

2003

Minutes

The Board met Tuesday January 7, 2003, at 8:00 am, with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, Gary Housholder, and Kenny Nelson present.

Time sheets and checks were signed. Minutes from the previous meeting and the financial report were approved as mailed.

Kenny gave a report on crop census results and rainfall data for the past year.

Kenny reported on cost to overhaul the Fiat tractor motor from C&W farm supply. The Board advised Kenny to go ahead with the overhaul and to request a warranty on the overhaul job.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

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|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Plan | Jill Manring BOR - Integrated Pest Management |
| | Scott Ross Division of Water Resources - metering requirements |
| | Employers Mutual Insurance - Dividend for Workers |
| Comp. | Scott Ross - Lloyd Olsen water right. |
| | Senator Pat Roberts - EQIP funds in farm bill |

At this time a discussion was held on the Republican River Compact settlement regarding the Republican River. The settlement appears to be positive for improved flows into Kansas if all parties live up to the settlement. It will take some time to be fully implemented.

A discussion was held regarding cleaning of a drain adjoining Enola Boylan's property and others. An Agreement from October 1965 might obligate the district to this maintenance. Kenny questioned how necessary the cleaning would be. The Agreement states the landowners are to pay the district the cost of such cleaning. It was decided to suggest the owners hire another party whereas no savings would be realized by having the district clean the drain.

At this time bids for two new pickups were opened. Melton Motors received the award with the low bid for both trucks with trade for the district trucks. Melton Motors will honor GM Consumer Certificates for \$500 each as part of the trade.

Kenny explained the plan to bury Miller 7.4 lateral in its entirety. The plan met with board approval.

Transfer Acre Request for Gary Housholder, Peggy DeBuque, and Curtis Lindberg were approved for pivot irrigation

Kenny explained that Kevin Swanson had inquired about employment with the district. The board instructed Kenny on possible conditions of his reemployment with the district. Kenny will discuss this with Kevin.

A discussion was held regarding water supply. The board will discuss this issue with Bureau of Reclamation personnel while at the Four States Irrigation Council meetings. The Bureau is to provide us with an estimate of available water supply by January 15.

The last item of business was to agree to contribute \$390 to Lloyd Olsen for the purchase of a rotating screen rather than repairing or replacing the current aeration screen. Lloyd will be responsible for screening in the future.

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

Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Thursday February 6, 2003 at 8:00 am, with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, Gary Housholder, and Kenny Nelson present.

Time sheets and checks were signed. Minutes and the financial report were approved as mailed.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

- Steve Ronshaugen - meeting regarding O&M plans
- Marv Swanda - 2003 water supply
- James Bagely KDWR - metering requirement in District
- Marv Swanda - 2002 water use
- Rp Co. Conservation District - invitation to Annual Meeting

In regards to the bureau's request for a meeting on O&M, it was decided to meet with them at the next regular board meeting on March 4, 2003. Other topics of interest will also be discussed with the bureau at this time.

Kenny explained Mike Kube's intent to hold an "appraisal" meeting regarding ongoing studies from the settlement of the Republican River Compact Settlement. A tentative date is set for March 14 in the Superior Ne. area.

At this time chemical bids were reviewed according to our 14 January invitation. The awards were given as follows:

- Direx and Savage (dry 2-4,D) to UAP Timberland
- Buccaneer + (Roundup) and Oracle (Banvel) to Sims Fertilizer
- 2,4-D to Van Diest

Kenny informed the board of crew discussions he had held with the employees in January. The Board instructed Kenny to remind the crew of their willingness to meet with them if they have any concerns or issues they wish to discuss.

Kenny reported on his intent to apply polymer lining to several canals prior to the 2003 watering season. This met with board approval.

At this time, Kenny reported that he had approached Murphy Tractor Company about the buy back provision on our 1998 John Deere 690 excavator. The board reviewed bids from Murphy and Martin Caterpillar. The Board instructed Kenny ask Murphy about a trade of booms before considering any further action.

