

Minutes

After postponing the regular meeting of February 6, 2004 because of inclement weather, the Board met on Monday February 9, 2004, at 9:00 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. The 2004 crop census was reviewed with the Board.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

- Stephen Ronshaugen - District repayment funds and deferments
- Marv Swanda - 2004 water projections
- Kimball Banks - \$20,000 Cooperative Agreement
- Family Farm Alliance - work progress and dues
- Stephen Ronshaugen - Transfer Acre cost to Bureau
- Darwin Lee - Kenny speak at RC&D meeting
- Rp. Co. Conservation District - invitation to annual meeting
- Adrian Polansky - Reception for David Pope
- Stephen Ronshaugen - Corps of Engineers 2003 cost Harlan Co
- Dave Barfield - Compact Settlement meeting Appraisal Study

Regarding the correspondence relating to the cost of transfer acre policy request sent to the Bureau, the Board instructed Kenny to request an itemized billing of the expense. For now, the district will absorb the additional cost over the \$1,000.00 charge.

Notice of Election for Voting Area #1 was signed. An election board will be arranged and the election will be held on March 2nd at the school house in Republic.

Chemical Bids were opened. Simms Fertilizer and Chemical received the award on roundup and banvel. Timberland received the bid for Direx, 2,4-D and am. sulfate.

Bids for one new pickup were received. Alexander Motors Inc. of Superior Ne. for a cash bid of \$14,489.80 - an entity certificate for \$250.00

The following Transfer Acre Request was reviewed and approved:
Robert Carlson 20-3-5, 0 from the district bank, extension of center pivot.

Kenny reviewed a letter he had recently sent to Congressman Jerry Moran regarding Kansas Bostwick Irrigators who have to use our transfer acre policy, being denied Environmental Quality Incentive Plan funds because of policy language.

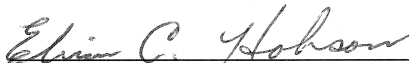
Kenny reported on employee discussion he had conducted during January. Much concern regarding the effect of water supply upon employment was expressed. The Board agreed to try to prepare a statement out of next board meeting for the crew addressing the boards opinion on the subject.

Kenny explained presentations from Farmway Coop and Boettcher Enterprises for GPS systems to mark our buried lines, drains, manholes, etc. The Board instructed Kenny to ask them about spreading the cost over several years. If this type of approach can work Kenny could purchase the merchandise in the \$7,000 range for the more accurate equipment.

A lengthy discussion was held on proposed policy, rules, and regulations to help deal with water shortage caused by the drought. No new policy or regulations were approved but sample material was reviewed to create the future policy.

A report was given on water supply. Kenny reported that Lovewell inflows from the river will most like be shut off this week when the 1' below flood pool elevation is reached.

Without any further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Thursday March 4, 2004 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. Annual reports were distributed to the Board. Kenny reported Gary Housholder was reelected at the election held on Tuesday March 2, 2004. Truck bids for our 1991 Dodge were opened with Jeremiah Specht of Delphos receiving the award with a bid of \$1,475.00.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

- Marv Swanda 2003 water use
- Stephen Ronshaugen cost breakdowns for transfer acre request
- Stephen Ronshaugen 2025 challenge grant from Bureau
- Marv Swanda 2004 storage possibilities Harlan County

At this time, a lengthy discussion was held regarding water supply and 2004 operations plans. A patron letter was drafted and signed explaining the district's position of present. Irrigators below Lovewell will be restricted to 5" until additional storage is achieved in Lovewell at which time, the restriction will be raised to 6". Below Lovewell irrigators will be subject to changes based upon construction plans at Lovewell for this spring and fall. Above Lovewell irrigators are informed of a 0 supply and delivery based upon present conditions. They are also informed we are considering a plan to take any available water and deliver what we could and to have the system prepared to deliver if additional flows become available. We also informed the patrons of a public meeting to be held on March 25 to further explain the district's position at that time. Along with this, the Board signed the "Water Transfer Policy of 2004", allowing landowners to reassign allocation to their tenants. No changes were made in the Rules Governing Service at this meeting but will be considered at future meetings. The patron letter will not be mailed until after the March 8, meeting with Nebraska Bostwick, the States, the Bureau, and Kansas Bostwick. It was also agreed to mail a letter to Pump 1 users explaining no deliveries are planned on that system unless substantial increase occur in supply.

