

UPPER LOUP NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
October 14, 2021 @7:00 PM CT

Directors Present

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

Directors Absent & Excused

Eric Schipporeit  
Chris Higgins

Directors Unexcused

Staff in Attendance

Anna Baum, General Manager  
Jamie Green, Admin. Secretary

Guests

Kevin Hood, NRCS District Conservationist  
TL Meyer, Beef Systems Extension Educator

Call Regular Monthly Meeting to Order

Wright called the regular meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

Open Meetings Act

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

Agenda Modifications

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

Action on Minutes of September Meeting

Wright asked for additions and/or corrections to the September 9, 2021 meeting minutes. Kraye made a motion to accept the minutes as circulated and Storer seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV#1)

Public Forum – No Representation

Agency Reports

Kevin Hood gave a report to the directors on current NRCS operations.

TL Meyer shared some important dates with the directors. There is a Unit Cost of Production workshop on November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> in Bassett, NE. Also on November 8<sup>th</sup>, will be the 2021 NGLC Traveling Road Show titled “Why We Seek and Keep Seeking: From Crisis Management to Holistic Management” given by Joshua and Tara Dukart in Valentine. Lunch will be provided. There will be a Generational Transition workshop on January 6<sup>th</sup> at Gudmundsen. TL also let the directors know pesticide training and chemigation training is in the works, more information will be provided at a later date. For more information contact the Extension office.

## District Staff Reports

Anna updated the directors on the additional information requested from the Senator's office regarding LR 23, and shared the information that was sent.

Anna reported to the directors the tree pricing has gone up 4 cents due to prices rising 4 cents from Bessey Nursery.

Anna emailed the long range plan to directors and will be updating the plan due to the Sub-district changes.

Shane finished survival checks and the average survival rate was 63%. Shane observed that the shelter belts with mulch and drip line had the highest survival rates.

Lexi hosted the quarterly Information & Education NRD Conference on October 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. She also mailed out the quarterly newsletter.

Jake has been busy with the drills and getting ready to start on flowmeter checks.

## Financial Report

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

NE Soil & Water Conservation Program – No Report

Wildlife – No Report

Water Sub-committee – No Report

## Water Quantity

There were 21 applications received for expansion of irrigated acres with 7 drilling new wells. There were 2 not approved due to not meeting the ranking criteria and 2 not approved due to being over the allotment of acres for Logan County. A total of 990 acres were allotted throughout the district.

Anna will be sending out 2021 certified irrigated acre reports to the assessors and that will include everyone approved for watering in 2021.

Anna let the directors know that she met with DNR for the annual IMP review. No action will be taken at this time in regards to our IMP. We will wait until the groundwater management and drought mitigation plans are done to update the IMP.

## Water Quality

Anna shared with the directors that there will be a press release in the newspapers with information about the soil testing cost share to increase awareness of the program. Included in the press release will be the businesses that were sent cost share applications.

Anna informed the directors that the reagent that is used for nitrate testing has been backordered for a couple months and was received yesterday. Lexi has a few water quality tests in the new subdistrict boundary once complete the report will be ready.

### Current NRD Projects

Anna emailed the new Sub-district map to the directors. There was discussion regarding the new Sub-district boundaries. Storer made a motion to approve the new Sub-district boundaries and Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #3)

### Grant Reports

Anna advised the directors the quarterly grant reports were submitted last week.

### Coalition/Alliance

Anna reported to the directors the Lower Platte South Manager's Meeting is next month in Ord. The LPSB consultants will attend either our December or January meeting to go over analysis of 1st 5 year increment and what allotments look like for the next 5 year allotment.

### NARD Report

Judy reported to the directors the NARD Annual Conference was September 28<sup>th</sup>. There were approximately 250 people in attendance. She passed around the Annual Report that was given in the Registration packet. The 2021 Tree Planter Award was presented to Diamond Bar Ranch at the luncheon. She went to several informative session including a session on manganese. She suggested testing for manganese as there are issues that can present if too much is ingested. There was a resolution regarding the 30 by 30 program (EO 14008) that was tabled on Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup> due to the resolution being political and very vague. On Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, there was more discussion regarding the resolution and a vote was made opposing the resolution. There was more discussion among the ULNRD board members regarding this topic and the decision was made to vote on a resolution at the next ULNRD board meeting.

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

Storer made a motion to approve Higgins and Schipporeit absences and Ruhter seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #4)

Anna asked the directors if they wanted to donate to the Water Leaders Academy. Johnson made a motion to donate to the Water Leaders Academy and Burnside seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #5)

There was discussion regarding re-scheduling the director's tour and changing the meeting date due to the Veterans Day holiday. It was decided to change the meeting date to November 4<sup>th</sup> and the director's tour will be scheduled pending approval from Schipporeit.

### Adjournment

Wright adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm.

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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, Hooker County Tribune, Stapleton Enterprise, McPherson County News, Grant County News, ULNRD website, and the ULNRD newsletter. The next Board of Directors Meeting will be held at the office on Thursday November 4, 2021 at 7:00 pm.