

PUBLIC NOTICE

The South Platte Natural Resources District will hold a regular public meeting on **Tuesday, April 14, 2015** at the South Platte Natural Resources District, 551 Parkland Drive, Sidney, Nebraska, at **6:00 p.m. or 15 minutes following the end of the Joint Meeting of the South Platte Natural Resources District (SPNRD) Board of Directors and the City of Sidney Council, whichever is later.** 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.

FINAL AGENDA

1. Call to Order - Keith Rexroth, Chair
 - A. Nebraska Open Meetings Act
 - B. Legal Notices
 - C. Approval of Expenditures
 1. *Possible May 2015 Committee Meeting Expenditures for Meals
2. Minutes
 - A. Minutes of the March 10, 2015 South Platte Natural Resources District (SPNRD) Board of Directors Meeting
 - B. Minutes of the March 10, 2015 SPNRD District Operations Committee Meeting
 - C. Minutes of the March 9, 2015 SPNRD Natural Resources/Projects and Programs Committee Meeting
 - D. Minutes of the March 10, 2015 Hearing on the Amended and Restated Districtwide Ground Water Management Area Rules and Regulations, including the addition of Rules regarding the Chemigation Act, and the Repeal of the separate Chemigation Program Policy Manual (revised December 2011)
3. *Treasurer's Report for March 2015 and Accounts Payable
4. Public Questions, Comments and/or Concerns
5. Director and Staff Reports
6. Agency Reports
 - A. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
 1. NRCS Report - Kristin Miller, DC-NRCS
 - B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD)
 1. NARD Report - Johnson
 2. NARD Washington, D.C. Report - Johnson
 - C. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR)
 1. NDNR Natural Resources Commission Report - Rexroth
7. Proposed South Platte River LiDAR Project - Doug Hallum, Survey Hydrogeologist, Conservation and Survey Division, UNL
8. Spring 2015 Ground Water Level Report - Kaiser, Natural Resources Coordinator

9. Discussion on Planning SPNRD Board of Directors' Special Meetings - Horn

10. Committee Reports

A. District Operations Committee - Halligan, Chair

1. Oliver Reservoir Advisory Committee and Recreation Area
 - a. Update
 - b. *Discussion and Ratification of Long-Range Action Goals to Attain General Management Overview
 - c. *Discussion and Possible Ratification to Provide Library at the Recreation Area
2. *Consideration to Approve Camp Scholarships
 - a. Range Youth Camp
 - b. Adventure Camp about the Environment (ACE)
3. *Discussion and Action Regarding Request to approve NSWCP and SPNRD Cost-Share Program Applications
 - a. NSWCP Application
 - i. Gertrude E Kanter Family Trust, #1526
 - b. SPNRD Applications
 - i. RGM Corp, #2015-17 and #2015-18
4. Review FY2015 Budget for the Nine Months ended March 31, 2015

B. Natural Resources/Projects and Programs Committee - Maas, Chair

1. The Pit Acres, LLC/Apex Sand and Gravel Transfer Application and Baseline Certification
 - a. *Action on Transfer Application
 - b. *Action on Baseline Certification

11. Correspondence

12. Upcoming Dates

- A. April 25, 2015, Landscape Wise Workshop
- B. April 29, 2015, Western Nebraska Children's Ground Water Festival
- C. May 12, 2015, SPNRD Board of Directors meeting
- D. May 25, 2015, SPNRD Offices Closed, Memorial Day
- E. July 3, 2015, SPNRD Offices Closed, Independence Day
- F. 2015 County Fairs
 - July 21-26 Cheyenne County
 - August 5-10 Kimball County
 - August 5-8 Deuel County

13. Adjourn

*Denotes Action Item

MINUTES

The meeting of the South Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors was held Tuesday, April 14, 2015, at the South Platte NRD Conference Room, 551 Parkland Drive, Sidney, NE at 6:00 p.m. or 15 minutes following the end of the Joint Meeting of the South Platte Natural Resources District (SPNRD) Board of Directors and the City of Sidney Council, whichever is later. The public notices were published in the Sidney, Chappell and Kimball 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