The next item of business was a discussion regarding the appraisal study from the Republican River court Settlement. Kenny's proposal as a suggestion of an approach was discussed and considered a starting place to work from on what might be acceptable.

The following transfer acre request for pivot development were reviewed and approved:

Robert Carlson SE 8-4-5 little if any from bank, district will install a screen to north turnout in return, Robert will forfeit use of the south turnout.


Larry Olson NE 9-4-5 - 4 acres from bank

Barbara Webner SW 33-3-5 - 8 acres from bank

Kenny explained recent correspondence with landowners who will be involved in the 41.4 lateral pipe project. Richard and Ruby Barry have not responded to the correspondence at this time.

A discussion was held regarding the possibility of contracting fuel from Farmway Coop. It was decided not to contract.

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



Elvin C. Hobson, Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Tuesday April 6, 2004 at 8:00 am, with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, and Kenny Nelson present.

At the beginning of the meeting, the Board instructed Kenny to send a letter on behalf of the Board to Jewell and Republic County Appraisers requesting they contact the State of Kansas Appraisal Department to be sure the lack of water is being addressed in the appraisals of district lands. Kenny will send the letter.

Time sheets, and checks were signed. Minutes and the financial report were approved as mailed. Meeting notes and other correspondence regarding sharing natural flows and shutting off junior pumpers above Guide Rock, were distributed to the Board. A signature card for the districts safety deposit box at the Swedish American State Bank will be signed as Superintendent, Office Manager, or Board of Directors instead of using specific signatures. Kenny explained the new pickup and the GPS system had come in. He also explained he would be going to a 4-States meeting next week.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

Mike Kube construction at Lovewell
Roy Patterson meeting for Frenchman Cambridge irrigators
Steve Ronshaugen use of radio tower at Lovewell

At this time, Janet Lancaster representing Blue Cross and Blue Shield met with the Board. She explained the districts rates would go up 15.8% this next year. She also presented an optional plan for our consideration. After Janet left, much discussion was held regarding the districts approach to health insurance. Kenny will discuss it with the crew and for their understanding. A decision will be put off until next month.

Drainage for Ron Fredrickson in the SW 26-2-6 and for Craig Elliott in SW 32-3-5 was reviewed. It was decided the district's liability is more questionable than most projects we have been doing. The Board agreed to do the projects if the owners would pay the cost of the tile and \$.50/foot for trenching and laying.

At this time, a Contract For Administration between Kansas Bostwick, South Central Public Power and Western Area Power Administration was signed to be forwarded to the other parties. Kenny explained we are to receive a letter explaining the district will not be charged non seasonal uses for Western's meter at Pump 1 which must be energized at all times. The letter will also explain that wheeling charges are paid monthly even though the cost are incurred during the season only.

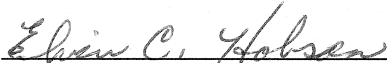
Kenny gave the Board an updated equipment status list. He also explained the Drott excavator's boom had broke off and was at Jim Norris shop being repaired.

With Drought Aid having been approved for the State of Kansas, we are applying for polymer lining of all the canal system below Lovewell. Duane Nichols of Garden City will submit the bid.

A report was given on water supply and canal filling intentions for this spring.

Kenny explained he had transferred funds from checking to a 1 yr. CD at Scandia under the assurance that our request for deferment of Repayment charges will be accepted by the Bureau. This met with Board approval.

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



Elvin C. Hobson, Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Tuesday May 4, 2004 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 presented the board with financial information for all irrigation districts in the Nebraska - Kansas Project Office area.

Kenny discussed the follow up from Barry Porter Republic County Appraiser regarding real estate assessments. Barry replied that all our land was being appraised as dry land this year. No reply has been received from Jewell County to our inquiry at this time. Elvin requested Kenny to contact Jewell County to be sure of their approach to appraisals.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

Mike Kube - Construction at Lovewell this summer
Joe Harkins, Kansas Water Office- Drought aid polymer lining
Pamela Rohde, Bureau Billings - financial statement request
Roy Patterson - financial situation Frenchman Cambridge

Kenny gave a report on his Four States business meeting as Kansas Director. Kirwin, Webster, and Almena have been ask to share in these expense. No nominee for headgate has been received at this time.

