

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The South Platte Natural Resources District will hold a regular public meeting on October 14, 2008 at the Dalton Senior Citizens Center, 224 Main Street, Dalton, Nebraska, at 7:00 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 (telephone (308) 254-2377) before the meeting.

## TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Call to Order - Keith Rexroth, Chair
  - A. Nebraska Open Meetings Act
  - B. Legal Notices
2. Minutes
  - A. Minutes of the September 9, 2008 meeting of the Board of Directors
  - B. Minutes of the September 9, 2008 meeting of the District Operations Committee
3. \*Treasurer's Report For September 2008 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
    2. NARD Annual Conference - Rutt/Rexroth
      - a. NARD Resolutions - Rutt/Horn
  - C. Panhandle Resource Conservation and Development (PRC&D)
    1. PRC&D Report - Burkhart-Kriesel
  - D. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR)
    1. NDNR Report - Rexroth
7. Committee Reports
  - A. Natural Resources/Projects & Programs Committee - Hutchison
    1. Preliminary Discussion Regarding Setting Allocation(s) within the Lodgepole Creek Subareas for the New 2010 through 2012 Allocation Period
    2. \*Discussion and Action to Revise Permit Application to Construct a Water Well
    3. Review Draft (9-12-08) Basin-Wide Plan for Joint Integrated Water Resources Management Portions of the Platte River Basin, Nebraska
    4. Discuss Draft Determination of the Overall Difference between Overappropriated and Fully Appropriated in the Plate River Basin
    5. Review Groundwater Budgets Report for 1950 and 1997 (Prepared by Dick Luckey)
    6. Review Integrated Management Plan Responsibilities Matrix

- B. District Operations Committee
    - 1. \*Ratify Six-Month Performance Appraisal and Salary Review for Chris Kaiser
    - 2. Discuss Oliver Reservoir/WMA Issues
  
  - 8. Correspondence
  
  - 9. Upcoming Dates
    - A. SPNRD Office Closed, Columbus Day - October 13, 2008
    - B. SPNRD/NRCS Conservation Awards Banquet, Buffalo Point, Sidney, NE  
- October 18, 2008
    - C. SPNRD Board Meeting - November 11, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.
    - D. SPNRD Office Closed, Veterans Day - November 11, 2008
    - E. 2008 No-Till Winter Conference, Gering Civic Center - November 18-19, 2008
    - F. SPNRD Office Closed, Thanksgiving - November 27-28, 2008
    - G. NARD Legislative Conference, Lincoln, NE - January 27-28, 2009
    - H. Annual Washington D.C. Conference, Embassy Suites, Washington D.C.  
- March 21-25, 2008
  
  - 10. Adjourn
- \*Denotes Action Items

## MINUTES

The meeting of the South Platte Natural Resources District Board of Directors was held Tuesday, October 14, 2008, at the Dalton Senior Citizens Center, 224 Main Street, Dalton, NE, at 7:00 p.m. 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	Larry Rutt
Cheryl Burkhart-Kriesel, Vice-Chair	Paul Hutchison
Tom Biggs, Secretary	

### Board Members Absent

Jim Johnson (Excused)	Deb Crago (Excused)
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### Others Present

Kristin Miller, D.C. NRCS/USDA; David Gillette

### NRD Staff Present

Rod L. Horn, General Manager	Linda L. Suhr, Admin. Sec. Bookkeeper
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INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL

The following information was mailed prior to the board meeting or made available at the meeting:

1. Tentative Agenda, October 14, 2008 meeting of the SPNRD Board of Directors
2. Tentative Agenda, October 13, 2008 meeting of the Natural Resources/Projects and Programs Committee
3. Tentative Agenda, October 14, 2008 meeting of the District Operations Committee
4. Minutes of the September 9, 2008 meeting of the SPNRD Board of Directors
5. Minutes of the September 9, 2008 meeting of the District Operations Committee
6. September 2008 Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable
7. October 3, 2008 Manager's Letter with attached map
8. October 14, 2008 Manager's Report
9. Staff Reports from Linda L. Suhr, Chris Kaiser, Travis Glanz and Jodi R. Livingstone and Quarterly Reports from Field Office Secretaries Jane Joyce and Hilary Cook
10. Groundwater Budgets for 1950 and 1997 for the SPNRD prepared by Richard R. Luckey,  
High Plains Hydrology, LLC
11. Draft 9-12-2008 Basin-Wide Plan for Joint Integrated Water Resources Management of Overappropriated Portions of the Platte River Basin, Nebraska
12. Information for the No-Till Winter Conference, November 18-19, 2008, Gering Civic Center
13. Nebraska NRCS 2008 Commitment to Conserve-NRCS Annual Report
14. Information regarding SPNRD staff meeting with Roger Kuhns, Nebraska Game & Parks Commission, September 10, 2008 with attached map of Oliver Lake
15. Draft letter and revised draft letter to Well Drillers Re: New Requirements for the SPNRD
16. Draft and revised Permit Application to Construct a Water Well in the SPNRD
17. SPNRD IMP Matrix
18. Information from the September 29, 2008 NARD I & E Meeting at Kearney Holiday Inn
19. NARD Voting Delegate Action and Business Session Minutes and Resolution Information
20. Per Diem/Expense sheet