The Board signed a Notice of Election regarding the upcoming election for voting area #2. An election board will be appointed and plans are being made to hold the election at the Dam Tenders garage office at Lovewell Dam.

A report on workers compensation claims from the National Council on Compensation Insurance was reviewed. The district pays a 3% surcharge mostly based upon claims from 5-1-99 to 5-1-00.

The following transfer acre request were reviewed and approved:
Lorene Housholder 15-3-5 7.6 acres from bank for pivot
Peggy DeBuque 2.3 acres from one plot to another 2-3-5
Gary Housholder 2-3-5 .9 from bank for pivot
Curtis Lindberg 4-3-5 pivot irrigation
Kenny Henriksen 18.7 acres from 36-3-5 to 30-3-4 improved
irrigation delivery

A report was given on water supply. Conditions in the basin have improved somewhat but not enough for any positive changes.

Kenny reported the 2002 cost associated with burying the last 2.4 miles of the north canal and eliminating .9 mile of lateral. The total 2002 cost was \$135,619. The Bureau contributed \$65,000 to the project with the landowners contributing \$26,857 leaving \$43,762 as the district contribution.

The last item of business was a report on work progress. With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Tuesday March 4, 2003 at 8:00 am, with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, Gary Housholder, Doug Simms, 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.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

- Michael Bart Corps of Engineers - O&M at Harlan County
- Marv Swanda - use Lovewell garage for elections
- South Central Public Power District - Wheeling Service
- Fred Ore - 2003 O&M at Harlan County
- Fred Ore - Operations meeting with the district 2-27-03
- Mike Delvaux - COE permission to clean river
- Fred Ore - Involuntary acquisition into excess acres Darlyn Standley

Referring to Michael Bart's correspondence about reduced O&M from Harlan County, no action will be taken at this time. Mr. Bart replied to the boards 15 January letter requesting the COE to relieve O&M cost thus allowing more conservation to take place within the district. His reply inferred the question had been asked internally but that no reply would be forth coming because the issue did not compete with other issues of higher significance.

Regarding Darlyn Standley's excess acre question, the board will consider policy regarding water transfer if it becomes an issue out of this excess acre issue.

Kenny reported the two new pickups from Melton Motors had been received and were in satisfactory condition.

A report was given on the Lower Republican Water Users Association meeting in Concordia on 2-19-03. An issue regarding the Republican River Compact Settlement not accounting for deliveries into Kansas at Hardy was raised at the meeting.

A discussion was held regarding a proposal to bury the last 500' of Courtland West 5.7 R lateral as requested by DLoyd Strnad. Robert Carlson will be given the opportunity to bury the remainder of 5.7 under the terms of the 70-30 plan if the project moves forward.

A report was given on current water supply and the need for an additional 14,000 acre feet in Harlan County to receive the full amount of water expected in the Bureau's January projection. Kenny explained that Lovewell filling will be restarted in early April if it does not rain in March. After much discussion, it was decided not to set a beginning date at this time. Referencing the example given in our January patron letter is not a starting date, but it is a good

example for the situation and may be helpful to irrigators who want to know when the starting date would be.

At this time, Steve Ronshaugen and Marv Swanda of the Bureau, met with the Board as requested to discuss Lovewell O&M plans. Principle of these plans will be the installation of a ramp flume to measure the releases at Lovewell. It will be installed in the canal downstream for the chute coming from the dam. Marv reports the work should be completed in 10 weeks and hopes to get started next week weather permitting. According to Steve, this will be part of the water supply works and will be charged to the district accordingly. Future plans for extraordinary maintenance at Lovewell for the fall of 2004 were discussed. This project is estimated at \$600,000 at this time and will also be charged to the water supply works. Additional plans for 2005 include the possible construction of a new shop office area at the reservoir.