The districts insurance package with Employers Mutual was discussed at this time. Plans were made to drop the insurance on the house at Guide Rock if the Bureau did not object and to drop the Physical damage (vandalism) coverage on the automobiles.

Kenny brought up Kevin Swanson's request to go part time with us beginning in June. After discussing the request, it met with Board approval assuming it was ok with Kenny.

At this time, a lengthy discussion was held regarding the districts health insurance plan on the employees. Kenny presented the board with two plans one to keep the present coverage and pay the increased premium until January at which time the employees would be required to pay ½ of this years increase for the remainder of the policy term and to pay all of any increases at that time. The districts share of the insurance would be capped at the present rate plus ½ of this years increase from January on. The other option was to work with Blue Cross - Blue Shields "Affordablue Triple Option" plan and come up with something which the crew might find acceptable. After some discussion, it was decided to go with the first plan to keep our current policy and cap our contribution. This will not put our employees at risk of loosing their choice of health care.

Kenny explained the most recent discussions regarding this years operations at Guide Rock and sharing of water between districts. David Pope explained to Roger Patterson that a 40 cfs. flow should be shared by 4 days for Kansas Bostwick and 3 days for Nebraska Bostwick and any additional water split by acres available from river flow for the two states. There has been no reply from Patterson at this time.

The question has been raised about getting water in the near future to irrigators above Lovewell. The Board agreed that if we could we should. This would be counted toward the 2" restriction which is in place at this time. If the producer used his 2", they would not be eligible for more unless there was more water than others could use above Lovewell. Kenny read a draft letter to the irrigators above Lovewell explaining this along with other information about the water condition. The Board approved the letter which will be sent out as soon as possible.

A report was given on water supply and work progress.

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


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Wednesday June 9, 2004 at 8:00 am with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, Gary Housholder, and Kenny Nelson present.

Time sheets and checks were signed. The Minutes and financial report were approved as mailed. Kenny explained the insurance on the house at Guide Rock has been canceled.

The following correspondence was read and discussed:

David Pope - Republican River Compact Meeting
Steve Ronshaugen - RRA compliance and reviews
Joe Harkins to Ronshaugen - request for drought aid
Maryanne Bach - Alice Johns new Area Manager
Robert Reihl WAPA - Power Contract Pump 1

Regarding drought relief funds, the Bureau has assured Kenny the funding should be granted. It will amount to \$30,000 to leave 3,500 acre feet in Harlan County for fish and wildlife purposes this year. The Board agreed if the funding is received, we will most likely refund it to the landowners above Lovewell.

Kenny explained the Bureau's change of policy regarding land reclassification and its positive effect on transfer acre request being sent to the Bureau. This should reduce the cost of transfers from now on.

A Transfer Acre Request from Velma Lervold Clubb for pivot installation in Section 19-2-4 off the White Rock Extension Canal, was approved. No acres were needed from the district bank.

A further discussion was held regarding valuations of land considering no irrigation water may be delivered. Frank Langer shared some information with Elvin regarding Jewell County valuations. The board agreed to not pursue this matter further having raised the issue with both Republic and Jewell Counties.

Water supply and operations were discussed. Kenny reported a couple users had ran pivots from water in the Courtland Canal. He also reported no water was being diverted at Guide Rock to the Courtland Canal considering the river has dropped below the 40 cfs flow agreed to for the Superior Canal this year. It was agreed to attempt to deliver water down laterals or canals where Kenny thought it would be feasible without using all the bay water trying to get water to the point. Regarding below Lovewell, it would be good if the irrigation season could hold off until the last week in June. If it doesn't rain, it will have to start sooner. Following these discussions, a proposed informative patron letter was reviewed and agreed upon by the Board.

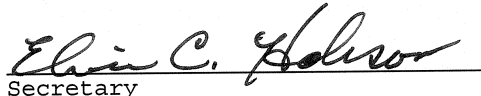
Kenny explained that Employers Mutual Insurance Co. has agreed to total out the storage building damaged in the May 29th wind storm. Plans will be made to rebuild this fall.

