

## N-CORPE

### *Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project*

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#### **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**December 17, 2014, 9 a.m.**

**Twin Platte NRD Office, 111 South Dewey, Second Floor, North Platte, Neb.**

Agendas were sent to all Board Members and all others requesting agendas. Agendas were posted in the following offices: Twin Platte NRD; Lower Republican NRD; Middle Republican NRD; and Upper Republican NRD.

**Board Members Present:** Bill Bose (Lower Republican NRD); Brad Randel (Middle Republican NRD); Terry Martin (Upper Republican NRD); and Jerry Weaver (Twin Platte NRD).

**Others Present:** Jasper Fanning, Nate Jenkins, Mike Clements, Bob Merrigan, Scott Dicke, Kyle Shepherd, Dan Estermann, Donn Gengenbach. At 1p.m. and thereafter Benjie Loomis, Jack Russell, Mike Keller, Jim Meismer, Chris Miller, Dean Large and Kent Miller arrived at the meeting.

**Information Sent to Board Members:** Agenda, financial report.

**Information Available at Board Meeting:** Agenda; minutes of Nov. 26, 2014 meeting; December 2014 payables; November 2014 profit and loss statement; balance sheet as of Nov. 30, 2014; correspondence from Nebraska Game and Parks Commission regarding public access.

Chairman Terry Martin called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. and designated Fanning to run the meeting. Fanning noted a copy of the Open Meetings Act was in the back of the room. Roll call was taken. Voting representatives from URNRD (Terry Martin); LRNRD (Bill Bose); Middle Republican NRD (Brad Randel); and Twin Platte NRD (Jerry Weaver) were present.

#### **Interviews:**

It was stated that interviews of three candidates for the position of NCORPE Manager would be conducted in open session by NCORPE board members. Interviews of the candidates were conducted until approximately 11:10 a.m.

- Bose moved to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing the candidate interviews, to include board members. Seconded by Weaver. Roll call vote: 4-yes. 0-no. Motion approved. The board entered into executive session at 11:12 a.m.
- Weaver moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Bose. Roll call vote: 4-yes. 0-no. Motion approved. The board entered open session at 11:57 a.m.

The Board took a break for lunch.

Board members discussed, without taking action, the financial report including how costs would be apportioned between the Republican NRDs and twin Platte NRD, well work that is ongoing, work on the outlet at Wellfleet Lake, whether to sell more pivots, and the desire to have a sign at Wellfleet Lake notifying visitors to beware of thin ice. Fanning said that work to replace impellers and do work on well column was about half completed. Jack Russell said that a bid had been

received to reconstruct the outlet at Wellfleet Lake. There was general agreement that it was appropriate to add signs notifying visitors to the lake to beware of possible thin ice.

At approximately 1 p.m. the board began taking action on the items that had been discussed.

**Minutes:**

- Randel moved to approve the minutes of the November 26, 2014 meeting as presented. Seconded by Bose. Roll call vote: 3-yes. 0-no. 1-abstain (Martin). Motion approved.

**Financial Report:**

- a.) **Payables and Financial Reports:** Weaver said he wants an allocation of costs between the Republican NRDs and Twin Platte NRD and joint costs in the form of a report. Fanning said that was being worked on.
- Martin moved to approve the payables and financial report. Seconded by Randel. Roll call vote: 4-yes. 0-no. Motion approved.

**Medicine Creek Structures/Agreements:**

A \$167,000 bid had been received from BSB Construction to construct a new outlet structure at Wellfleet Lake. Russell said the proposal would be reviewed by HDR, an engineering firm that has been working with NCORPE.

**2015 Pivot and Well Dispersal:**

Jenkins and Keller recommended that approximately 20 pivots and wells generally on the east side of the NCORPE property be listed for sale with Big Iron.

- Martin moved to proceed with the sale of approximately 20 pivots, pumps and motors on the east side of the property with Big Iron. Seconded by Randel. Roll call vote: 4-yes. 0-no. Motion approved.

**Public Hunting Proposal/Game and Parks Commission:**

Jenkins and Fanning described a proposal from the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission to fund an NCORPE staff position in exchange for allowing public access/hunting on several thousand acres of NCORPE property. The Game and Parks Commission has proposed that public access be allowed on approximately 9,500 acres; in exchange they would provide approximately \$60,000 to fund a position. Board members agreed that access should not be allowed on approximately 1,000 of the acres because they are leased for cropland.

Board members agreed that hiring someone to fill the position should not occur until an NCORPE manager was hired. If an NCORPE manager was not hired in the near future, the process of filling the Game and Parks funded position could begin before a manager was hired.

**2015 Cropland Rental:**

Jenkins told the board that the 2014 renters of approximately 1,000 acres in the northeast corner of the property would lease the land at the same rate in 2015 but wanted the ability to chop corn for silage and graze corn stalks, which was prohibited in the 2014 lease. The board agreed that the renters demonstrated good land management in 2014 and could be allowed to do both provided they met certain conditions that should be included in the lease, for example planting a cover crop within a certain timeframe. The board agreed the lease should be modified to have such conditions and brought to the board at the next meeting for consideration.

**Open Forum:**

No speakers.

**Executive Session:**

- Randel moved to enter executive session to discuss salary negotiations and benefits for an NCORPE manager, to include NCORPE board members, board alternates and managers of the four NRDs in NCORPE. Seconded by Weaver. Roll call vote: 4-yes. 0-no. Motion approved. The board entered executive session at 1:43 p.m.
- Randel moved to exit executive session and enter open session. Seconded by Bose. Roll call vote: 4-yes. 0-no. Motion approved. The board entered open session at 2:11 p.m.
- Martin moved to extend an offer to Kyle Shepherd to be the NCORPE Manager. Seconded by Randel. Roll call vote: 4-yes. 0-no. Motion approved.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 21 in McCook.

There was no other business and the board adjourned at 2:17 p.m.

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Brad Randel, Board Secretary

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Date