CALL TO ORDER, STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT AND OPEN MEETING LAW NOTIFICATION:
The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order. The statement of advertisement and the open meetings law posting were all noted at 2:34 P.M. by Chairman Michael Moser.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:
Gary Bartak  Kevin Blair  Mark Carpenter  Chris Dierks  Marv Fritz
Curtis Gotschall  Ted Hughes  Jim Keller  Gene Kelly  Michael Moser
Aaron Rice  Roy Stewart  John Vogel  Chip Whitaker(arr. 2:35 PM)

DIRECTORS ABSENT:
Keith Heithoff

STAFF PRESENT:
Dennis Schueth, General Manager
Kelly Kloppenborg, Water Resources Technician
Andrea Fisher, Administrative Secretary
Beth Walsh, Information & Education Coordinator
Joslynn Vanderslice, Water Resources Manager
Wayne Frederick, Water Resources Technician
Brett Sholes, Agronomy Resources Technician

GUESTS PRESENT:
Brandon Peterson – NRCS – O’Neill

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:
⇒ It was moved by Ted Hughes seconded by Chris Dierks to adopt the agenda. AYE: Bartak, Blair, Carpenter, Dierks, Fritz, Hughes, Keller, Kelly, Moser, Rice, Stewart & Vogel. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Gotschall, Heithoff & Whitaker. MOTION CARRIED.

MINUTES:
The minutes of the December Meeting were reviewed by the Directors. ⇒ It was moved by Gene Kelly and seconded by Marv Fritz to approve the minutes of the December Meeting. AYE: Bartak, Blair, Carpenter, Fritz, Gotschall, Hughes, Kelly, Moser, Stewart & Vogel. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: Dierks, Keller & Rice. ABSENT: Heithoff & Whitaker. MOTION CARRIED.

TREASURERS REPORT:
The December treasurers report was reviewed by the Directors. ⇒ It was moved by Roy Stewart and seconded by Gene Kelly to approve the December Treasurers Report. AYE: Bartak, Blair, Carpenter, Dierks, Fritz, Hughes, Keller, Kelly, Moser, Rice, Stewart, Vogel & Whitaker. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Gotschall & Heithoff. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC FORUM-INPUT OR COMMENTS:
None
AGENCY & STAFF REPORTS:

NARD Report: The NARD Legislative Conference is scheduled for January 28 & 29 at the Embassy Suites in Lincoln. The NARD board will be meeting in conjunction with the Legislative Conference. Gene Kelly, UENRD voting delegate alternate will no longer be able to attend the conference. It was moved by John Vogel and seconded by Ted Hughes to appoint Mark Carpenter as the UENRD voting delegate alternate for the 2020 NARD Legislative Conference. AYE: Bartak, Blair, Dierks, Fritz, Gotschall, Hughes, Keller, Kelly, Moser, Rice, Stewart, Vogel & Whitaker. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: Carpenter. ABSENT: Heithoff. MOTION CARRIED.


NRCS Report: Brandon Peterson’s report was mailed out to the Directors. Brandon reported that they are working on applications for EQIP, CSP and CRP. There will be a meeting of the local workgroup February 6th to discuss aspects and the current ranking criteria. Everyone is encouraged to attend. NRCS will be advertising several open positions within the organization across Nebraska. Locations impacting the UENRD include Neligh, Ainsworth and O’Neill.

RC&D Report:  
North Central RC&D: No Report.  
Loup Basin RC&D: No Report.  
Northeast RC&D: No Report.

Information & Education Report: Beth Walsh’s report was mailed out in the Directors packets. Beth confirmed the directors attending Legislative Conference; and, noted that the deadline for incumbents to file for the 2020 election is February 18.

