

UPPER LOUP NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
BUDGET HEARING FOLLOWED BY
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
September 8, 2022 @7:00 PM CT

The budget hearing followed by the regular meeting of the Upper Loup Natural Resources District Board of Directors was held in Thedford, NE on Thursday, September 8, 2022. Patrick Wright called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Directors Present

Miles Maseberg
Patrick Wright
Tony Ruhter
Tom Johnson
Richard Burnside
Judy Ridenour

Directors Absent & Excused

John Krave
Rebecca Connealy

Directors Unexcused

Eric Storer
Chris Higgins
Eric Schipporeit

Staff in Attendance

Anna Baum, General Manager
Jamie Green, Admin. Secretary

Guests

TL Meyer, Beef Systems Extension Educator

Call Budget Hearing to Order – Open Meeting Law – Adjourn

Wright called the Budget Hearing to order at 7:02 pm.

Wright made note of the Open Meetings Act posted in the Learning Center.

No public comment or testimony provided.

Hearing adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Call Regular Monthly Meeting to Order

Wright called the regular meeting to order at 7:03 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 August Meeting

Wright asked for additions and/or corrections to the August 11, 2022 meeting minutes. Ruhter made a motion to accept the minutes as circulated and Johnson seconded the motion. Aye: Burnside, Johnson, Maseberg, Ridenour, and Ruhter. Abstain: Wright. Motion carried. (RCV#1)

Public Forum – No Representation

Agency Reports

TL Meyer shared some important dates with the directors. There will be a Ranch Transition Planning workshop in Broken Bow on September 20th. On September 21st there is the Herd That! Conference also in Broken Bow sponsored by Women in Ag. Beef QA will be held on December 12th in Thedford. Next month she will have some dates for pesticide trainings in January and February. There will also be hay probes available to borrow in 3 or 4 counties.

District Staff Reports

Anna emailed an updated copy of the master plan and long range plan to the directors. Jamie can help save updated plans to iPad if needed.

There is a five cent average increase per seedling this year. Bessey tree prices will be adjusted to match the increase.

Executive Travel, the travel agency who donated money to be used on trees to the NRD's in Nebraska last year, is increasing the amount of their donation this year. A little over \$3000 will be donated next year, up from \$2000 last year. Possible giveaways include: for every 200 trees machine planted the producer can request 100 trees at no charge and for every 100 handplants planted the producer can request 50 handplants at no charge. Donations will also be going to schools and nonprofits as well.

Also emailed to the directors, was a Resolution created by the Tri Basin in regards to sustainable farming practices. The directors discussed and gave Ridenour direction on how to vote at Annual Conference.

Financial Report

The September financial report was reviewed by staff and directors. Ruhter 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 – No Report

Wildlife – No Report

Water Sub-committee – No Report

Water Quantity

Anna stated to the directors that 2 applications for irrigated acres have been received, to date. There are 2 applications asking for 140 acres in Logan County.

Anna has an Annual VIMP meeting with DNR at the end of September at the Annual Conference.

Water Quality

Lexi is currently 50% complete with water testing in Sub-district 2. There are 125 domestic wells and 36 irrigation wells to be tested.

Current NRD Projects – No Report

Action to Adopt FY 2022-2023 Budget

Anna provided visuals to the directors that depicted revenue sources, breakdown of budget expenses as well as the 2022-23 fiscal year compared to 2021-22 budget. Budget Asking stayed the same, levy rate is down and budget attributed to tax dollars is still well under half at 38%.

Maseberg made a motion to approve the budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 and Burnside seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #3)

Action to Adopt Resolution to Approve Additional 1% Increase

Johnson made a motion to approve the additional 1% increase and Burnside seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #4)

Action to Adopt Resolution to Set Property Tax Request

Maseberg made a motion to approve the property tax request set at \$368,650.00 and Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #5)

Action to Adopt Resolution to Set Levy for FY 2022-2023

Maseberg made a motion to set the levy for fiscal year 2022-2023 at \$0.012792 per \$100.00 of valuation and Ruhter seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #6)

Grant Reports

Anna reported to the directors the only bid received for a consultant to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan in 2025, was submitted by JEO. Burnside made a motion to accept JEO as consultant for updated Hazard Mitigation plan in 2025 and Maseberg seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #7)

Coalition/Alliance – No Report

NARD Report

Ridenour reminded the directors Annual Conference is September 25th – 26th. She reported it appears the sessions will have an emphasis on nitrogen and chemicals in the water this year.

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

Maseberg made a motion to approve Connealy and Kraye as excused absences and Higgins, Schipporeit, and Storer as unexcused absences and Burnside seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. (RCV #8)

The Director's Tour at the properties of Burnside and Johnson have been set for October 13th with regular board meeting to follow at the Stapleton Community Center at 12:30 pm CT.

Adjournment

Wright adjourned the meeting at 8:02 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 October 13, 2022 at 12:30 pm.