Moving on to other topics, Steve reported the transfer of billing responsibility for transmission cost to the district's pump stations now under Western Area Power Administration control will be handled through the Billings office from now on. Kenny reported working with Kerry McCalman of the Regional Office on this issue. Steve reported the Bureau's displeasure with the Corps of Engineers lack of action on O&M relief. However, no action is planned on this issue at this time. A discussion was held regarding the March 14 appraisal meeting to held in Superior, regarding the Republican River Compact Settlement. A discussion was held regarding the installation of a bridge over willow creek and the cleaning of islands from the river at Guide Rock. The bridge is scheduled to be designed this summer and the island above the dam is being completed today. The island below the dam will be under consideration to be cleaned either later this summer or next winter. A discussion was held regarding transfer acre request and the turnaround from approval from the Bureau. Steve informed the board that after the request for additions this season, the districts will have to pay the Bureau's actual costs of the approvals. At this time, Steve and Marv departed.

Kenny discussed the possibility of receiving development grant funds for improvements to the shop and office. The board agreed to have Kenny inquire about the possibilities.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Tuesday April 8, 2003 at 8:00 am, with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, Gary Housholder, and Kenny Nelson present.

Time sheets and checks were signed. Minutes and the financial report were approved as mailed. Wayne signed a request form for reimbursement from the Bureau, for \$15,000 towards payment for our trencher.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

Maryanne Bach - Bureau of Reclamation Strategic Plan
Steven Ronshaugen - Missouri Basin Power rate
Letha Frost - funds for trencher
Marv Swanda - Courtland Canal inspection

The following Transfer Acre Request were reviewed and approved:

Bob Hahn E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW 32-1-5, 0 from bank
Ward & Glen Aurand 21-1-5, 0 from bank
Eugene & Elva Hanson SE 29-1-5, SW 24-1-6, & NE 26-1-6, 0 from bank
Frank Langer SE 2-1-7, 10.2 from bank
Ward Aurand NEW 29-1-5, 0 from bank
Russell Reinke NW 1-2-6, 0 from bank
Lannie Hanel SW 9-3-5, 3.1 from bank

For 2004 pivots

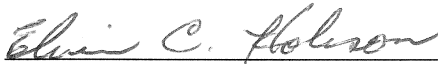
Darlyn Standley NW 27-2-5, 0 from bank
Bruce Ayers SW 6-2-5, 4.8 from bank
Elvin Hobson SE 36-1-6 & NE 30-1-5 approved without request
Mike Charles 2 pivots approved without request form
Brian Rosene 3 pivots approved without request form

Agreements with Ward Aurands Owner of NE 29-1-5 and Lorene Housholder Owner of Se 10-3-5, regarding pivot crossings on of the canal and lateral, were approved and signed.

A discussion was held regarding transfer acre cost for upcoming 2004 request. No decision regarding how to handle the cost was reached at this time.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding water supply and the upcoming season and a report was given on work accomplishments and work to do.

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


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Wednesday May 7, 2003 at 8:00 am with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, Gary Housholder, and Kenny Nelson present.

The Audit for year ending December 31, 2002 from W. Rex Woods was handed to the board members for their review.

Time sheets and checks were signed. Minutes and the financial report were approved as mailed.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:
Fred Ore - to Corps of Engineers regarding H. Co. operations
Fred Ore - Use of water from excess lands on non excess
lands referring to Darlyne Standley property
Marv Swanda - 2003 O&M and Repayment charges NKAO districts

At this time, a lengthy discussion was held regarding Blue Cross and Blue Shield insurance rates. It was decided to accept Option 1 which is the same policy we have been offering to the employees with the exception of larger coinsurance numbers. Following a Re-Entry calculation, the rate for this option went from 23.4% to 3.8% higher than last years premium. Strong consideration was given for another option which would have a deductible and coinsurance specific to prescription drugs along with the major medical plan. The board would like to employees to consider this option for future consideration and address how it would effect them. Kenny will discuss this with the crew.