Keith Rexroth, Chair
Bill Halligan, Vice-Chair
Jim Johnson, Secretary
Tim Maas

Kathy Narjes
Phil Grabowski
Larry Rutt

Board Members Absent

None

Others Present

Kristin Miller, D.C.NRCS/USDA
Doug Hallum, Survey Hydrogeologist, Conservation and Survey Division, UNL
Daria Faden, Kimball County Commissioner

NRD Staff Present

Rod L. Horn, General Manager
Ryan Reisdorff, Water Resources Specialist
Linda Suhr, Administrative Manager
Don Ogle, Information and Education Coordinator

Galen Wittrock, Assistant Manager
Tyler Sanders, Water Resources Technician
Chris Kaiser, Natural Resources Coordinator

Information Material

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

1. Tentative and Final Agendas - Board of Directors meeting, April 14, 2015
2. Tentative and Final Agendas - District Operations Committee meeting, April 14, 2015
3. Tentative Agenda - Natural Resources/Projects and Programs Committee meeting, April 14, 2015
4. March 10, 2015 Minutes of the SPNRD Board of Directors meeting
5. March 10, 2015 Minutes of the SPNRD District Operations Committee meeting
6. March 9, 2015 Minutes of the SPNRD Natural Resources/Projects and Programs Committee meeting
7. March 10, 2015 Minutes of the SPNRD Hearing on the Amended and Restated Districtwide Ground Water Management Area Rules and Regulations, including the addition of Rules regarding the Chemigation Act, and the Repeal of the separate Chemigation Program Policy Manual (revised December 2011)
8. March Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable
9. April 3, 2015 Manager's Letter
10. April 14, 2015 Manager's Report
11. April 3, 2015 Administrative Manager's Report
12. Quarterly Staff Reports: NaManet Keller, Jane Joyce and Hilary Cook
13. USGS LiDAR Information-Regarding possible participation in a Grant with proposed costs
14. SPNRD 2015 Spring Ground Water Level Report
15. SPNRD 2014 Water Usage Report
16. District Operations Committee

- ORRA Long-Range Action Goals to Attain General Management Overview
 - ORRA Minutes, March 24, 2015
 - An E-mail dated April 13, 2015 from Deb Carpenter-Nolting to Galen Wittrock regarding a Little Free Library for ORRA
 - Student Camp Scholarships
 - ACE Camp
 - Range Camp
 - NSWCP Application
 - Gertrude E. Kanter Family Trust
 - SPNRD Applications
 - RGM Corp
 - SPNRD FY2015 Budget Review for the nine months ended March 31, 2015
17. Natural Resources/Projects and Programs Committee
- The Pit Acres, LLC/Apex Sand and Gravel Transfer Application and Baseline Certification
18. Per Diem and Expense Form

14. Call to Order

Chair Rexroth called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

D. Nebraska Open Meetings Act

Chair Rexroth acknowledged that this meeting is subject to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. A copy of the act is posted in the conference room.

E. Legal Notices

Chair Rexroth acknowledged that the notice of this meeting was published in the area newspapers and the Affidavits/Proofs of Publication are included with these minutes.

F. Approval of Expenditures

1. *Possible May 2015 Committee Meeting Expenditures for Meals

Motion by Rutt and second by Halligan to approve possible May 2015 committee meeting expenditures for meals. With no discussion, a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Halligan, Johnson, Maas, Grabowski, Rexroth, Narjes, Rutt

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

15. Minutes

A. Minutes of the March 10, 2015 South Platte Natural Resources District (SPNRD) Board of Directors Meeting

These minutes were approved as distributed.

B. Minutes of the March 10, 2015 SPNRD District Operations Committee Meeting

These minutes were approved as distributed.

