

PUBLIC NOTICE

The South Platte Natural Resources District will hold a regular public meeting on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at South Platte Natural Resources District, 551 Parkland Drive, Sidney, Nebraska at 5:00 p.m. An agenda of the matters to be considered at such date, time and place is kept continually current and is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the South Platte NRD Office, 551 Parkland Drive, Sidney. Any person with disabilities who needs help in participating in the meeting should contact the District office (308) 254-2377, before the meeting.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Call to Order - Bill Halligan, Chair
 - A. Nebraska Open Meetings Act
 - B. Legal Notices
2. Minutes
 - A. *Minutes of the July 11, 2017 South Platte Natural Resources District (SPNRD) Board of Directors Meeting
3. *Treasurer's Report for July 2017 and Accounts Payable - Horn
4. Public Questions, Comments and Concerns
5. Director and Staff Reports
6. Agency Reports
 - A. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
 1. NRCS Report - Kristin Dickinson, DC-NRCS
 - B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD)
 1. NARD Report - Johnson
 2. Employee Benefits/Risk Management Pool Committee Meetings Report - Johnson/Horn
 3. NARD Annual Conference, September 24-26, 2017, Kearney, NE
 4. Discussion on NARD Resolutions
 - C. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR)
 1. NeDNR Natural Resources Commission Report - Halligan
7. General Reports
 - A. SPNRD 2017 Conservation Tree Program Final Report - Wittrock
8. Committee Reports
 - A. Natural Resources/Projects and Programs Committee - Maas, Chair
 1. *Discussion and Action on John and Jaclyn Miller Ground Water Transfer Permit Application

B. District Operations Committee

1. Fiscal Year 2018 Budgets
 - a. Preliminary SPNRD, ORRA and CMC Budgets Review
 - b. *Action on Unused Restricted Fund Authority
 - i. Increase an Additional One Percent
2. *Discussion and Action to Adopt the SPNRD Updated Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigating Plan
3. *Review and Action on Proposed Modifications to the District's Policies for Administering the Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation (NSWCP) and SPNRD Conservation Programs
4. *Discussion and Action regarding Proposed Land Acquisition Adjacent to the Goldenrod Wildlife Management Area
5. *Action to Transfer \$150,000.00 from the Oliver Reservoir Recreational Area Infrastructure Repurchase Account to the District's Checking Account
6. SPNRD/CHESI Citizens' Monitoring Committee
 - a. *Ratification of Reappointed Members to the Committee
 - b. SPNRD's FY 2017 Reimbursement Request from the CMC in the Amount of \$9,810.46
7. Preliminary Policies Discussion Regarding Oliver Reservoir Recreation Area: 1) Special Use Permit; 2) Camping Near or Around Sheltered Structures; and 3) Vandalism/Crime Situations

9. Correspondence

10. Dates

2017 County Fairs:

August 9 - 14, Kimball County Fair

August 11 - 13, Deuel County Fair

August 25 - September 4, Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island

September 4, 2017, SPNRD Offices Closed, Labor Day

September 12, 2017 SPNRD Board of Directors Meeting

September 12 - 14, Husker Harvest Days, Grand Island

September 24 - 26, NARD Annual Conference, Kearney

October 9, 2017, Columbus Day, Offices Closed

November 10, 2017, Veteran's Day (Observed), Offices Closed

11. Adjourn

*Denotes Action Item

MINUTES

The meeting of the South Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors was held Tuesday, August 8, 2017, at the South Platte Natural Resources District, 551 Parkland Drive Sidney, NE at 5:00 p.m. The public notices were published in the area newspapers. The agenda was compiled and each member of the Board of Directors and other interested and affected persons were notified of the meeting date within the deadline.

Board Members Present

Bill Halligan, Chair

Jim Johnson, Secretary

Chris Meyer

Tim Maas, Vice Chair

Kathy Narjes

Larry Rutt

Board Members Absent

Phil Grabowski

Others Present

Kristin Dickinson, DC-NRCS

NRD Staff Present

Rod L. Horn, General Manager

Donald Davis, Administrative Manager

Shelly Gerk, Information and Education Coordinator

Travis Glanz, Water Resources Coordinator

Galen Wittrock, Assistant Manager

Ryan Reisdorff, Water Resources Specialist

Chris Kaiser, Natural Resources Coordinator

Tyler Sanders, Water Resources Technician

Information Material

The following information was provided electronically prior to or during the meeting:

