

Upper Elkhorn NRD Special Board Meeting

301 North Harrison Street

O'Neill, NE 68763

2:00 PM, Wednesday February 13, 2019

AGENDA

UENRD Board of Directors reserves the right to hold a closed session during the meeting as provided by NE Public Meeting Law 84-1410. Board of Directors may take action on any Agenda Item as needed. Agenda items may be moved up or down the agenda at the Boards discretion. Please plan to attend the entire meeting.

1. Statement of Advertisement of Meeting and Open Meeting Law Posting
2. Call Meeting to Order and Approve Agenda
3. Excused Absences
4. Public Comment-LeRoy Behnk's Request
5. Acre Expansion:
 - a) Transferring of Acre Expansion Applications
 - b) Changing of Best Management Practices after Expansion Deadline occurred or later with 5 year time period.
 - c) Other
6. Acre Transfers:
 - a) Transferring Acres for later date use
 - b) Transferring Acres over multiple Hydrologic Unit Codes
 - c) Other:
7. Chemigation Program:
 - a) Inspection of new, renewals and non-permitted sites
 - b) Discussion on slam valves on all irrigation wells
 - c) Other
8. Implementation of Phase III Water Quality Requirements:
 - a) Selection of soil sampling sites-process
 - b) Percentage of fields to be sampled by NRD
 - i. Phase III Areas & other
 - ii. Depth of Samples taken
 1. Triggering levels (Residual Nitrogen)
 - iii. Type of soil analysis to be conducted
 - c) Personnel/Equipment needs of Phase III implementation
 - i. What does board expect of this position?
 1. Hiring Full-time staff
 2. Hiring contract labor
 - ii. NRD Equipment/Storage needs
 - d) Other
9. NRD Staff Water Issues Presentations-Requested
10. Plans: Rule & Regulations, Integrated Management, Groundwater Management, Master Plan, Long Range Management Plans
11. February Board Meeting: February 25th 2019 2:30PM
12. Adjournment

Wednesday February 13th 2019 Agenda Review

(Submitted by Dennis Schueth)

Well, I hope everyone has been able to ride this weather roller coaster ride without any major difficulties. I am really getting tired of it but realize there is nothing I can do about it....except toughen up☺.

When “Special Meetings” have been held in the past it was for the board to discuss openly on topics of importance/conflict or other pertinent items at task. If direction could not be attained, tasks were either assigned to staff/committees and findings/recommendations would be made to the board.

Acres Expansion:

- Based on last month’s discussion items listed below will take place on acre expansion:
 - Applications being transferable or land sold.
 - Changing of acre request after deadline
 - Changing of Best Management Practices (after land has been sold or modified within 5 year time period?)
 - Other

Acres Transfers:

- Based on last month’s discussion, items listed below will take place on acre transfers:
 - Locations of acres being transferred to a corner (maintained for 5 years) and then only a year or more passes and obstruction removed then transferred acres could be moved into that pie to complete circle. (Main concern by applicants is that acre expansion or transfers may not be allowed in the future.)
 - Moving certified irrigated acres over multiple HUC’s and intent of the board.
 - Other

Chemigation Program:

- Based on last month’s discussion, items listed below will take place on chemigation:
 - Inspection of new, renewals and non-permitted sites.
 - ✓ During the December Phase III Public Hearing and December board meeting there has been some discussion of how this program is administered as it relates to inspections.
 - ✓ Beth Walsh has included some handouts regarding chemigation permits for you to review. Joslynn VanDerslice is working on a map to show locations of chemigation sites that have been permitted since the program began.
 - Retrieving data on Nebraska Department of Natural Resources data bank, there are approximately 4,500 registered irrigation wells. This number is a little deceiving because some irrigation wells are no longer active or ever irrigated any acres. Example: Foxley’s drilled irrigation wells on quarters south of O’Neill and never

irrigated any acres. Some of the irrigation wells have been capped or been converted to livestock wells.

- The District has been trying to get individuals to certify their acres and when this is accomplished we will have a more accurate account of those wells and irrigated acres. With the passage of the UENRD's Voluntary Integrated Management Plan our goal is to have all groundwater irrigated acres certified by February 1, 2021.
- ✓ Chemigation Slam Valves: Comments have been made that the district should require slam valves on all wells registered irrigation wells.
- ✓ Other

Implementation of Phase III Water Quality Requirements:

- Selection of sampling sites: Wayne Fredericks will describe a process of picking sites.
- Phase III areas and other locations:
 - ✓ Comments about taking samples in Phase I and Phase II areas. Should this be done in the first year of sampling Phase III areas?
 - ✓ Depth of samples taken. NRD takes samples to three feet, utilize top two feet to determine total residual nitrogen and 24-36 inch as educational tool.
 - ✓ Soil Sample Analysis to be conducted: Just residual nitrogen analysis or include other parameters?
 - ✓ Other
- Personnel/Equipment needs to Implement Phase III:
 - What does the board expect of this Phase Program as it relates to staff responsibilities?
 - ✓ What level of expertise is expected when soil analysis is completed?
 - Tracking of producers current nitrogen uses, application practices and new practices operator will try?
 - Does the board want person to make nitrogen recommendations utilizing UN-L guidelines?
 - ✓ Other

NRD Staff Water Issues Presentations-Requested:

- I have been requested by Allan Bently from Antelope County Supervisors to visit with them regarding the Oakdale Dam which was discussed in years past. Via an email, I made it clear if a presentation is given that it is known that he requested the presentation and not the UENRD.

Plans: UENRD Rule & Regulations, Integrated Management, Groundwater Management, Master Plan, Long Range Management Plans:

- Will bring Board up to speed on some of these topics.

Administrative Report:

OTHER:

- If you want to add something to the agenda please contact Michael Moser prior to February 12th, 2019 so he can contact the district to amend the agenda. See you on **TUESDAY FEBRUARY 13th at 2:00 PM**; committees scheduled earlier!!!!!!