

MINUTES

The Board met Friday April 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 informed the Board of the 4-States Directors meeting on April 17 in Berthoud Co., which he plans to attend.

At this time, an election of Officers was held with each member retaining their current position: Gary Householder – President; Brad Peterson – Secretary; and Monty Dahl Treasurer.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

Aaron Thompson- 2007 carry over storage first to be used from Harlan County

Aaron Thompson- Harlan County 2007 O&M actual cost.

A discussion was held regarding replacing the radial gate at mile point 6.3 on the Courtland Canal. The job has been contracted to Hess Services of Hays for \$64,000.00. An additional charge of \$8,400.00 would be charged if Hess was hired to sand blast and paint the gate. After discussing the pros and cons of contracting the paint job versus attempting it with our own staff this fall, the Board gave Kenny permission to choose the method he felt best before the project with Hess is finished.

Kenny explained that he had been contacted by Aaron Popelka of Congressman Moran's office regarding the proposed legislation for relief from Harlan County O&M charges. Aaron reports the General Accounting Office determined a \$700,000 cost over 10 years to the Federal Government by the legislation. This cost would have to be offset according to the term of "pay go". The House of Representative has a \$500,000 dementias exemption for pay go. Aaron suggest we either introduce as is and it goes nowhere, modify to meet the exemption, of give up on the effort. Kenny visited with Aaron Thompson and Steve Ronshaugen about the situation. They felt a discussion with the Senate would be a good idea and that the proposal has real potential. In Steve's opinion, the districts should continue to pursue it as is.

A discussion was held regarding the 50th anniversary of the Lovewell Dam dedication. Kenny briefed the Board on the planned tour and program he plans to hand out regarding Kansas Bostwick Brad updated the Board on financing efforts.

Progress of Senate Bill 89 and 558 were reported upon. Senate Bill 89 dealing with the funding possibilities from a settlement between States of the Republican River Compact has passed Congress and is waiting the Governor's signature. Senate Bill 558 regarding mail in ballot elections for irrigation districts has also passed both houses and will soon be sent to the Governor. Kansas Bostwick requested this bill.

Steve Ronshaugen informed Kenny that the districts request to use a straight percentage charge for Harlan County O&M had been presented to Nebraska Bostwick and was to be considered at their April Board Meeting.

Kenny reported on work progress. The 2025 lateral projects of 21.8 and 23.3 are near completion. Additional 2025 projects will not begin until after irrigation season.

A report was given on water supply. Kenny also informed the Board that Frenchman Valley and Frenchman Cambridge had made deals with the State of Nebraska not to divert natural flows allowing additional water to flow to the streams for Compact purposes. Frenchman Cambridge will divert their natural flow water once they begin their irrigation season. The Bureau reports that Harlan County is near the stage it predicted it to reach by the end of May. With water supply being more positive than anticipated, a lengthy discussion was held regarding the District's restriction.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.

Secretary