N-CORPE

***Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project***

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**Board Meeting**

*July 20th, 2021, 10 a.m. Central Time*

*Middle Republican NRD*

*208 Center Ave, Curtis, NE 69025*

**Draft Version**

Agendas were sent to board members and others requesting agendas. Agendas were posted at [www.ncorpe.org](http://www.ncorpe.org) and in the following offices: Twin Platte NRD; Lower Republican NRD, Middle Republican NRD; and Upper Republican NRD.

**Board Members Present:** Terry Martin (Upper Republican NRD); Nelson Trambly (Lower Republican NRD); Benji Loomis (MRNRD), Jerry Weaver (TPNRD).

**Others Present:** Kyle Shepherd (NCORPE); Jasper Fanning (URNRD); Todd Siel (LRNRD); Kent Miller (TPNRD); Nick Simonson (LRNRD); Jim Meismer (TPNRD); Sylvia Johnson(MRNRD); Tracy Zink (MRNRD); Mike Keller (NCORPE); Amy Cauffman (NCORPE)

**Information Sent to Board Members:** Notice; Agenda; Minutes of April 20th Board Meeting and 2020 Annual Report Hearing; NCORPE Financial Statements Year Ended June 30, 2021 and Nine Months Ended March 31, 2021; Accounts Payable.

Terry Martin called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and designated NCORPE’s General Manager Kyle Shepherd to chair the meeting. Shepherd pointed out that the Open Meetings Act was posted.

Roll call was taken. Voting representatives from the Upper Republican NRD (Terry Martin); Twin Platte NRD (Jerry Weaver); Lower Republican NRD (Nelson Trambly); Middle Republican NRD (Benji Loomis) were present.

**Public Forum**

Shepherd opened the Public Forum. No members of the public commented.

**Minutes of the April 20th, 2021 Meeting**

Shepherd presented the draft minutes of the April 20th meeting to the board.

Trambly moved to approve the minutes of the April 20th, 2021 meeting. The motion was seconded by Loomis.

Roll Call: Upper Republican NRD – Yes; Middle Republican NRD – Yes; Lower Republican NRD – Yes; Twin Platte NRD – Abstain. Vote 3 – Yes, 1 – Abstain. Motion approved.

**Payables**

Shepherd presented the payables to the board. Shepherd noted the correction on page 3 that McCook PPD should be classified under Republican only. The accountants were notified to fix this. It was also noted that on page 7 payment from Tanner Lemmon was received for Building Rent not Pasture Rent. Further discussion included: the Ford F150 trade at Bill Summers Ford and stock well repairs on page 1, new motor expense for shop hoist at Troyer Enterprises on page 7, land surveying for Dove Hill pivots from Edward’s Land Surveying on page 7, two pivots sold and paid for on page 11 with note of two pivots left for sale, insurance renewal on page 13 was renewed with the Harry A. Kock Co. and the professional fees for MMS on page 13.

Weaver moved to approve the payables as amended and was seconded by Trambly.

Roll Call: Upper Republican NRD – Yes; Middle Republican NRD – Yes; Lower Republican NRD – Yes; Twin Platte NRD – Yes. Vote 4 – Yes, 0 - Abstain. Motion approved.

**Financial Statements**

Shepherd presented the financial statements to the board and stated he had met with MMS to discuss the necessary changes that needed to be made by the October board meeting. Further discussion about these changes and the process in fixing them took place. Shepherd moved to table the financial statements until corrections can be made.

**Project Update**

**Managers Reports**

Shepherd shared various pictures and details of the following: rotating cattle and relocating a stray calf; spring grazers moving out in mid-May; grain bin loading, musk thistle spraying, and gate welding by Keller; annual honors tour for FFA led by Shepherd; Margaritz pivot that turned over; and the new solar monitoring sight located west of NCORPE office.

**Electrical Update**

Shepherd stated that Dawson agreed to take over Midwest service. Midwest will need to present this change to the power review board for approval. Midwest service has also been disconnected from the Dove Hill Pivots. In addition, Keller shared information about the South Dakota company hired to work on the well error codes.

**Property Management/Operations**

**Game and Parks position/Range Manager position**

Shepherd indicated that Game and Parks had sent him a cooperative agreement that morning. Discussion took place about this agreement and what eligible expenses would qualify towards the $30,000/year wage allowance set by the Game and Parks. Shepherd stated the agreement would be sent to Don for review and then put on the agenda for the October board meeting.

**Public Hunting**

Shepherd reviewed the current map of public hunting on NCORPE and shared a proposed map of public hunting ground. Discussion took place about possibly increasing the amount of land to be utilized for public hunting and the safety concerns of the hiking/biking trails.

Weaver moved to add around 1,100 acres for public hunting. The motion was seconded by Martin.

Roll Call: Upper Republican NRD – Yes; Middle Republican NRD – Yes; Lower Republican NRD – Yes; Twin Platte NRD – Yes. Vote 4 – Yes, 0 – No. Motion approved.

**2022 Budget**

Budget items discussed were the possible replacement of a McCormick tractor, the selling of the last 2 Dove Hill Pivots, and the haying of 13 pivots.

**Legislative Update**

Shepherd reported there will be a special session for redistricting in September and that no information has been received about the Legislative study on NCORPE. Shepherd also received an email from the auditor’s office requesting NCORPE to submit budget forms. Shepherd discussed this with Ryan from the auditor’s office and an exempt form will be submitted.

**Water Level Update**

Shepherd shared maps of well water levels. Here it was illustrated how water levels are affected by neighbors. Loomis explained that he was contacted by Marvin Henry who wants something done about the trees falling into the creek.

**Executive Session**

Martin moved to go into executive session to discuss land negotiations at 12:03 p.m. and was seconded by Trambly.

Roll Call: Upper Republican NRD – Yes; Middle Republican NRD – Yes; Lower Republican NRD – Yes; Twin Platte NRD – Yes. Vote 4 – Yes, 0 – Abstain. Motion approved.

Martin moved to exit executive session at 12:13 p.m. and was seconded by Loomis.

Roll Call: Upper Republican NRD – Yes; Middle Republican NRD – Yes; Lower Republican NRD – Yes; Twin Platte NRD – Yes. Vote 4 – Yes, 0 – Abstain. Motion approved.

Martin moved to go back into executive session at 12:18 p.m. to discuss the budget item of employees’ salaries and to include board members, NRD staff, and Kyle Shepherd. This motion was seconded by Trambly.

Roll Call: Upper Republican NRD – Yes; Middle Republican NRD – Yes; Lower Republican NRD – Yes; Twin Platte NRD – Yes. Vote 4 – Yes, 0 – Abstain. Motion approved.

Martin moved to exit executive session at 12:26 p.m. and was seconded by Loomis.

Roll Call: Upper Republican NRD – Yes; Middle Republican NRD – Yes; Lower Republican NRD – Yes; Twin Platte NRD – Yes. Vote 4 – Yes, 0 – Abstain. Motion approved.

Martin motioned for the NCORPE board to provide funds to increase employees’ salaries at a cost of living index approximation of 4%. This motion was seconded by Trambly.

Roll Call: Upper Republican NRD – Yes; Middle Republican NRD – No; Lower Republican NRD – Yes; Twin Platte NRD – Yes. Vote 3 – Yes, 1-No, 0 – Abstain. Motion approved.

Martin adjourned the meeting at 12:28 p.m.

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Benjie Loomis, Board Secretary Date