

PUBLIC NOTICE

The South Platte Natural Resources District will hold a regular public meeting on **Tuesday**, February 10, 2015 at the 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.

FINAL AGENDA

1. Call to Order - Keith Rexroth, Chair
 - A. Nebraska Open Meetings Act
 - B. Legal Notices
 - C. Approval of Expenditures
 1. *Possible March 2015 Committee Meeting Expenditures for Meals
2. Minutes
 - A. Minutes of the January 13, 2015 South Platte Natural Resources District (SPNRD) Board of Directors Meeting
 - B. Minutes of the January 13, 2015 SPNRD District Operations Committee Meeting
3. *Treasurer's Report for January 2015 and Accounts Payable
4. Public Questions, Comments and/or Concerns
5. Board Vacancy
 - A. Review Applications to Fill Director Vacancy for Subdistrict #6
 - B. Interview Applicants
 - C. *Appoint New Director
 1. Oath of Office
 - D. Committees Appointments
6. Director and Staff Reports
7. 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. 2015 Legislative Session - Johnson, Rexroth, Rutt
 - C. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR)
 1. NDNR Natural Resources Commission Report - Rexroth
 - D. Board of Educational Land and Funds (BELF)
 1. BELF Report - Rexroth
8. General Reports
 - A. Oliver Reservoir Recreation (ORRA) and Advisory Committee (ORAC) Activities Report - Wittrock

- B. Joint East Sidney Watershed Authority (JESWA)/East Sidney Watershed Project Report - Wittrock
- C. Summary of the 2014 Landowner/Operator Annual Nitrogen Management Reports: Sidney Ground Water Quality Management Subarea - Kaiser
- D. NRD/UNL Irrigation and Nitrogen Management - User Education/Certification Program Report - Ogle

9. Committee Reports

A. District Operations Committee - Halligan, Chair

- 1. *Discussion and Action on Urban Best Management Practices Workshop and Budget
- 2. *Discussion and Action on the Proposed Agreement with JEO Consulting Group, Inc. to begin Process to Update the District's Hazard Mitigation Plan
- 3. Discussion and Action Concerning Pheasants Forever Chapter #278
 - a. *Revised Cooperative Agreement Regarding Equipment and Contribution
 - b. *Rescind Policies for Administering the Objectives of the Cooperative Agreement between Pheasants Forever and South Platte NRD
- 4. *Action on Bids/Proposals for Consideration to Purchase Bumper Hitch Dump Trailer
- 5. *Action to Reappoint Variance Advisory Group Members for another 4-year Term
- 6. *Discussion and Action Regarding Request to Approve NSWCP and SPNRD Cost-Share Program Applications - Horn
 - a. NSWCP Application - Lloyd Backes Revocable Trust, #1517
 - b. SPNRD Applications
 - i. Shirley A Mathewson, #2015-1 and #2015-2
 - ii. Rick W. Nelson, Inc., #2015-3 and #2015-4
 - iii. Darby Creek Ranch, Inc., #2015-5 and #2015-6
 - iv. St. George Ranch, Inc., #2015-7 and #2015-8

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

- 1. Discussion Concerning the Nitzel/Apex Sand and Gravel Variance Request and Transfer Application
 - a. Discuss Variance Request
 - b. Discuss Ground Water Transfer Application
- 2. Discussion on Proposed Expansion of the Western Canal Recharge Pit Project

10. Correspondence

11. Upcoming Dates

- A. February 16, 2015, SPNRD Offices Closed, Presidents' Day
- B. March 10, 2015, SPNRD Board of Directors Meeting
- C. March 22-25, 2015, NARD Washington DC Trip
- D. April 25, 2015, Landscape Wise Workshop
- E. April 29, 2015, Western Nebraska Children's Ground Water Festival
- F. May 25, 2015, SPNRD Offices Closed, Memorial Day
- G. July 3, 2015, SPNRD Offices Closed, Independence Day

12. Adjourn

*Denotes Action Item

MINUTES

The meeting of the South Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors was held Tuesday, February 10, 2015, at the South Platte NRD Conference Room, 551 Parkland Drive, Sidney, NE at 5:00 p.m. The public notices were published in the Chappell and Kimball newspapers and advertised on KSID. 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	Phil Grabowski
Bill Halligan, Vice-Chair	Larry Rutt
Jim Johnson, Secretary	