1. Tentative Agenda - Board of Directors Meeting, August 8, 2017
2. Tentative Agenda - Natural Resources/Projects and Programs Committee Meeting, August 8, 2017
3. Tentative Agenda - District Operations Committee, August 8 Meeting, 2017
4. July 11, 2017, Minutes of the South Platte NRD (SPNRD) Board of Directors Meeting
5. July 11, 2017, Minutes of the SPNRD District Operations Committee Meeting
6. July 2017, Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable
7. August 3, 2017, Manager's Letter
8. August 8, 2017, Staff Report: Donald Davis
9. USDA Press Release "Nebraska NRCS Welcomes Myron Taylor as Acting State Conservationist" dated July 16, 2017
10. 2017 SPNRD Tree Program Summary
11. John and Jaclyn Miller Ground Water Transfer Permit Application dated July 25, 2017
12. FY 2018 Proposed SPNRD Budget Worksheet
13. FY 2018 Proposed ORRA Budget Worksheet
14. FY 2018 SPNRD/CHESI Citizens' Monitoring Committee Budget Worksheet
15. 2016 - 2017 SPNRD Lid Supporting Schedule, 2015 - 2016 Restricted Funds Authority with Allowable Increases and Figure 1 - (Graph) SPNRD FY 2017 Budget Calculations of Restricted Funds Authority
16. SPNRD Hazard Mitigation Resolution #2017-01 dated August 8, 2017 and associated July 31, 2017 Approval Paperwork
17. FY 2018 NSWCP & SPNRD Conservation Programs Worksheet Example

18. Karla Smith, NE Department of Roads Letter dated May 24, 2017, regarding 4.22 Acres near Goldenrod WMA, Aerial Photo of Goldenrod WMA, December 11, 2012 Airspace Lease Agreement regarding Goldenrod WMA
 19. Letter and Timeline of CMC Members to Reappoint CHESI Citizens' Monitoring Committee Members dated August 1, 2017
 20. 2017 SPNRD Reimbursement Request from CMC
 21. ORRA Special Use Permit Request for Billy Lindsey dated July 14, 2017
 22. SPNRD/ORRA General Management Overview Booklet dated December 10, 2013
 23. Per Diem Worksheet
-

1. Call to Order

Chair Halligan called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. noting that Phil Grabowski was absent and excused.

A. Nebraska Open Meetings Act

Chair Halligan stated that this meeting is subject to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. A copy is posted in the meeting room.

B. Legal Notices

Chair Halligan acknowledged that the notice of this meeting was published in the District's newspapers and the Affidavits/Proofs of Publication are included with these minutes.

2. Minutes

A. *Minutes of the July 11, 2017 South Platte Natural Resources District (SPNRD) Board of Directors Meeting

Chair Halligan requested if there were any corrections or additions to the July 11, 2017 Board meeting minutes. Motion by Narjes, second by Rutt to approve the July 11, 2017 minutes as presented. With no discussion, a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Maas, Meyer, Narjes, Rutt, Halligan, Johnson

Nay:

Absent: Grabowski

Motion carried.

3. *Treasurer's Report for July 2017 and Accounts Payable

Horn reviewed the account balances listed on the Treasurer's Report as follows:

<u>Account Description</u>	<u>July 1, 2017</u>	<u>July 31, 2017</u>
SPNRD Checking/Repurchase	\$610,987.75	\$480,859.06
SPNRD Building/Property	\$ 28,472.15	\$ 28,474.52
SPNRD Vehicle/Equipment	\$ 23,337.34	\$ 23,339.26
SPNRD ORRA Infrastructure	\$150,211.30	\$150,224.24
SPNRD ORRA Checking PWCB	\$ 9,001.87	\$ 9,120.37
Citizens' Monitoring PWCB	\$ 55,709.12	\$ 57,372.50
Citizens' Monitoring CD First Tier	\$ 76,211.50	\$ 76,211.50
SPRCC NPAIT Account	\$ 5,494.40	\$ 5,497.06

Horn reviewed various items listed in the accounts payable. The total amount of accounts payable is \$68,706.35. After discussion, Maas moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and authorize payment of

the accounts payable in the amount of \$68,706.35. A second was made by Johnson and with no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Meyer, Narjes, Rutt, Halligan, Johnson, Maas

Nay:

Absent: Grabowski

Motion carried.