A report was given on water supply. Improvements have been made in the supply but are still below the needed supply for the 7½" delivery. There is no change operations plans at this time.

Plans were made for an IPRC meeting to seek financial assistance through drought aid. Kenny showed the board an outline of the proposed effort and described the possible approaches the IPRC could take to advance the effort. This met with Board approval.

Kenny reported having problems getting transfer acre request back from the Bureau for the 2003 season. The board agreed that Kenny should meet with Fred Ore and Steve Ronshaugen to try to resolve the matter. The following transfer acre request were approved and signed: Bruce Ayers SW 10-2-6, 11.3 acres to the bank; the following three irrigators request were approved last month with forms being signed this month, Jean Charles SE 27-1-5 and 34-1-5 0 from the bank; Brian Rosene 30-2-4 & 25-2-5 28.8 acres from the bank; Elvin Hobson 36-1-6 & 30-1-5 34.8 acres from the bank.

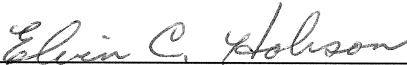
Transfer Acre Agreements regarding transfers between different legal descriptions were signed with the following landowners:

Eugene and Elva Hanson
Lonny Swanson
Darlyne Standley
James Zoltenko Trust

Kenny explained the Bureau's grant for drip irrigation installation to Kansas State for the Scandia Experiment field had taken place. Because of the lack of time, the system will be installed this summer and next fall for experiments next year.

A report was given on work accomplishments and plans for this month.

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


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Tuesday June 2, 2003 at 8:00 am, with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, Gary Housholder, and Kenny Nelson present.

Time sheets and checks were signed. Minutes and the financial report were approved as mailed.

Correspondence for the month consisted of a letter from Fred Ore with the 2004 O&M estimates for the reservoirs, and series of transfer acre approvals for the following: Gary Housholder, Peggy Debeque, James Zoltenko; Dale Strickler; Lynn Schnackenberg (Erkenback) Lonnie Hedstrom; Curtis Lindberg; Lonny Swanson; Morgan Powell; and Lorene Housholder.

An Agreement with Kent and Thayne regarding construction on drains in NW 21-2-5, was approved and signed.

An Agreement with Kenneth Henriksen regarding transfer of acres was approved and signed.

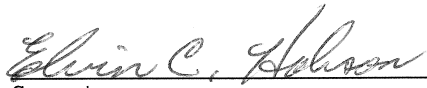
Copies of the letter sent to the Nebraska and Kansas political delgation on behalf of the IPRC were handed to the board. This is the beginning of an effort to receive drought aid for the Republican and Solomon Basins.

Preliminary work on the 2004 budget was presented to the Board. A budget proposal will be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

Kenny updated the board on water supply and concerns about the ramp flume recently installed by the Bureau at Lovewell. Regarding water supply, everything seems to be on target to not start the season before the 23rd of June.

The last item of business was an update of work accomplishments for the month.

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


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Tuesday July 8, 2003 at 1:00 pm, with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, Gary Housholder, and Kenny Nelson present.

Time sheets and checks were signed. Minutes and the financial report were approved as mailed.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

Fred Ore - charges for 2004 Transfer Acre Request
Marv Swanda - shut off elevation for Harlan County
Shela Carlton and Linda Tiers - paid off loan on trencher
Fred Ore to Pope and Patterson - NBID buried lto 13.9

The 2004 O&M Budget was set at \$1,156,000 and the Repayment Budget at 376,640 with the Assessments remaining the same at 2003.

The following transfer acre request for 2003 were received:

Henry Henriksen Trust
Frank Langer
Ward Aurand
Russ Reinke
Ward & Glen Aurand
Lannie Hanel

2 request for Eugene Hanson will be received this week

Kenny informed the Board of Terry Alstatt's suggestion to have someone serve on the NRCS Technical Committee to get better representation for surface irrigation on the Committee. Kenny intends to discuss this with Harold Kleghie, to improve the irrigators opportunity for EQIP funds.