BOARD MEETING

1. Call to Order  
Chair Rexroth convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Johnson and Crago were absent

and excused.

A. Nebraska Open Meetings Act

Rexroth stated that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Law is posted in the room.

B. Legal Notices

Rexroth stated for the record that the meeting affidavits of publication are included with these minutes.

2. Minutes

A. Minutes of the September 9, 2008 meeting of the Board of Directors

These minutes were approved as presented.

B. Minutes of the September 9, 2008 meeting of the District Operations Committee

These minutes were approved as presented.

3. \*Treasurer's Report September 2008 and Accounts Payable

Manager and Treasurer Rod Horn encouraged the board to review the Treasurer's Report and to address any questions. Account balances for SPNRD accounts are as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>9/1/08</u>	<u>9/30/08</u>
SPNRD Checking	\$ 258,125.96	\$ 404,147.74
Citizens' Monitoring - combined	\$ 14,193.47	\$ 14,212.56
NPAIT-LPCSI-EQIP	\$ 290,296.55	\$ 228,042.49
South Platte Group	\$ 1,564.03	\$ Closed

Investment accounts were reviewed. Accounts payable was presented in the amount of \$126,340.92. Horn updated the board on the progress of the building/remodel project. Some discussion followed. Moved by Burkhart-Kriesel and seconded by Rutt to approve the September Treasurer's Report and approve and pay Accounts Payable. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Burkhart-Kriesel, Hutchison, Rexroth, Biggs, Rutt

Nay: None

Absent: Johnson, Crago

Motion Carried.

4. Pubic Questions, Comments and/or Concerns

None.

5. Director and Staff Reports

Liebig and Ogle gave oral reports. Horn, Suhr, Livingstone, Kaiser and Glanz submitted written reports. Wittrock was conducting a tree workshop.

Liebig worked on the new well permit application for the SPNRD and a letter to the well drillers and other entities affected by the permit. He defined tracts, did software

updates, irrigated acre modifications (not needing board approval), assisted cooperators, helped with the land judging contest and outdoor classroom. He and Horn met with Tom Hayden and Jesse Bradley (NDNR), and three SPNRD board directors regarding defining overappropriated and fully appropriated in the SPNRD. He took part in the District Tour and attended the NARD Conference in Kearney. In response to a board question, he reported about 100 flow meters need to be installed, and letters will be mailed to those landowners.

Ogle attended Husker Harvest Days, the Land Judging Contest, the Outdoor Classroom, prepared press releases, worked on the no-till conference in Gering (November) and the Conservation Awards Banquet. Three schools attended the Land Judging Contest, with about 50 students participating, along with teachers and staff from the SPNRD, NRCS and other agencies.

6. Agency Reports

A. USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

1. NRCS Report

Miller said the NRCS Annual Report is in the handout material. She commented on the Land Judging Contest, the winter No-till Conference in Gering and the SPNRD tree and barrier workshop she attended at Sullivan Hills. Bob Kurz' LPCSI-EQIP contract is nearly complete. EQIP signup will probably be extended into November.

B. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD)

1. NARD Report

Rutt gave a brief report on the annual conference. It was also noted that Nienhuesers and Keep Sidney Beautiful were honored at the conference.

2. Report on the NARD 2008 Annual Conference

a. NARD Resolutions

The NARD resolution information was included in the handout material.

C. Panhandle RC&D

1. PRC&D Report

Burkhart-Kriesel and Miller spoke about the positive affect Jennifer Rogers, Program Assistant, has had on the Panhandle RC&D. Miller also told the board that the President signed a Continuing Resolution for funding through March 2009. The RC&D is also handling the reservations for the winter no-till conference.

D. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR)

1. NDNR Report

Rexroth reported that the Commission met during the annual NARD Conference in Kearney. He discussed various items of note.

