

MINUTES

The Board met Thursday August 2, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., with Brad Peterson, Monty Dahl, and Kenny Nelson present. Gary Housholder was absent from the meeting.

Time sheets and checks were signed. Plans were made to attend the Republican River Compact meeting in Junction City on the 15th and a meeting with the Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation and Nebraska Bostwick meeting at the Buffalo Roam in Mankato on the 21st.

The Minutes and Financial Report were approved as mailed.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

Marv Swanda – 2007 construction charges NK Area
David Barfield – Republican River Compact Annual Meeting
Don Moomow – Aaron Thompson as Area Manager

At 9:00 A. M. the Equalization Hearings were opened and closed with no one in attendance.

Resolutions approving the Operations and Maintenance Budget at \$1,252,000 and the Repayment Budget at \$188,386 were signed

. Certifications for the 2008 Assessment to be sent to Republic and Jewell Counties were signed

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Kenny informed the Board that we had been approved for a \$300,000 2025 grant from the Bureau of Reclamation to construct 9.3 miles of buried pipeline. Kenny reviewed the projects, which were approved in the application and some that could be considered as substitute projects if these did not work out. The Bureau has offered to perform the NEPA compliance and the engineering and deduct their charges from the funding if we wish to use their services. He also informed the board of the possibility of an additional 50,000 in annual funding which he intends to apply for.

Kenny informed the Board he had presented testimony at Senator Brownback's request in support of HR1025 to conduct a feasibility study to improve efficiency on the Republican River in Kansas and Nebraska. He also informed them of the lack of progress on legislation for relief from Harlan County O&M charges. This will be a topic at the meeting to be held in Mankato on the 21st.

At this time a discussion was held regarding water supply. We have released 14,300 af Harlan County in 41 days leading up to 8-1. We have used 11.600 af of deal water from Harry Strunk Reservoir and 600 af of deal water from Nebraska Bostwick deal water. The Bureau estimates we have 2,300 af additional water from Harry Strunk Reservoir to be delivered to Harlan County. The district has used 3.1"/acre above Lovewell and 3.6"/acre below Lovewell to this point in time. The District has 6 irrigators above Lovewell and 9 irrigators below who would benefit from additional water in the near future. Other users may benefit later in the month if the month is hot and dry. Many users will not use more than 8" regardless of increasing the restriction. At this time, Gary Housholder joined the meeting by cell phone. After thoroughly discussing the issue, it was decided to increase the restriction by 2" to 10" and to set the ending date at August 29. Kenny was instructed to send a patron letter emphasizing the need to conserve the supply for next year and only use the additional 2" if necessary.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 A. M.

Secretary