

MINUTES

The Board met Tuesday March 6, 2007 at 8:00 am, with Gary Housholder, Brad Peterson, Monty Dahl, and Kenny Nelson present.

Time sheets and checks were signed. Minutes and the financial report were approved as mailed. Annual Reports were presented to the Board members. At this time a written report from Bill Peck regarding water supply was presented to the Board. The Bureau estimates a Harlan County supply of 20,200 af by June. The supply would be split between the districts with Nebraska Bostwick receiving 12,504 af and Kansas Bostwick receiving 7,658 af. for app. a 2"/acre delivery above Lovewell. Based upon this estimate, the Board agreed no deliveries would be made above Lovewell. If the estimate is exceeded, once 12,000 af (approximately the amount delivered in 2006) for Kansas Bostwick is reached, plans to release the water for the 2007 season will be implemented.

A discussion was held regarding the election for Director from Voting Area #1 being held today at the Republic Community Center. Steve Howley, Roger Lindberg, and Loren Isaacson are serving on the election board.

Correspondence for the month consisting of a letter from Marvin Swanda regarding 2006 "Monthly Water Distribution" and a letter from Pam Skidmore regarding Blue Cross – Blue Shield health insurance renewal was read and discussed.

Kenny informed the Board of his discussion with Lee Orton and Steve Ronshaugen to move forward with an effort for relief from O&M charges paid to the Bureau during years of little or no water supply. The Irrigation Projects Reauthorization Council on behalf of 6 districts is conducting the effort. Kenny explained some might be able to do something without legislation. However, the two Bostwicks would have to pursue legislation to receive relief at Harlan County. Steve Ronshaugen is to report back to Kenny this week on the Bureau's opinion of how to proceed.

The Basis of Negotiation to amend our contracts as allowed with the passage of HR 4000, remains in the Bureau office in Washington D. C. Kenny will continue to try to get it moving as soon as possible.

A Hearing on SB 89 a bill to establish a process to distribute monies recovered from the State of Nebraska if awarded in a settlement or judgment, will be held in the Kansas House on Thursday of this week. It was agreed not to testify.

Kenny informed the Board of a 1982 Linkbelt located in Texarkana, Texas that can be purchased in the \$30,000 range. The Board agreed that Kenny could proceed to negotiate if he was satisfied with the report on the condition of the machine.

An e-mail from Chris Kingsley of Hess Services agreeing to use the recommended paint to paint the White Rock Extension tube was discussed. It was explained the change would not affect the bid and plans are being made to begin the project in early April.

At this time, a Draft Newsletter for April – June was reviewed. The Board agreed to add language to the 2007 Water Supply article telling irrigators if a releasable supply were reached in Harlan County, we would inform them of our operating plan. A discussion was held regarding holding an irrigators meeting or mailing out an operating plan to the affected irrigators. Because the likelihood of not reaching this goal until April, mailing out a plan was preferred over having a meeting. It was also agreed to publish the cost of the White Rock Extension repair job. Kenny plans to mail out the Newsletter before the 16th of March.

Upon the request of Matt Ehlers, the possibility of removing the 63.4 acres for Robert Trapp landowner of the NE 10-2-6 that irrigates from 32.1 lto. was discussed. The Board agreed if Mr. Trapp makes a formal request to remove the property from service, we would approve it.

A water report was given on Harlan County and Lovewell Reservoirs.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Secretary

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Secretary