Board Members Absent

Tim Maas (Excused)

Others Present

Kathy Narjes; Randall Horst

NRD Staff Present

Rod L. Horn, General Manager	Galen Wittrock, Assistant Manager
Ryan Reisdorff, Water Resources Specialist	Travis Glanz, Water Resources Coordinator
Linda L. Suhr, Administrative Manager	Chris Kaiser, Natural Resources Coordinator
Don Ogle, Information and Education Coordinator	Tyler Sanders, Water Resources Technician

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 Tuesday, February 10, 2015
2. Tentative and Final Agendas - District Operations Committee meeting, Tuesday, February 10, 2015
3. January 13, 2015 Minutes of the SPNRD Board of Directors meeting
4. January 13, 2015 Minutes of the SPNRD District Operations Committee meeting
5. Applications for Subdistrict #6 vacancy
 - o Randall Horst
 - o Kathryn E. Narjes
6. NARD Legislative Bill Session Summary
7. ORAC Minutes, January 27, 2015
8. Summary - 2015 SPNRD Landowner/Operator Nitrogen Management Reports: Sidney GW Quality Management Subarea
9. SPNRD Irrigation and Nitrogen Management Certification Program Report
10. SPNRD Districtwide Ground Water Management Area Rules and Regulations for Amendments, which includes incorporating rules regarding the Chemigation Act
11. District Operations Committee Information:
 - o Urban Best Management Practices (Landscape Wise) Workshop and Budget
 - o Hazard Mitigation Plan Update - Proposed Agreement with JEO Consulting Group, Inc.
 - o Pheasants Forever Chapter #278 - Revised Cooperative Agreement - Policies for Administering the Objectives of the Cooperative Agreement between Pheasants Forever and South Platte NRD
 - o Summary of Bids/Proposals - Bumper Hitch Dump Trailer
 - o Variance Advisory Group Memo from Rod L. Horn
 - o NSWCP Application - Lloyd Backes Revocable Trust, #1517
 - o SPNRD Applications

- Shirley A Mathewson, #2015-1 and #2015-2
- Rick W. Nelson, Inc., #2015-3 and #2015-4
- Darby Creek Ranch, Inc., #2015-5 and #2015-6
- St. George Ranch, Inc., #2015-7 and #2015-8

12. Per Diem and Expense Form

13. Call to Order

Chair Rexroth called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Tim Maas was absent and excused. The Subdistrict #6 director vacancy will be filled during the meeting (see Agenda Item #5 below).

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 Sidney, Kimball and Chappell newspapers and the Affidavits/Proofs of Publication are included with these minutes.

F. Approval of Expenditures

1. *Possible March 2015 Committee Meeting Expenditures for Meals

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

Aye: Halligan, Johnson, Grabowski, Rexroth, Rutt

Nay: None

Absent: Maas, Subdistrict #6 Vacant

Motion carried.

14. Minutes

A. Minutes of the January 13, 2015 South Platte Natural Resources District (SPNRD) Board of Directors Meeting

These minutes were approved as corrected. The correction was made on page 9, Agenda Item 12 b. needs to include the number of votes received for Vice-Chair: 3 received for Halligan; and 2 received for Johnson. This is required by the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

B. Minutes of the January 13, 2015 SPNRD District Operations Committee Meeting

These minutes were approved as distributed.

15. *Treasurer's Report for January 2015 and Accounts Payable

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

<u>Account Description</u>	<u>January 1, 2015</u>	<u>January 31, 2015</u>
SPNRD Checking/Repurchase	\$ 495,282.66	\$ 643,510.73
SPNRD Building/Property	\$ 17,975.67	\$ 17,977.09
SPNRD Vehicle/Equipment	\$ 40,740.26	\$ 40,743.57
SPNRD Security First CD	\$ 116,163.27	\$ 117,041.66
Oliver Reservoir Recreation Area	\$ 3,554.48	\$ 3,554.48

Citizens' Monitoring Committee	\$ 68,735.34	\$ 68,740.99
Citizens' Monitoring CD	\$ 45,021.41	\$ 45,021.41
SPRCC NPAIT Account	\$ 166,753.25	\$ 183,577.33

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 \$97,946.91. After discussion, Johnson moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and authorize payment of the accounts payable in the amount of \$97,946.91. A second was made by Halligan, and with no further discussion a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Johnson, Grabowski, Rexroth, Rutt, Halligan
 Nay: None
 Absent: Maas, Subdistrict #6 Vacant
 Motion carried.

