

UPPER LOUP NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
DIRECTOR'S TOUR FOLLOWED BY
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
October 13, 2022 @ 12:30 PM CT

The Director's Tour followed by the regular meeting of the Upper Loup Natural Resources District Board of Directors was held in Stapleton, NE on Thursday, October 13th, 2022. Chris Higgins called the meeting to order at 12:53 pm.

Directors Present

Miles Maseberg
Tony Ruhter
Tom Johnson
Richard Burnside
Judy Ridenour
Rebecca Connealy
Chris Higgins
John Kraye
Eric Storer

Directors Absent & Excused

Patrick Wright

Directors Unexcused

Staff in Attendance

Anna Baum, General Manager
Jamie Green, Admin. Secretary

Guests

Jack Brummet
Todd Hanneman, Sr Digital Sales Advisor - Simplot

Call Regular Monthly Meeting to Order

Higgins called the regular meeting to order at 12:53 pm.

Open Meetings Act

Higgins made note of the Open Meetings act posted on the wall in the front meeting room of the Village of Stapleton Community Center.

Agenda Modifications

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

Action on Minutes of August Meeting

Higgins asked for additions and/or corrections to the September 8, 2022 meeting minutes. Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes as circulated and Maseberg seconded the motion. Aye: Burnside, Connealy, Johnson, Maseberg, Ridenour, and Ruhter. Abstain: Kraye, Higgins, and Storer. Motion carried. (RCV#1)

Public Forum – No Representation

Agency Reports – No Report

District Staff Reports

Anna emailed an updated copy of changes that were made to the NARD Bylaws. If there are any questions or concerns on any of the changes, please contact Ridenour as the NARD Board will be voting on changes next month.

Anna reported to the directors that Shaylee Scranton is no longer with us, and Kyon Neal will be starting on October 17th.

Jamie passed around a certificate given to the ULNRD from the Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team as a thank you for using the facility during the Bovee Fire. They also generously provided a donation of speakers for video conferencing and some cleaning supplies.

There was discussion held regarding ACE camp and possible future locations. More information will be given at a later date.

Financial Report

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

NE Soil & Water Conservation Program

Anna presented a NSWCP Application to the Directors. Ruhter made a motion to accept the application and Maseberg seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #2)

Wildlife – No Report

Water Sub-committee – No Report

Water Quantity

Anna reported to the directors that of the Expansion of Irrigated Acres applications that were approved for 2022, there were 13 completed by the September 30 deadline of the 15 approved. Therefore, only 909 acres went on the books for 2022, instead of the 1,057 approved acres.

For 2023, there were 10 applications received for 956 acres. Of the 10 received, only 8 were approved, for a total of 755 acres.

We start a new 5-year depletion on acres through the Lower Platte South River Basin Alliance. We started with 2,768 acre feet depletions, depletions for 2023 were 40 acre feet, so for the next 4 years we have 2,748 acre feet depletion to work with.

She met with DNR in September for the VIMP annual required meeting. No changes recommended to the IMP, so it's good for another year.

Water Quality

Lexi is currently 95% complete with water testing in Sub-district 2. She should be done by the end of next week.

Current NRD Projects – No Report

Grant Reports

Anna reminded the directors that Chris Hobza will be at next month's meeting to give summary on 3-year Drought Resiliency project on the South Loup.

The Drought Mitigation plan stakeholders met in early October. There were some comments and changes made to the draft. The draft will be revised, and the updated copy will be sent out to directors within the next 2 weeks. The updated draft will need to be approved at the next board meeting to close the grant at the end of December.

Coalition/Alliance – No Report

NARD Report

Ridenour reported to the directors that she went to Annual Conference, along with Storer and Higgins. Storer and Higgins shared their experiences at the conference. The NARD has been able to put extra money on the principal of the loan for the new building. Executive Travel will be giving 75,000 trees to the NRD's up from 50,000 last year. Ridenour shared how she voted on the NARD Resolution regarding Sustainability.

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

Burnside made a motion to regretfully accept Schipporeit's resignation and Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #4)

Johnson made a motion to approve Wright absence and Maseberg seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #5)

Adjournment

Higgins adjourned the meeting at 1:37 pm.

Judy Ridenour, Secretary

Tally of votes cast on motions, Financial Reports and Manager's Report 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 Stapleton Community Center on Thursday November 10, 2022 at 7:00 pm.