C. Minutes of the March 9, 2015 SPNRD Natural Resources/Projects and Programs Committee Meeting

These minutes were approved as distributed.

D. Minutes of the March 10, 2015 SPNRD Hearing on the Amended and Restated Districtwide Ground Water Management Area Rules and Regulations, including the addition of Rules regarding the Chemigation Act, and the Repeal of the separate Chemigation Program Policy Manual (revised December 2011)

These minutes were approved as distributed.

16. *Treasurer's Report for March 2015 and Accounts Payable

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

<u>Account Description</u>	<u>March 1, 2015</u>	<u>March 31, 2015</u>
SPNRD Checking/Repurchase	\$628,344.40	\$465,395.42
SPNRD Building/Property	\$ 17,978.41	\$ 22,980.18
SPNRD Vehicle/Equipment	\$ 40,746.66	\$ 60,751.25
SPNRD Security First CD	\$117,041.66	\$117,041.66
SPNRD ORRA Checking	\$ 3,554.48	\$ 3,554.48
Citizens' Monitoring Committee	\$ 70,557.20	\$ 70,564.72
Citizens' Monitoring CDs	\$ 45,021.41	\$ 45,116.11
SPRCC NPAIT Account	\$213,578.87	\$213,580.69

Horn reviewed various items listed in the accounts payable. He encouraged the board members to come to the SPNRD office at any time to review the receipts and/or disbursements or ask any questions. The total amount of accounts payable is \$176,778.19. Horn mentioned that the Sixty Month CD will be redeemed (refer to his Manager's Report). After discussion, Halligan moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and authorize payment of the accounts payable in the amount of \$176,778.19. A second was made by Maas and with no further discussion a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Johnson, Maas, Grabowski, Rexroth, Narjes, Rutt, Halligan

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

17. Public Questions, Comments and/or Concerns

Daria Faden, Kimball County Commissioner, was present at the meeting and discussed with the board that the Kimball County Commissioners divide the various areas of the county and she came tonight to observe the meeting.

18. Director and Staff Reports

Sanders-completed paperwork for flow meter maintenance, rototilled Conservation Tree Program sites, read industrial flow meters, assisted with the ground water level readings and inspected some replacement well flow meters and GPSd pivots.

Wittrock-updated the board concerning the Conservation Tree Program. His other work included Oliver Reservoir Recreation Area and JESWA.

Reisdorff-worked on the Gurley Wellhead Protection Area which is open for public review, worked on the Basin-Wide annual report, attended a water marketing meeting in Grand Island, attended the Platte Basin meetings, a Western Water Use Management (WWUM) Model meeting, the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission public meeting regarding fracking in Sioux County, prepared the new SPNRD variance form to comply with the newly adopted SPNRD Rules and Regulations changes, worked on items that will be addressed later on the agenda, cleaned up the lots and flower

beds, GPSd live portions of the Lodgepole Creek for the WWUM Model and provided documents requested regarding the Chappell waste water treatment plant.

Ogle-continues to work with the state irrigation certification which will enable on-line testing. The Pipeline newsletter was finished. He worked on the LandscapeWise Workshop, Western Nebraska Children's Ground Water Festival, prepared maps for ORRA and participated in an I&E meeting via telephone.

Kaiser-sampled surface water, reported that NDEQ E-coli and Microcystin sampling will begin next month at ORRA, took water levels and finished the SPNRD Spring 2015 Ground Water Level Report. He prepared chemigation permits to comply with the SPNRD Rules and Regulations changes, prepared Wildlife Management Area plans for Goldeneye and Goldenrod in Deuel County, performed well abandonment inspections and worked with the Conservation Tree Program.

Suhr and Horn submitted written reports.

19. Agency Reports

A. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

1. NRCS Report

Kristin highlighted portions of her April written report.

B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD)

1. NARD Report

Johnson and Horn attended the NARD Washington, D.C. trip at the end of March. The meetings provided opportunity to learn more about the issues of concern at the national level. Johnson discussed aspects of the meetings.

C. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR)

1. NDNR Report

Rexroth did not attend the last meeting. The next meeting will be held in June. Horn added that rules and regulations were adopted by the Commission and are in the process of being approved by Nebraska.

20. Proposed South Platte River LiDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) Project

Doug Hallum with the Conservation and Survey Division, UNL, on behalf of the Nebraska GIS Council, discussed the remote sensing detection system that works on the principle of radar, but uses light from a laser. He is proposing a LiDAR project in the South Platte River Watershed for additional data collection to enhance modeling efforts. The proposal includes about 4,300 square miles covering 4 NRDs. Discussion followed. The board gave a general consensus of approval for the project to move forward. Later in the agenda (9), it was discussed to take action on this project during the April 28, 2015 SPNRD special board meeting.

21. SPNRD Spring 2015 Ground Water Level Report

Kaiser presented the SPNRD Spring 2015 Ground Water Level Report, summarizing the results of the spring 2015 ground water level measurement program. Random selections of wells were graphed showing long-term data trends. Kaiser reported that the NRD has budgeted for 1-2 additional monitoring wells this year and asked for input for areas to target with new monitoring wells.

He also presented the Spring Three Year Rolling Average Report. This report was requested by the District's Ground Water Advisory Committees.

22. Discussion on Planning SPNRD Special Board Meetings

Horn discussed that Jim Schneider, Acting Director with NDNR, will be available to discuss Water-Rights Marketing with the board on May 20, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. A special board meeting is planned for this meeting.

Thad Kuntz plans to discuss the WWUM Model with the board on possibly April 27 or 28, 2015. Discussion followed that this meeting is essential before the next three-year allocations are considered by the Board and the District's Ground Water Advisory Committees.

It was suggested to incorporate action on the LiDAR information with the Kuntz meeting.

23. Committee Reports

A. District Operations Committee

1. Oliver Reservoir Advisory Committee (ORAC) and Recreation Area (ORAC)

a. Update

The ORAC Minutes were included in the handout information. No further information was given.

b. *Discussion and Ratification of Long-Range Action Goals to Attain General Management Overview

Halligan discussed that ORAC approved the Long-Range Action Goals during their March 24, 2015 meeting. Halligan moved on behalf of the committee to ratify the ORRA Long-Range Goals to Attain General Management Overview. Second by Johnson. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Maas, Grabowski, Rexroth, Narjes, Rutt, Halligan, Johnson

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

c. *Discussion and Possible Ratification to Provide Library at the Recreation Area

Halligan reported that the committee discussed a proposal to locate a small library at the recreation area. This proposal was discussed at the last ORAC meeting, which the committee recommended its approval to the board. Halligan moved on behalf of the committee to ratify the library at the recreation area for a one-year trial basis. Second by Johnson. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Grabowski, Rexroth, Narjes, Rutt, Halligan, Johnson, Maas

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

2. *Consideration to Approve Camp Scholarships

a. Range Youth Camp

Range Youth Camp costs \$325 per person.

b. Adventure Camp about the Environment (ACE)

ACE Camp costs \$190 per person.

Halligan reported that discussion was held to request flexibility to fund scholarships with the greatest demand. Motion by Halligan on behalf of the committee, second by Johnson

to approve funding for camp scholarships for 2015 in the amount of \$2,060 and allow staff to award scholarships up to \$2,060. After discussion, a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Rexroth, Narjes, Rutt, Halligan, Johnson, Maas, Grabowski
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion carried.