16. Public Questions, Comments and/or Concerns

None.

17. Board Vacancy

A. Review Applications to Fill Director Vacancy for Subdistrict #6

B. Interview Applicants

Two applications were received to fill the Director vacancy for Subdistrict #6. Kathryn E. Narjes discussed her qualifications for the vacancy, the reasons she would like to fill the vacancy and answered board questions. Randall Horst discussed his qualifications and the reasons he would like to fill the vacancy. He answered questions posed to him by the board.

Ballots were passed around. Top vote will be nominated as the new Director. Kathryn E. Narjes received the most votes.

C. *Appoint New Director

Halligan read the Board Resolution into the record: "Following an interview process, the Board of Directors of the South Platte Natural Resources District does hereby appoint Kathryn E. Narjes to serve as the new Board member of Subdistrict #6 for a two-year term". Halligan moved to approve the resolution for Kathryn E. Narjes to serve as Director for Subdistrict #6 until the first Thursday after the first Tuesday in January next succeeding the next general election. A second was made by Rutt, and with no further discussion a roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Grabowski, Rexroth, Rutt, Halligan, Johnson,
 Nay: None
 Absent: Maas, Subdistrict #6 Vacant
 Motion carried.

Meeting was recessed at 6:00 p.m.
 The meeting was reconvened at 6:06 p.m.

1. Oath of Office

Suhr administered the oath of office to Kathryn E. Narjes and she officially became a voting member of the body.

D. Committee Appointments

Rexroth will appoint Kathy Narjes to serve on a committee next month.

18. Director and Staff Reports

Kaiser-prepared the Sidney Nitrogen Management Reports, gathered information regarding the Goldenrod Wildlife Management Area boundaries, took public water samples at ORRA and pumped monitoring wells. He discussed that some of the District's older monitoring well leases are expiring. He is working to get these updated. He and Sanders replaced toilet vents on the restrooms at ORRA and surface water sampled.

Wittrock-continues to work with the Conservation Tree Program, drawing up tree plans. He attended the Nebraska Community Forestry Council meetings (he serves on the council as the NRD representative) and Nebraska Nurserymen Association. These meetings were held in Omaha. He is addressing cooperators' pine tree concerns. He reported that the tow-behind mower was purchased and taken to ORRA. He discussed that the UTV and Zero-Turn mower were ordered but haven't been delivered to date.

Sanders-worked with cooperators power records for broken flow meters, read industrial flow meters, pumped monitoring wells and worked with Kaiser at ORRA. He GPS'd a pivot, cleaned the District shops and changed oil in the District vehicles.

Reisdorff-mailed the Potter wellhead protection area plan to NDEQ. He worked with Gurley on their wellhead protection area plan; the rough draft is complete and was mailed to NDEQ for their preliminary review. He assisted LeRoy Yung with his year end out-of-state transfer ground water transfer paperwork, and worked on the South Platte Valley recharge pits projects. Discussion followed.

Glanz-continued working with GIS Workshop regarding development of a mobile data app. He worked on Chris Ray's irrigation well replacement, transfers which will be discussed later on the agenda and some pooling requests. He worked on the 2014 ground water usage reports and the recharge project near Big Springs.

Ogle-assisted with the Panhandle No-till Winter Conference, worked on preparations for the Urban Best Management Landscape Wise Workshop and worked on the Irrigator Certification Program. He attended the NARD Legislative Conference and worked with the Envirothon. He performed updates to the SPNRD website and worked on new recreation area brochures.

Suhr-thanked the board for allowing her to attend the NARD Legislative Conference. Two one-half day sessions were held for NRD Administrative staff on Monday and Tuesday of the conference. These meetings provide NRD staff with pertinent information.

Horn submitted a written report. He discussed that the six lots are paid.

