, 2006 at 7:00 pm CST at the District Office in Thedford, NE.