Kenny explained the 2003 conservation grant funds from the Bureau will be increased by a total of \$13,000 because Almena and Frenchman Valley will not be able to do a project this year. Kenny has contacted the other districts to inquire as to how to divide the \$13,000.

The IPRC efforts for disaster relief due to drought continue. No immediate aide is visible. A write in to the Bureau's 2004 Budget is the most likely avenue of relief.

Transfers between above and below Lovewell were discussed. Transfers from below Lovewell to above Lovewell will not be allowed unless the irrigator can demonstrate to this office that he made irrigating arrangements not realizing the water would not transfer. Transfers from above Lovewell to below Lovewell will be allowed. We will address this in our Rules Governing Service and in future

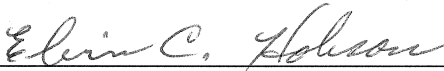
newsletters.

Water Supply was discussed at length. A conference call was put in to the McCook Field Office to discuss the supply and the accounting for Lovewell inflows with adjustments to Harlan County. The Bureau was optimistic about an improved supply. The Board agreed to not change the 7.5" restriction or to set a shut off date at this time. Kenny will monitor the situation and contact the Board when and if changes can be made.

Kenny reported more activity has been taking place with Almena Irrigation Districts proposal to reallocate the reservoir to the State of Kansas. The Board instructed Kenny to stay involved and to determine if any storage might be available to deliver to Harlan County Reservoir.

A report was given on canal and drainage damage from the recent storm. The canal system is operable with some areas still needing attention to run large flows later this summer. Kenny reports the maintenance crew will be busy all summer working the damage.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Tuesday August 5, 2003 at 1:30 pm, with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, Gary Housholder and Kenny Nelson present.

The Equalization Hearings were opened and closed at 1:30 pm with no one in attendance.

Time sheets and checks were signed. Minutes from the previous meeting and the financial report, were approved as mailed.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

Fred Ore, notice of future transfer of acres will cost an estimated \$1,000 each.

Maryanne Bach meeting on 2025 initiative

Letha Frost modification to 2003 conservation funds from BOR

At this time, a lengthy discussion was held regarding water supply, length of season, next years operations above and below Lovewell, and possible changes in policy to deal with limited supplies. Regarding the 2003 season, it was decided to extend the shut off dates from the reservoirs to August 19 above Lovewell and August 20 below Lovewell. No further extensions or changes in the amount of the restriction are anticipated for this year. Notice of this change will be made by the ditchriders and by notice in the office. No patron mailing will be sent for this notice.

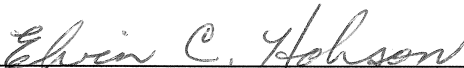
Kenny informed the Board that Republic County NRCS had been successful in receiving EQIP funding for 9 pivots within the irrigation district, subject to qualifying.

A discussion was held regarding the IPRC effort to receive drought disaster aid. Several correspondence with the political delegation have taken place since the effort began. Congressman Moran is waiting on an inquiry to the Interior Department on this topic.

The last topic for discussion was regarding the White Rock Extension buried pipe project involving Brian Rosene, Dale Stafford, and the Robisons. Kenny will meet with the land owners, go over the plans, and if all is agreeable begin the project as soon as possible.

Kenny reported on work plans and progress.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Thursday September 4, 2003 at 8:00 am, with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, Gary Housholder, and Kenny Nelson present.

Time sheets and checks were signed, Minutes and the financial report were approved as mailed.

Kenny gave a report on the Republican River Compact meeting held August 22, in Alma Nebraska. The states expressed pleasure with the settlement of the court case of Kansas v. Nebraska over Republican River flows and vowed to keep the terms of the settlement.

Correspondence for the month consisted of a letter from Blue Cross and Blue Shield explaining the proposed merger with Anthem is no longer an option since the Supreme Court upheld the Insurance Commissioners authority to disallow the merger.