19. Agency Reports

A. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

1. NRCS Report

Kristin Miller was absent but submitted a written report.

B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD)

1. NARD Report

Johnson reported on the Legislative Conference in Lincoln. The next NARD Board meeting will be held in March.

2. 2015 Legislative Session

Johnson, Rutt and Rexroth attended the NARD Legislative Conference at the end of January. A summary of the NARD Bill Tracking Sheet was included in the handout material.

C. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR)

1. NDNR Natural Resources Commission Report

Rexroth attended the NDNR Natural Resources Commission meeting that was held following the Legislative Conference in Lincoln.

D. Board of Educational Land and Funds (BELF)

1. BELF Report

None.

20. General Reports

A. Oliver Reservoir Recreation Area (ORRA) and Advisory Committee (ORAC) Activities Report

Wittrock reviewed plans that are moving forward for ORRA and ORAC. Electric hookups for campers are being proposed as a goal along with a walking trail. He is working with Internship Nebraska for seasonal work at ORRA. Kimball is considering requesting a fireworks display on Independence Day at ORRA. Wittrock will have more information at a future meeting. He thanked Chris and Tyler who repaired the restrooms and replaced a gate. He discussed vandalism issues; the handicap restroom door was shot up.

B. Joint East Sidney Watershed Authority (JESWA) /East Sidney Watershed Project Report

Wittrock discussed the timeline for the proposed scope of work and the construction phase. The next meeting will be held on February 11, 2015.

C. Summary of the 2014 Landowner/Operator Annual Nitrogen Management Reports: Sidney Ground Water Quality Management Subarea (SGWQMS)

Kaiser reviewed the SGWQMS nitrogen management reports for the Phase II area and applies to all irrigated acres that are planted to corn. Discussion followed.

D. Certification Program Report

Ogle discussed the irrigator certification program. Discussion followed.

21. Committee Reports

A. District Operations Committee

7. *Discussion and Action on Urban Best Management Practices (BMP) Workshop and Budget

Halligan made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the April 25, 2015 SPNRD Landscape Wise Urban Best Management Practices Workshop and approve the budget in the amount of \$1,300. Johnson seconded the motion and after discussion a roll call vote was taken.

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

8. *Discussion and Action on the Proposed Agreement with JEO Consulting Group, Inc. to begin Process to Update the District's Hazard Mitigation Plan

Halligan made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the agreement between the South Platte NRD and JEO Consulting Group, Inc. not to exceed \$70,000 to update the District's Hazard Mitigation Plan. Johnson seconded the motion. Halligan explained that the agreement is contingent on receipt of FEMA/NEMA grant funds. After discussion, a roll call vote was taken.

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

9. Discussion and Action Concerning Pheasants Forever Chapter #278

a. *Revised Cooperative Agreement Regarding Equipment and Contribution

Halligan made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the revised Cooperative Agreement between the South Platte NRD and Pheasants Forever Chapter #278 and to rescind the policies for administering the objectives of the cooperative agreement between Pheasants Forever and the South Platte NRD. A second was made by Johnson and a roll call vote was taken.

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

b. *Rescind Policies for Administering the Objectives of the Cooperative Agreement between Pheasants Forever and South Platte NRD

See above action.

10. *Action on Bids/Proposals for Consideration to Purchase Bumper Hitch Dump Trailer

Halligan moved on behalf of the committee to approve the bid from Chuck's Trailer Sales, for the Finish Line DB 14 trailer in the amount of \$8,087. A second was made by Johnson. Discussion was held to upgrade to 14 ply tires. Halligan moved to amend the motion to include 14 ply tires at an additional cost of \$825. Johnson seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken on the amendment.

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

A roll call vote was held on the motion as amended, for the price to include the trailer in the amount of \$8,087 with addition of 14 ply tires in the amount of \$825 for a total cost of \$8,912.

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

11. *Action to Reappoint Variance Advisory Group Members for another 4-year Term
Halligan moved on behalf of the committee to reappoint Randy Faessler and Alan Adamson to the Variance Advisory Group, each to serve four-year terms, ending December 31, 2018. A second was made by Johnson. A roll call vote was taken.