4. Public Questions, Comments and Concerns

None

5. Director and Staff Reports

Kaiser - worked on Chemigation inspections, water samples, and worked on budget items

Wittrock - attended the conservation tree workshop statewide meeting at Chadron, conducted buffer strip inspections, worked on budget items, described work on the boat ramp at Oliver Reservoir, observed the conduit inspection at Oliver Reservoir, and worked on the East Sidney Watershed Project

Gerik - attended the CMC meeting, hosted the I&E meeting and tour, set up the display at the Cheyenne County Fair, posted raingarden pictures on Facebook, printed recreation rules and regulations books for Oliver Reservoir, put together information and pictures for the annual conference, worked on factsheets and the Pipeline and worked on budget

Sanders - inspected meters that were maintained last winter, mowing, watering and weeding the lots

Reisdorff - worked on the Hazard Mitigation Plan, goals updated and worked on budget items, worked on the lots, attended meetings for the Western Water Use Management Model, POAC Technical Committee and Platte Basin Coalition, read industrial meters and inspected the pilot project on the Western Canal

Glanz - met with the new representative from Symetrics, attended the Platte Basin Coalition meeting, met with Adaptive Resources Inc. and provided more information for the robust review, attended the POAC meeting, worked with GIS Workshop on issues with the mobile app, one well replacement permit, one groundwater transfer permit application, fielding phone calls on allocations and water usage, worked on the pilot project for Western Canal and completed the quarterly report for Hydrogeology of Western Nebraska

Davis - Written Report

Horn - No Report

6. Agency Reports

A. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

1. NRCS Report

Dickinson reported the NRCS worked to meet the deadline for CRP grasslands and that new CSP contracts are being written with all but one was approved. They continue to work on CSP modules. The summer help finished up and were a huge asset with getting programs done during the summer. Dickinson also reported that Myron Taylor has taken over as the Interim State Conservationist for at least 120 days.

B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

1. NARD Report - Johnson reported that the next event will be Husker Harvest Days in Grand Island September 12 - 14, 2017

2. Employee Benefits/Risk Management Pool Committee Meetings Report - Horn reported that the economy is staying strong and some emerging international markets are adding value which is positive while some changes being made for investment choices. The risk management pool had a positive year in the past fiscal year. Johnson reported the next meeting is October 24, 2017.

3. NARD Annual Conference, September 24 - 26, 2017, Kearney, NE - Horn encouraged board members who are interested in going to let him know so that reservations can be made accordingly.

4. Discussion on NARD Resolutions - Johnson reported that no resolutions have been drafted; will be available in September.

C. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR)

1. NeDNR Report Natural Resources Commission (NRC) - Halligan reported that he attended a hearing in Scottsbluff on the rewriting of the rules for the Water Sustainability Fund. The District has a project using the Water Sustainability Fund. 23 new applications will be considered for this application period.

7. General Reports

A. SPNRD 2017 Conservation Tree Program Final Report

Wittrock gave the final report on the 2017 Conservation Tree Program. A little under 62,000 trees were sold during the spring and trees were purchased from 10 nurseries. 35,000 trees were machine planted, 20,000 hand planted and several orders were picked up. Some trees were donated to schools and communities. Wittrock reported the majority of the trees were distributed in Cheyenne County. The program showed an overall profit of \$6,087.00. Wittrock stated there will be a re-evaluation of tree prices for next year.

8. Committee Reports

A. Natural Resources/Projects and Programs Committee

1. *Discussion and Action on John and Jaelyn Miller Ground Water Transfer Permit Application

Maas reviewed the application for the John and Jaelyn Miller Ground Water Transfer Permit Application. Discussion followed. Maas made the motion to approve the Miller Ground Water Transfer Permit Application - addition of use from irrigation to primary irrigation and secondary industrial. Second by Rutt, and with no further discussion a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Narjes, Rutt, Halligan, Johnson, Maas, Meyer

Nay:

Absent: Grabowski

Motion carried.

B. District Operations Committee

1. Fiscal Year 2018 Budgets

a. Preliminary SPNRD, ORRA, and CMC Budgets Review

Horn gave a summary of the draft FY 2018 budgets for SPNRD, ORRA and CMC. The overall combined budget for FY 2017 was \$3,365,032.00 and the tax request was \$1,345,999.00. The certified valuation was \$2,678,840,161.00 for the three counties. For FY 2018 the District combined budget is expected to be \$3,274,861.00. Horn indicated that projection may change with some budget item amounts still coming in. Depending on property valuations it is expected that the overall tax levy will be slightly lower this fiscal year. Horn encouraged the board to review the budgets provided to them. A brief discussion followed regarding when the District would receive its certified valuations from the three counties.

b. *Action on Unused Restricted Fund Authority

i. Increase an Addition One Percent

Horn summarized the use and definition of the Unused Restricted Fund Authority and Lid Allowances. A vote of at least 75% of the board is required to increase the Unused Restricted Fund Authority one percent. Johnson made the motion to increase the District's Unused Restricted Fund Authority an additional one percent. Second by Narjes, and with no further discussion a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Rutt, Halligan, Johnson, Maas, Meyer, Narjes

Nay:

Absent: Grabowski

Motion carried.