A discussion was held regarding the watering season along with a report from Craig Scott on allocation usage. In Harlan County, we had 1,473 af of storage left at the end of the season and at Lovewell, we had 5,456 af of storage left at the end of the season.

Kenny explained the planned IPRC meeting to discuss our efforts to receive nonreimbursable funds, to explain the Bureau's Drought Assistance program, and to discuss operations, and procedures in dealing with short water supplies.

Also planned is an operations meeting with the Bureau and Water Resources regarding river management between Harlan County and Guide Rock.

Kenny explained the funding proposal for the White Rock Extension pipeline project. Brian Rosene has agreed to contribute \$18,000 towards the project. At this point, Dale Stafford has not agreed to contribute to the project. If Dale does not contribute, the design will be changed to not include his turnouts from the pipeline. The board agreed to trench and lay pipelines to the center pivots from the main pipeline for Brian Rosene for a charge of \$.50/ft (normal charge is \$1/ft.) with Brian furnishing the material for the lines. Assuming the funding will be worked out, construction on the project will begin as soon as possible.

The next item for discussion was the Bureau's \$1,000 estimated charge for conducting transfer acres. Several approaches to dividing the charge were reviewed. It was decided to simply divide the charge \$500 for the irrigator and \$500 for the district. Several transfer request which were returned in July as not approved pending these charges are now being prepared to be resubmitted.

Kenny explained an operations problem Darrell Carlson experienced on the Larry Olson farm regarding pumping to Olson's center pivot. The district did \$9,200 worth of construction when the pivot was installed in 2001 at district expense in trade for removing the service from Pump 4 to the bay in front of the pump station. Along with this, the district allowed Darrell to use a metal bubble screen this year to screen the water from his turnout off Pump 4 to the pivot. Darrell has indicated that he would like to keep the service off Pump 4. The board agreed that the district would prefer to not allow the service to return to pump 4. If it was decided to allow it to return, the \$9,200 plus \$1,400 for the screen would have to be paid to the district.

The Bureau is looking into the possibility of placing some automation on the Courtland Canal for 2004. Advancing this plan will rely upon their ability to obtain funds.

An explanation was given of the Kansas Wildlife and Parks interest in installing an apparatus to discourage fish from entering the canal system out of Lovewell. The plan would not appear to have any effect on our operations.

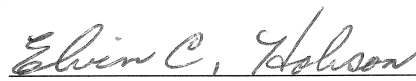
At the end of the watering season, problems arose with being able to draw water from Lovewell. The Bureau reviewed the area and determined trash was built up on the trash rack in from the gate entrance in the dam. Plans are being made to remove the trash with a clam shell bucket on a dragline.

Other projects discussed and being planned for the 2004 season include Troy Carlgren bury 8.5 R. lateral and install line to pivot to remove his service from Pump 4, Bury a portion of N 1.2 for Eugene Hanson, drainage for Lloyd Olsen and Eugene Hanson, and a custom pipe project for Gaylord Rothchild to allow the use of gated pipe.

Kenny explained repairs to drainage still being worked on from the June 23rd flood.

The last order of business was to discuss the possibility of metering pumps which have previously been charged according to manufactures ratings. The board instructed Kenny to use his discretion as to whether a pump needed a meter or not.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Thursday October 8, 2003, at 8:00 am, with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, Gary Housholder, and Kenny Nelson present.

Time sheets and checks were signed. The Minutes were approved as mailed. The financial report was corrected and approved.

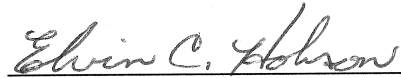
Kenny reported the 2003 IPRC conservation funds from the Bureau of Reclamation have been received in the amount of \$22,800 and are being used to purchase supplies for the White Rock Extension pipeline project. The 2004 funds will also be received soon and used in the same manner. Kenny informed the board it appears we will also receive a \$15,000 cooperative agreement from the Bureau in 2004 for more conservation projects.

