

MINUTES

The Board met Tuesday May 5, 2009 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.

A discussion was held regarding the Lower Republican River Stakeholder Advisory Committee. Kansas Bostwick will be sponsoring the next meeting of the Committee on June 10:00 in Courtland.

Correspondence was read and discussed as follows:

- Eric Banks regarding AWEP proposal
- Gregory Johnson regarding AWEP proposal
- Aaron Thompson regarding Lovewell and Harlan Co O&M charges
- Aaron Thompson regarding annual contract reports

At this time labor applications were discussed. Kenny reported hiring Luke Mahin and Crystal Lieb as returning summer help. It was also agreed to hire Corey Haskins for summer maintenance with the possibility of converting him to full time in the fall. It was also agreed to offer jobs to Niki Weir and Krystal Mosher on an as needed basis for the summer.

A discussion was held on stimulus spending at Harlan County. The Corps of Engineers intends to spend \$7 million at Harlan County this year and next. Of this, \$411,000 would be for O&M projects of the dam, which we would have to pay a percent of. It would appear we would have to pay approximately \$42,000 of stimulus spending.

Kenny reported on the Republican River Compact Telephone Conference which was conducted from our office and other locations on April 28, 2009. The purpose of the meeting was for compact members to vote on Colorado's proposal to pump water to Nebraska on the North fork of the Republican in an effort to come into compliance. Kansas and Nebraska voted no on the proposal because didn't address the South fork of the Republican and it may negatively impact Nebraska irrigators.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield health insurance rates will increase 7% in June this year. Last year it increased 17% driving rates slightly over the cap placed on insurance in 2005. The Board agreed not to increase the employee's share in 2009 but informed the employees it would increase in January of 2010 if the rates increase again in 2009. The new rates will be \$378 single, \$730 employee – child, \$812 employee spouse, \$1,164 employee with dependants. The employees will pay the following share of the rates: single 0 district pays all; employee – child \$39.83; employ-spouse \$42.51; and employee-dependants \$69.57. This represents ½ of the increase over the cap and the new cap becomes the June 2009 rates.

The Board approved a plan to tin the District Office roof and wrap the soffite and fascia with plastic. The district crew will install the tin and All Things Exterior will do the other work. The cost will be approximately \$3,700 not counting labor for the tin installation. The district received a \$2,700 settlement from the insurance company for wind damage to the shingles.

The Board reviewed rates for cost of equipment. It was agreed to increase rates by 20% on heavy equipment and leave them the same on trucks. The Cat 320 excavator recently purchased will be valued the same as the John Deere 690 EC excavator.

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

Secretary