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

12. *Discussion and Action Regarding Request to Approve Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Program (NSWCP) and SPNRD Cost-Share Program Applications (The applications in a and b exceed the amount the general manager is authorized to approve)

a. NSWCP Application - Lloyd Backes Revocable Trust, #1517

Halligan discussed the NSWCP application for NC-1, Flat Channel Terraces in the amount of \$14,388. Halligan made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the NSWCP application from Lloyd Backes Revocable Trust for flat channel terraces located in Kimball County, in the amount of \$14,388 (50% maximum assistance). Johnson seconded the motion. After discussion a roll call vote was taken.

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

b. SPNRD Applications

i. Shirley A Mathewson, #2015-1 and #2015-2

Halligan discussed the NC-14 applications, #2015-1 for perimeter fence in the amount of \$7,308 (25% maximum assistance) and #2015-2 for Livestock well with solar pump and steel tank with concrete bottom in the amount of \$19,032.09 (75% maximum assistance). Halligan made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the applications from Shirley A. Mathewson for NC-14 practices located in Cheyenne County, in the amounts of \$7,308 (2015-1) and \$19,032.09 (2015-2) for a total of \$26,340.09. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

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

ii. Rick W. Nelson, Inc., #2015-3 and #2015-4

Halligan discussed the NC-14 applications, #2015-3 Electric Cross Fence in the amount of \$1,732.50 (75% of maximum assistance) and #2015-4 Livestock well with 30' tank and pumping plant in the amount of \$17,173.16 (75% of maximum assistance). Halligan made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the applications from Rick W. Nelson, Inc. for NC-14 practices located in Cheyenne County, in the amounts of \$1,732.50 (2015-3) and \$17,173.16 (2015-4) for a total of \$18,905.66. A second was made by Johnson. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Nay: None

Absent: Maas

Motion carried.

iii. Darby Creek Ranch, Inc., #2015-5 and #2015-6

Halligan discussed the NC-14 applications, #2015-5 Cross Fencing, Pipeline and 13' Tank in the amount of \$9,114.17 (75% maximum assistance) and #2015-6 Perimeter Fence in the amount of \$8,040 (25% maximum assistance). Halligan made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the applications from Darby Creek Ranch, Inc. for NC-14 practices located in Cheyenne County, in the amounts of \$9,114.17 (2015-5) and \$8,040 (2015-6) for a total of \$17,154.17. A second was made by Johnson and a roll call vote was taken.

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

Nay: None

Absent: Maas

Motion carried.

iv. St. George Ranch, Inc., #2015-7 and #2015-8

Halligan discussed the NC-14 applications, #2015-7 Perimeter Fence in the amount of \$2,512.50 (25% maximum assistance) and #2015-8 Livestock well, 30' Tank and Solar Pump in the amount of \$22,596.11 (75% maximum assistance). Halligan a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the applications from St. George Ranch, Inc. for NC-14 practices located in Cheyenne County, in the amounts of \$2,512.50 (2015-7) and \$22,596.11 (2015-8) for a total of \$25,108.61. A second was made by Johnson and a roll call vote was taken.

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

Nay: None

Absent: Maas

Motion carried.

B. Natural Resources/Projects and Programs Committee

1. Discussion Concerning the Nitzel/Apex Sand and Gravel Variance Request and Transfer Application

a. Variance Request

b. Ground Water Transfer Application

Reisdorff provided a brief explanation of the projects. No action was required this month.

2. Discussion on Proposed Expansion of the Western Canal Recharge Pit Project
Glanz discussed the process for the recharge pit projects. Department of Natural Resources and the Platte Basin Coalition funds 60% and the SPNRD will fund 40%. Discussion followed.

22. Correspondence

Horn encouraged the board to review all correspondence included in the handout information.

23. Upcoming Dates

February 16, 2015, SPNRD Office closed, Presidents' Day
March 10, 2015, SPNRD Board of Directors Meeting
March 22-25, 2015, NARD Washington DC Trip
April 25, 2015, Urban BMP Landscape Wise Workshop
April 29, 2015, Western Nebraska Children's Ground Water Festival
May 25, 2015, SPNRD Offices Closed, Memorial Day
July 3, 2015, SPNRD Offices Closed, Independence Day

24. Adjourn

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Linda L. Suhr, Recording Secretary

* Denotes Action Item