Plans were made to attend a meeting in Franklin on October 29. The first meeting will be with Reclamation, Water Resources from Kansas and Nebraska, and Nebraska Bostwick over operation of the river from Harlan County to Guide Rock and on to Lovewell. The next meeting will include the above parties and the rest of the IPRC districts and will be an open discussion in dealing with short water supplies. Various topics for both meetings were discussed.

Right of way easements across Ward and Glen Aurands property in regards to the North Canal buried pipe project this past spring, have been signed by the owners and returned to Reclamation for final execution. Several transfer acre request are also waiting on Reclamation approval.

A report was given on water supply.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 am.


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Tuesday November 4, 2003, at 8:00 am, with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, Gary Housholder, and Kenny Nelson present.

Time sheets and checks were signed. Minutes and the financial report were approved as mailed.

Correspondence for the month consisting of the following was read and discussed:

- Jack Wergin - Bureau scholarships to attend workshops
- Maryanne Bach - Notification of Jaralyn Beek's appoint to Deputy Area Manager position.
- Kimball Banks - modification of Cooperative Agreement for additional funds
- South Central Public Power - wheeling charges

At this time, Kenny handed the Board a written report and gave an oral report on the Operations Meeting with Nebraska Bostwick, Bureau representatives, State of Nebraska representative and State of Kansas representative held in Franklin Nebraska. Of principle concern was the State of Nebraska's insistence that bypass flows could be less than they were this year.

Following the above written and oral report, a written and oral report was given on the IPRC meeting which followed the Operations Meeting. Several topics of interest were discussed between the districts and the other parties involved. The State representatives are to review the Republican River Settlement and discuss how to address operations if we order river water and Nebraska Bostwick chooses not to irrigate next season. Other discussions included transferring water between owners, charges to irrigators, financial survival of the districts, status of employees, possibility of federal assistance, and other topics.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding possible changes we would want to make to deal with the drought. It was agreed that no decisions would be made until January at the earliest. Possibly in the January - February - March Newsletter, we would inform the public of options we are considering.

A correction to the Minutes and Orders for the Merle File boundary change of June 6, 2000 was approved and signed.

At this time, Kenny presented the board with proposals from Port Industries, and Farmway Coop for GPS systems to allow us to mark our pipelines and drains. The board agreed the tool would be useful and wanted Kenny to pursue the possibilities further. Gary suggested Boettcher Enterprises be approached to see what they had to offer.

The price range appears to run from \$800 to \$3,000 depending upon how many options one wants to purchase.

Kenny reported he intended to attend the State Technical Committee meeting regarding EQIP funds, in Salina on 11-19-03. He will try to influence the Natural Resource Conservation Service to allow transferred acres to qualify for EQIP funding.

The Board planned a tour for November 25 at 8:00. Several locations were identified for the tour.

A report was given on water supply.

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

Secretary

Gary Zouchella
(Treas)

Minutes

The Board met Thursday December 4, 2003 at 8:00 am, with Wayne Allen, Gary Housholder, and Kenny Nelson present. Elvin Hobson was absent.

Time sheets and checks were signed. Minutes and the financial report were approved as mailed.

Kenny reported on repairs needed to the Linkbelt dragline and the Galion patrol.

Correspondence for the month was read discussed as follows:

Johnson Insurance and Employers Mutual - dividend

Fred Ore - repairs at Lovewell

Marc Catlin - 4-States Irrigation Council Annual meeting

At this time, salaries for 2004 were discussed. It was agreed to allow a 2% cost of living increase. The Board also approved a \$25 Christmas gift for each employee.

An Agreement regarding transfer of acres with Bruce Ayers was approved and signed.

Kenny explained Gaye Benfer and Terry Alstatt were going to meet with him regarding the EQIP program. Of principle concern is our irrigators being rejected for improvements because of our transfer acre policy.