2. *Discussion and Action to Adopt the SPNRD Updated Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Johnson advised the board to look at information provided about the Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan. Johnson read resolution #2017-01. Johnson made the motion to adopt resolution #2017-01 to approve the hazard mitigation plan. Second by Maas and with no further discussion a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Halligan, Johnson, Maas, Meyer, Narjes, Rutt

Nay:

Absent: Grabowski

Motion carried.

3. *Review and action on Proposed Modifications to the District's Policies for Administering the Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation (NSWCP) and SPNRD Conservation Programs

Dickinson reviewed the need to look at possible funding ideas for further NSWCP and SPNRD Planned Grazing Systems. No action on this issue was taken.

4. *Discussion and Action regarding Proposed Land Acquisition Adjacent to the Goldenrod Wildlife Management Area

Kaiser gave a quick history of the District's involvement with the Goldenrod Wildlife Management Area and the possibility to purchase 4.2 acres of adjacent land. The committee decided at this time that purchasing the 4.2 acres was not in the best interest of the District until more information is obtained. No action was taken.

5. *Action to Transfer \$150,000.00 from the Oliver Reservoir Recreational Area Infrastructure Repurchase Account to the District's Checking Account

Johnson stated that \$150,000.00 needs to be transferred to the general account to pay for the principal spillway conduit and stilling basin restoration project work at Oliver Reservoir. Johnson made a motion to approve the transfer of \$150,000.00 from the Oliver Reservoir Recreation Area Infrastructure Repurchase Account to the District's checking account. Second by Narjes and with no further discussion a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Johnson, Maas, Meyer, Narjes, Rutt, Halligan

Nay:

Absent: Grabowski

Motion carried.

6. SPNRD/CHESI Citizens' Monitoring Committee

a. *Ratification of Reappointed Members to the Committee

Johnson stated that the CMC committee met last month and approved the reappointment of Dennis Armstrong, Peggy Sanders and Steve Diemoz for new four-year terms to the committee. Terms would expire on June 30, 2021. Johnson made a motion for the District board to ratify the re-appointment of Dennis Armstrong, Peggy Sanders and Steve Diemoz to the Citizens' Monitoring Committee. Second by Meyer and with no further discussion a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Maas, Meyer, Narjes, Rutt, Halligan, Johnson

Nay:

Absent: Grabowski

Motion carried.

b. SPNRD's FY 2017 Reimbursement Request from the CMC in the Amount of \$9,810.46

Johnson reviewed the CMC reimbursement to the SPNRD that the CMC committee approved at its July 2017 meeting.

7. Preliminary Policies Discussion Regarding Oliver Reservoir Recreation Area: 1) Special Use Permit; 2) Camping Near or Around Sheltered Structures; 3) Vandalism/Crime Situations

Wittrock reviewed the discussions during the District Operations Committee Meeting. These included a special use permit application for a potential mountain man type of annual event to be held at Oliver Reservoir beginning in August 2018 and the location and liability that could be involved in having such an event at Oliver Reservoir. He also addressed camping near or around the shelters at Oliver Reservoir after concerns were brought forth during an event held just after the 4th of July. Wittrock then spoke about the vandalism and crime situations that have occurred at the reservoir over the past two years and that the committee discussed how to address further incidents of damage or vandalism at the Oliver Reservoir Recreation Area.

9. Correspondence

No correspondence was provided.

10. Upcoming Dates

2017 County Fairs

August 9 – 14, 2017 Kimball County Fair

August 11 – 13, 2017 Deuel County Fair

August 25 - September 4, 2017, Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island

September 4, 2017, SPNRD Offices Closed, Labor Day

September 12, 2017, SPNRD Board of Directors Meeting

September 12 - 14, 2017, Husker Harvest Days, Grand Island

September 24 - 26, 2017, NARD Annual Conference, Kearney

October 9, 2017, Columbus Day, Offices Closed

November 10, 2017, Veteran's Day (Observed), Office Closed

11. Adjourn

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Donald Davis, Recording Secretary

* Denotes Action Item