

## MINUTES

The Board met Tuesday March 4, 2008 at 8:00 A.M., with Gary Housholder Brad Peterson, Monty Dahl, and Kenny Nelson present.

Time sheets and checks were signed; the Minutes and Financial Report were approved as mailed. Kenny reported the Election for Voting Area #3 began at 7:00 this morning.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:  
Bill Peck – BOR 2007 water splits from Harlan County  
Chris Kingsley – expansion joint for WREX tube

Kenny explained the need to install the expansion joint on the WREX tube. It was agreed to have Hess Services install it for \$24,404 as described in the correspondence. He also explained the failure of the radial gate at mile point 6.3 on the Courtland Canal. The Board agreed to have Hess Services review the gate for possible repair while they are in the area. The Bureau of Reclamation is going to review the gate on 3-6 and provide input on a repair.

Kenny explained that Federal Surplus Properties was doing a search to see if a 26,000 gvw dump truck can be located for the district.

A discussion was held regarding the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lovewell Dam dedication. Kenny and Brad had met with Mike Johnson and Rick Cleveland regarding a possible program. A short tour of the district and an oral presentation were suggested as the district involvement.

Kenny reported on Senate Bill 558 Introduced by Senator Mark Taddiken, which he testified in favor of on February 25<sup>th</sup>. The bill will allow mail in ballots to be used in lieu of holding formal elections as is currently done. The bill passed the Agriculture Committee on the 25 and passed the Senate on the 28<sup>th</sup>. A discussion was held regarding possibly amending the bill to allow an election to be cancelled if there is only one candidate as is done in Texas. Kenny will discuss this with Clay Aurand.

Mason Ely has informed Kenny he wants us to go ahead with a buried pipeline on his farm at his expense as estimated in a letter to him and discussed last month. Kenny will add it to the work schedule.

Kenny reported the Harlan County O&M legislation being carried by Congressman Moran, was being discussed in the Bureau's Grand Island Office as part of the scoring process for the Congressional Budget Office.

Steve Ronshaugen has asked the Board to discuss their desire to change the cost splits of Harlan County O&M charges between Kansas Bostwick and Nebraska Bostwick to a set rate based on classified acres in the 2 districts. This would be approximately 65% for Kansas Bostwick and 35% for Nebraska Bostwick. These percentages would not change and would remove the annual uncertainty from the charges. The Board agreed we should request this change. Kenny will contact Steve.

Marv Swanda has advised Kenny they do not intend to forward the deviation request to the Corps of Engineers, which we mailed, to Aaron Thompson last month. Rather, it is their opinion we can accomplish the supply we need through cooperation between the Corps Kansas City Office and the Bureau's McCook Office.

Kenny explained the Bob Reed and Craig Elliott projects involving EQIP pivots and the district's involvement with buried laterals if time allows. This met with Board approval.

A discussion was held regarding load management by Rolling Hills REA and notification to the district. Melvin Jeardoe say the district can receive the same e-mail notice regarding shut downs that the landowners receive. This would be helpful to the district in deciding whether to allow an irrigator to participate in load management or not.

A report was given on water supply.

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

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Secretary