A proposed pipeline to replace lateral 41.4 was discussed. A letter has been sent to landowners involved asking their willingness to participate in the project. Kenny reported a permanent repair of the lateral would cost the district \$7,500.

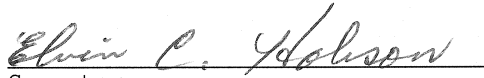
The board approved the portion of the draft newsletter dealing with water supply. This newsletter will be mailed in early January.

A report was given on lake elevations.

At this time, Bureau of Reclamation representatives Steve Ronshaugen, Mike Kube, Marv Swanda, and Jim Beadnel met with the board. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss plans for repairs and maintenance at Lovewell Dam. The work would involve painting, repairing gates, and other metal work beginning in the spring and ending in November of 2004. Of principle concern was the schedule requiring Lovewell be lowered to at or near dead pool and the amount of time required before refilling the reservoir could begin. After much discussion regarding the possible scenarios of the project, a more flexible schedule was agreed between the parties. The next item to discuss was the radio tower located at Lovewell Reservoir. The

Bureau is discontinuing their use of the tower and will allow us to continue to use it if we accept responsibility to repair or place new electric lines to the tower. Kenny will review the cost and decide whether the district wants to use the tower or rent use of a tower from Pierce Electronics and report back to the Bureau. A requested meeting between the Bureau, Corps of Engineers, Nebraska Bostwick, and Kansas Bostwick regarding the use of the flood pool at Lovewell has not been scheduled. A teleconference between the Bureau and the Corps will take place next week on this issue with a face to face meeting between all parties still being desired in January. A discussion was held regarding the operation and maintenance of the power line to Pump #1. The Area Office is now trying to obtain the contract between the parties which will allow Western Area Power Administration to pay the wheeling charges instead of the district paying them and then being reimbursed by the Bureau.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.


Secretary

2004

Minutes

The Board met Wednesday January 7, 2004, at 8:00 am, with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, Gary Housholder, and Kenny Nelson present.

Values were set for crop census. Plans were made to attend and items to be discussed at 4-States Irrigation Council Annual Meeting in Fort Collins Colorado January 14, 15, & 16. Time Sheets and checks were signed. Minutes and the financial report were approved as mailed.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:
Kimball Banks, BOR, modification to Cooperative Agreement
Steve Ronshaugen, BOR, 2006 O&M Budget

The following transfer acre request were reviewed:

1. Bill Hinken in SE 30-3-5 - transfer approved for 60 acre pivot with no end gun, no banked acres involved.
2. Lynn Schnackenberg and Wilma Owen - NE 4-2-6 approximately 14 acres from the bank. - approved pending return of the request form from the landowners.
3. Ray Clark in Section 25-1-6 discussed for future request
4. Troy Carlgren for Barbra Webner SW 33-3-5 - plan looks acceptable to the board, will review again when request form is returned.
5. Darrell Carlson in Section SE 23-3-5 and Larry Olson in NE 9-4-5, plan looks acceptable will review again when request form is returned.

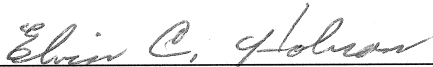
Kenny explained body repairs needed on truck #7 and the estimate obtained from Melton Motors in Belleville. The board suggested getting an estimate from Jeff Guilkey in Superior. It was also decided to take bids for one new pickup this year. The option to trade off or sell either our 1991 Dodge or our 1988 Chevy will be considered.

Kenny explained correspondence he had received on the 41.4 buried pipeline proposal. More correspondence will be necessary to advance the project.

A discussion was held regarding legislation from Texas regarding Cooperative Agreements with the Bureau of Reclamation for conservation practices. This type of funding would not be helpful for drought aid.

A report was given on water supply. Kenny handed the board copies of the Regulations Governing Service and a proposed water transfer policy for their review. At a future meeting, changes to the regulations and the policy will be acted upon to adjust operations for the drought.

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


Secretary