7. Committee Reports

A. Natural Resources/Projects & Programs Committee

1. Preliminary Discussion Regarding Setting Allocation(s) within the Lodgepole Creek Subareas for the New 2010 through 2012 Allocation Period

Hutchison reported the committee discussed preliminary ideas for setting the allocations for the Lodgepole Creek subareas for the next allocation period. The committee requested flow meter reading and ground water level information before any decisions could be made. Discussion was held to reactivate the Allocation Subcommittee to get their input. Replacements were suggested for vacancies on the subcommittee. Discussion was held about the board filling the vacancies by December 2008.

2. \*Discussion and Action to Revise Permit Application to construct a Water Well

Hutchison reported that the committee reviewed the permit application, Liebig made suggested changes and a new document is in the handout material. Hutchison pointed out several items on the revised application. Hutchison on behalf of committee moved and Burkhart-Kriesel seconded the motion to approve the revised permit application to construct a water well in the SPNRD. Well drillers and other entities will be advised of the new permit application. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Hutchison, Rexroth, Biggs, Rutt, Burkhart-Kriesel

Nay: None

Absent: Johnson, Crago

Motion Carried.

3. Review Draft (9-12-08) Basin-Wide Plan for Joint Integrated Water Resources Management Portions of the Platte River Basin, Nebraska

Hutchison reported that the draft was reviewed during the committee meeting. Horn commented briefly, emphasizing it is important to become familiar with the plan.

There are four goals for the plan, which is for the first increment of the Basin-Wide IMP. Horn told the board the Basin-Wide Plan group is proposing a meeting in December 2008. Discussion followed.

4. Discuss Draft Determination of the Overall Difference between Overappropriated and Fully Appropriated in the Platte River Basin

Hutchison told the board that he, Horn, Liebig, Biggs, and Rexroth met with Jesse Bradley and Tom Hayden of NDNR regarding the draft determination of the overall difference between overappropriated and fully

appropriated in the Platte River Basin. Horn pointed out the overappropriated areas (small section of northeast Cheyenne County and the South Platte River valley). Other concerns were the stretches of Lodgepole Creek and Oliver Reservoir. The committee suggested holding a meeting(s) with owners of surface water rights, water wells, those with concerns about Oliver Reservoir and anyone else interested in meeting to discuss options.

5. Review Groundwater Budgets Report for 1950 and 1997 (Prepared by Dick Luckey)

Hutchison reported that the committee reviewed the material prepared by Dick Luckey. He made some comments on the document. Horn pointed out the graphs on pages 9 and 10. It was discussed that the next level of work will include improving the simulation of the Lodgepole Creek in the western COHYST model, and to determine if flows to Lodgepole Creek can be restored to have inflows to Oliver Reservoir.

6. Review Integrated Management Plan Responsibilities Matrix

Horn prepared the matrix in order to accomplish tasks regarding the IMP and identify priorities. A copy was included in the handout material.

Rexroth turned the chair over to Burkhart-Kriesel

B. District Operations Committee

1. \*Ratify Six-Month Performance Appraisal and Salary Review Chris Kaiser

No committee meeting was held. In the absence of Johnson and Crago, Rexroth gave a brief update on the six month status of Chris Kaiser, then Rexroth moved and Rutt seconded the motion to ratify the updated salary pay range values, and approve the salary adjustments made according to the Salary Grade and Pay Range Schedule provided by the Manager for Chris Kaiser. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Rexroth, Biggs, Rutt, Burkhart-Kriesel, Hutchison

Nay: None

Absent: Johnson, Crago

Motion Carried.

2. Discuss Oliver Reservoir/WMA Issues

Horn updated the board on the meeting he and Wittrock attended on September 10, 2008 with Roger Kuhns, Assistant Director of the Parks Division for Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Horn pointed out the income and expense statement for the past three years and discussion was held about current expenses incurred by the Game and Parks Commission and

possible SPNRD in-kind time to diminish costs. He suggested possible divisions of responsibilities and other ideas for the board to consider concerning Oliver Reservoir. Discussion on this item will continue at future board meetings.

Burkhart-Kriesel turned the chair responsibility back to Rexroth.

8. Correspondence

Horn referred to handout material, and asked the board to review it.

9. Upcoming Dates

- A. SPNRD Office Closed, Columbus Day - October 13, 2008
- B. SPNRD/NRCS Conservation Awards Banquet, Buffalo Point, Sidney, NE - October 18, 2008
- C. SPNRD Board Meeting - November 11, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.
- D. SPNRD Office Closed, Veterans Day - November 11, 2008
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10. Adjourn

With no further action, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

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Linda L. Suhr, Recording Secretary

\*Denotes Action Taken