

UPPER LOUP NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
July 13, 2023 @ 7:00 PM CT

The regular meeting of the Upper Loup Natural Resources District Board of Directors was held in Thedford, NE on Thursday, July 13th, 2023. Chris Higgins called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Directors Present

Miles Maseberg  
Tony Ruhter  
John Krave  
David Vinton  
Patrick Wright  
Chris Higgins  
Richard Burnside

Directors Absent & Excused

Judy Ridenour  
Tom Johnson  
Rebecca Connealy  
Max Fay

Directors Unexcused

Staff in Attendance

Anna Baum, General Manager  
Jamie Green, Admin. Secretary

Guests

Leah Carson, District Conservationist  
T.L. Meyer, Beef Systems Extension Educator

Call Regular Monthly Meeting to Order

Higgins called the regular meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Open Meetings Act

Higgins made note of the Open Meetings act posted on the wall in the Learning center.

Agenda Modifications

Higgins asked if there were any modifications to the agenda. No modifications.

Action on Minutes of June Meeting

Higgins asked for additions and/or corrections to the June 8th, 2023 meeting minutes. Krave made a motion to accept the minutes as circulated and Vinton seconded the motion. Aye: Higgins, Krave, Maseberg, Ruhter, Vinton, and Wright. Abstain: Burnside. Motion carried. (RCV #1)

Public Forum – No Representation

NRCS Report

Leah Carson gave a report to the directors on current NRCS operations.

UNL Extension Report

T.L. Meyer let the directors know there will be a grazing conference in Kearney on August 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. On Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> there will be an open house at Gudmundsen Sandhills Laboratory.

NARD Report – No Report

NRC – No Report

RC & D – No Report

District Staff Reports

Anna reported to the directors that Zeta Greene won NARD Educator of the Year Award. She is a teacher at Sandhills Public Schools in Dunning and was nominated by Lexi Spurlin. She will be recognized at the NRD Annual Conference in September in Kearney.

She emailed the Director's Code of Conduct to the directors.

Justin is conducting chemigation inspections.

Lexi and Kyon are testing domestic wells in Sub-district 3. They are deploying the real-time data logging units.

Lexi has published the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter newsletter and will be working on the Annual Report in the next month.

Financial Report

The July financial report was reviewed by staff and directors. Wright made a motion to accept the financial report and Burnside seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #2)

NE Soil & Water Conservation Program

Anna presented an NSWCP Application to the Directors for review. Wright made a motion to approve the application as presented and Vinton seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #3)

Wildlife – No Report

Water Sub-committee – No Report

Water Quantity

Anna let the directors know she sent emails to the individuals that had applied for certified acres in 2023. We had 8 applications this year, 2 are completely done, 2 have not started, and 4 in process. They must have the well drilled, flowmeter, and acre certification form returned by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

We have received 3 applications to date for 2024, and applications will be taken until September 30<sup>th</sup>.

She went over the water use information that was emailed to the directors.

Water Quality

Anna reported to the directors that Justin will be doing just over 100 chemigation inspections.

There are 116 domestic wells to test in Sub-district 3.

Ruhter advised the group there is a new noxious weed called the yellow loosestrife. Anna took note and will contact the appropriate agencies for more information and will do a press release in the future.

Current NRD Projects – No Reports

Grant Reports

Anna has completed and submitted the quarterly reports for the Recycling Coordinator and Hazard Mitigation grants.

Coalition/Alliance – No Report

Review Long Range Plan

Anna reminded the directors that every year the Long Range Plan is submitted to DNR to remain eligible for funding opportunities to help pay for the NSWCP projects. She sent the plan to the directors for review noting there were obvious changes that needed to be made. She asked the directors about prioritizing projects or areas of conservation that needed to be added. Additions or changes can be submitted until September when it will be finalized.

Budget

Anna went over the working copy of the budget for 2023-2024 that was emailed to the directors. The budget hearing was set for September 14<sup>th</sup>.

Approval of Director Absences, Correspondence, Scholarships, Informational Items & Complaints

Maseberg made a motion to approve Connealy, Fay, Johnson, and Ridenour absences and Ruhter seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #4)

Adjournment

Higgins adjourned the meeting at 8:36 pm.

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Judy Ridenour, Secretary

Tally of votes cast on motions, Financial Reports and Manager's Reports are on file with the official minutes of this meeting. The meeting was advertised in the Thomas County Herald, Stapleton Enterprise, Hooker County Tribune, Grant County News, ULNRD website, and the ULNRD newsletter. The next Board of Directors Meeting will be held at the office on Thursday, August 10, 2023, at 7:00 pm.