Water Resources Report: Joslynn Vanderslice’s report was mailed out in the Directors packets. Brett Sholes, Agronomy Resources Technician, reviewed the Phase III soil sampling report. Cooperators whose fields were chosen for the Phase III soil sampling will be receiving letters regarding their results; and, those whose fields were triggered for residual nitrogen will be contacted to schedule one-on-one meetings. Joslynn Vanderslice reported on the Chemigation, Pesticide and Nitrogen Certification training dates. The LENRD and NRCS will be hosting a no-till, cover crop and planned grazing systems workshop on February 12 at the Lifelong Learning Center in Norfolk. This meeting will also serve as the BGMA winter meeting; and, if attended it will also meet the requirements for Nitrogen Certification. Joslynn also reported that we are still short approximately 1500 Phase II reports. Reminder letters will be going out to cooperators. Joslynn also handed out a static water level comparison and reviewed it with the board.

Bazile Management Report: The winter meeting for the BGMA will be held February 12, 2020 at the Lifelong Learning Center in Norfolk from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM in conjunction with the LENRD and NRCS.

UNL Extension: Chemigation Training dates were included in the Director’s folders.

EXCUSED ABSENCES:
 It was moved by Ted Hughes and seconded by Aaron Rice to excuse the absence of Keith Heithoff. AYE: Bartak, Blair, Carpenter, Dierks, Fritz, Gotschall, Hughes, Keller, Kelly, Moser, Rice, Stewart, Vogel & Whitaker. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Heithoff. MOTION CARRIED.
COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Legislative, Finance and Planning: The Committee met prior to the board meeting.

1. Action on Current bills and Cost Share Requests: The Committee reviewed the current bills. There were no cost share requests. 

   It was moved by Roy Stewart and seconded by Chip Whitaker to approve the current bills for payment. AYE: Bartak, Blair, Carpenter, Dierks, Fritz, Gotschall, Hughes, Keller, Kelly, Moser, Rice, Stewart, Vogel & Whitaker. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Heithoff. MOTION CARRIED. Roy Stewart also reported that the Accounts Receivable and bank statements looked to be in good standing.

2. Review of 2019 Legislative Bills: Dennis Schueth handed out the latest legislative update from NARD and reviewed some of the bills which could affect the NRDs. These bills will be discussed further during the NARD Legislative Conference.

3. Full Board Policy Meeting: It has been proposed that the UENRD hold a mid-month board meeting to discuss programs and policy. The meeting will be scheduled for February 14, 2020 at 1:00 at the UENRD office.

Water Resources & Watershed: The Committee met prior to the board meeting.

1. Groundwater Acre Expansion/Certification/Transfer Issues: None

2. Andy Frey’s Irrigation Well modification (include filling pond), SW 22-25-5: The WRWS Committee has been discussing this issue and it has generated several issues and questions. This will be a topic discussed at the policy meeting to include the full board in the discussion.

COALITIONS UPDATE:

- Niobrara River Basin Alliance: There will be a meeting on January 27, 2020 in Lincoln with the NRBA and partners (Nebraska Game & Parks, NPPD, DNR and representation from the Attorney General’s Office) to discuss moving forward with acquiring NPPD’s water rights associated with the Spencer Hydro Dam facility.


- Nebraska Habitat Conservation Coalition (Piping Plover): No Report.

- Nebraska Ground Water Management Coalition: No Report.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Dennis Schueth’s report was mailed out in the Director’s packets. A copy is included with the official copy of the minutes in the office. Dennis reported that the NRD has sold the 1998 Ford Pickup through the process of sealed bids. Dennis also reviewed the meetings he has participated in with UNL regarding nitrate issues.

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING:

The next regular board meeting will be held February 24, 2020 at 2:30 pm. Committee meetings will be held prior to the board meeting.

It was moved by Chris Dierks and seconded by Gene Kelly to adjourn at 3:55 p.m. AYE: Bartak, Blair, Carpenter, Dierks, Fritz, Gotschall, Hughes, Keller, Kelly, Moser, Rice, Stewart, Vogel & Whitaker. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Heithoff. MOTION CARRIED.
I, the undersigned Secretary/Treasurer of the Upper Elkhorn Natural Resources District hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings had and done by the Board of Directors on January 21, 2020 that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting, the minutes of the Chairman and the Board were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body, that all news media requesting notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

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Gene Kelly, Secretary/Treasurer