N-CORPE

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

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 **Board Meeting**

*March 25th 2025, 10:00am Central Time*

Mid-Plains Community College Room #209,

1101 Halligan Dr., North Platte, NE 69101.

**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 (URNRD); Benjie Loomis (MRNRD), Jerry Weaver (TPNRD); Troy Fletcher (LRNRD)

**Others Present:** Kyle Shepherd (NCORPE); Jasper Fanning (URNRD); Nate Jenkins (URNRD); Nick Simonson (LRNRD); Kent Miller (TPNRD); Mike Keller (NCORPE); Steve Vaughn (NCORPE); Jack Russell (MRNRD); Kevin Fornoff (MRNRD); Gary Person (NP Chamber); Caitlyn Thomas (NP Telegraph)

**Information Sent to Board Members:** Notice, Agenda, Minutes of the February 19th Board Meeting, Accounts Payable, Audited Financial Statement

Terry Martin called the meeting to order at 10:02am 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); Middle Republican NRD (Benjie Loomis); Lower Republican NRD (Troy Fletcher).

**Public Forum**

Shepherd opened the Public Forum. No one from the public spoke.

**Executive Session**

Martin moved to go into executive session for land negotiations including NRD staff, NCORPE Board Members and NP Chamber representatives at 10:03am and was seconded by Weaver.

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.

Martin moved to come out of executive session at 11:34am 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 - No. Motion approved.

**Approval of the minutes of the February 19th, 2025 Meeting**

Shepherd presented the draft minutes of the February 19th meeting to the board.

Martin moved to approve the minutes of the February 19th, 2025 meeting. The motion was seconded by Fletcher.

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.

**Payables**

Shepherd presented the payables to the board. Several questions were discussed.

Fletcher moved to approve the payables 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 - No. Motion approved.

**Audited Financial Statement**

The 2024 audited financial statement was presented.

Martin moved to accept the financial statement and was seconded by Weaver.

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.

**Project Update**

**Managers Reports**

Shepherd discussed work on Medicine Creek, prairie chicken viewing, a bad shut-off valve, fencing and the Game and Parks grant.

**Property Management/Operations**

**Planning Session**

Shepherd introduced a discussion on renewable energy, property taxes, occupation tax, economic development and carbon. The items were discussed in length. The Meadowlark Project and the cancelled February 24th meeting were discussed. Loomis made a motion to put any discussions on renewable energy leases on hold. It did not receive a second. The conversation was tabled until the next meeting.

**Legislative Update**

Perkins County canal legislation was mentioned.

**Executive Session**

Weaver moved to go into executive session for land negotiations including NRD staff and NCORPE Board Members at 12:50pm 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 - No. Motion approved.

Martin moved to come out of executive session at 1:17pm 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 - No. Motion approved.

No motions or action were taken after the Executive Session.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:18pm.

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Benjie Loomis, Board Secretary Date