3. *Discussion and Action Regarding Request to approve NSWCP and SPNRD Cost-Share Applications

a. NSWCP Application

i. Gertrude E Kanter Family Trust, #1526

Application #1526 exceeds the General Manager's authority to approve. The practice located in the SW¹/₄ of Section 14, Township 12 North, Range 42 West, Deuel County, proposes a rebuild of 15,000 linear feet of flat channel terraces for maximum assistance of \$9,900. Motion by Halligan on behalf of the committee, second by Narjes, to approve the NSWCP application from Gertrude E Kanter Family Trust for \$9,900. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Narjes, Rutt, Halligan, Johnson, Maas, Grabowski, Rexroth
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion carried.

b. SPNRD Applications

i. RGM Corp. #2015-17 and #2015-18

Application #2015-17 exceeds the General Manager's authority to approve. The practice located in Sections 20 and 28, proposes the installation of pipeline and a water tank for maximum assistance of \$31,617.17. In conjunction with that application is #2015-18 located in Section 26 in the amount of \$2,142.17 for a water tank; both in Township 14 North, Range 52 West, Cheyenne County. Both applications will be funded through the Preserving CRP Grasslands-Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) Grant. Motion by Halligan on behalf of the committee, second by Narjes, to approve both SPNRD applications from RGM Corp as discussed for a total of \$33,759.34. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Rutt, Halligan, Johnson, Maas, Grabowski, Rexroth, Narjes
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion carried.

4. Review FY 2015 Budget for the Nine Months ended March 31, 2015

Halligan reported that Horn reviewed the nine months for the SPNRD and ORRA budgets and the committee found no problem with the review.

B. Natural Resources/Projects and Programs Committee

1. The Pit Acres, LLC/Apex Sand and Gravel, LLC Transfer Application and Baseline Certification

a. *Action on Transfer Application

Maas discussed that the application requests transfer within Section 13, Township 14 North, Range 51 West, Cheyenne County. Water pumped for industrial purposes from wells G-041796 and G-004498 will be deducted from the irrigation well located in tract #14N51W130001, tied to irrigation well G-041796 (irrigation well G-004498 is in temporary deferment). Motion by Maas on behalf of the committee, second by Rutt, to approve the transfer application from Pit Acres, LLC to Apex Sand and Gravel, LLC as discussed until June 6, 2022 with stipulations: 1) the total amount pumped for any irrigation and industrial use combined cannot exceed the total allocation for the irrigated tract # 14N51W130001; and 2) the transfer cannot take place until the title search is complete and if necessary, a properly notarized Lienholder's Consent to Transfer Ground Water is complete. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Halligan, Johnson, Maas, Grabowski, Rexroth, Narjes, Rutt
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion carried.

b. *Action on Baseline Certification

Motion by Maas on behalf of the committee, second by Rutt to approve the South Platte NRD Industrial/Commercial Water Usage Certification. Reisdorff discussed that the certification will be the total amount pumped for any irrigation and industrial use combined and cannot exceed the total allocation for the irrigated tract #14N51W130001. After discussion, a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Johnson, Maas, Grabowski, Rexroth, Narjes, Rutt, Halligan
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion carried.

24. Correspondence

Horn pointed out that the SPNRD 2014 Water Usage Report is included in the iPad and will be used for upcoming allocation meetings. Horn encouraged the board to review all correspondence included in the handout information.

25. Upcoming Dates

April 25, 2015, Landscape Wise Workshop
April 28, 2015, Special SPNRD Board Meeting, beginning at 5:00 p.m. with Thad Kuntz, ARI, regarding WWUM Model
April 29, 2015, Western Nebraska Children's Ground Water Festival
May 12, 2015, SPNRD Board Meeting, beginning at 5:00 p.m.
May 20, 2015, SPNRD Special Meeting, beginning at 5:00 p.m. with Jim Schneider, Acting Director, NDNR, regarding Water-Rights Marketing
May 25, 2015, SPNRD Offices Closed, Memorial Day
July 3, 2015, SPNRD Offices Closed, Independence Day
2015 County Fairs

- July 21-26 Cheyenne County
- August 5-10 Kimball County
- August 5-8 Deuel County
- September 7, 2015, SPNRD Offices Closed, Labor Day

26. Adjourn

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Linda L. Suhr, Recording Secretary

* Denotes Action Item