Kenny explained a dispute between Richard Sandell and Brian Rosene over pivot irrigation and Reclamation Reform Act requirements. It appears an adequate written lease is not in place between the parties. Until that takes place and the proper form is filed in the district office, the lands will not be eligible for service. The board agreed to allow use of additional water allowed in the transfer for this season only. The pivots must be installed before next year. Kenny will visit with Doug Simms about the situation.

Another issue regarding access to fields on Ed Marrs property in SE 34-1-6, was discussed. Kenny will inform Tom Marr that the offside canal road is not an access road and the district has no obligation to fix or repair the road.

The last order of business was a discuss regarding the Fiat shredder tractor. Kenny reported more problems with the tractor and suggested we consider a trade before next year.

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


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Tuesday July 6, 2004 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. The Audit of the 2003 Business was reviewed and approved as delivered by W. Rex Woods. An Agreement to audit 2004 business was also approved and signed with W. Rex Woods.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

Ronshaugen to Rosene and from Kenny to Rosene regarding RRA
Bill Peck - shutoff elevation H. Co.
Ronshaugen - 2005 O&M estimates H. Co. & Lovewell
Ronshaugen - Tracy Streeter KWO Drought Assistance for KBID
Steve Munson to Max Vanskiver wheeling Contract Pump 1

Regarding drought assistance from the Bureau of Reclamation to the Kansas Water office to leave 3,500 acre feet of water in Harlan for the 2004 season, the Board unanimously agreed to accept the funds and leave the water by Memo of Agreement with the Kansas Water Office.

A transfer acre request from Victor Metz and Linda Scales to remove corner acres from service to the District bank from the N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 23-3-5, was approved.

A transfer acre request which includes 13.8 acres from the bank was approved for Lonnie Hedstrom in the SE 20-2-5 for pivot irrigation. A letter will be sent to Lonnie explaining that if he moves the pivot off the Kerry farm in Section 31-1-5 to this farm, irrigation will not be allowed on the Kerry farm until another pivot is installed and functioning on the farm.

At this time, Assessments for 2005 were set as follows:

O&M below Lovewell #1 22.00, #2 21.25, #3 21.00, & #4 20.75
above Lovewell all classes 10.00 total \$775,673

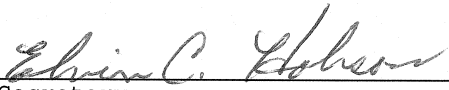
Repay 0 paid with collections from 2004 when repayment was deferred.

Kenny explained the discussions he had with Bureau personnel on June 30 at Guide Rock. The Bureau's efforts to turn the Guide Rock area over to Nebraska Game and Fish were unsuccessful. The Bureau was questioning if a walk in bridge across willow creek to the diversion dam would be sufficient. Kenny told them we need an avenue to get heavy equipment to the dam if necessary so the need to explore

the ability to come in from the west needs to be reviewed before eliminating the possibility of a new drive bridge near the dam. Other discussions included the use of the house at Guide Rock, fencing of the boundaries and security fencing which will be done under contract probably this fall. Kenny told the Bureau the district could build a parking lot near the dam to keep public parking away from the dam area if we were give credits for wildlife work in our contract obligations. This met with board approval.

A discussion was held on operations and water supply. Recent rains have put off the beginning of watering season making the limited supply more valuable to full production. The Corps of Engineers wants the water out of the flood pool by the 11th of July. A considerable amount of water may need to be used to flushed through the system to avoid releases to the creek.

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


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Tuesday August 10, 2004 at 9:00 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 explained that Kevin Swanson had left the employment of the district on July 13, Matt Ehlers intends to leave employment on August 12, and Steven Russell's last day as a part time employee was August 7. Steven will not return next year.

At this time, the Equalization Hearings were opened and closed with no one in attendance. Certifications of the assessments to Jewell and Republic Counties were signed and a Resolution adopting the 2005 Budget was also signed at this time.

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

Richard Sandell to the Bureau and Kansas Bostwick regarding no service to the Rosene property he farms.

Alice Johns cost of water rights transfer activity.

Alice Johns Amendment to Repayment Contract deferring payments

In regards to water right transfer cost by Reclamation, whereas Reclamation has changed it's policy regarding the transfers, the district will change it's method of charging the irrigator from this day forward. The district will pay the entire cost of the transfer and charge the irrigator one - half of the actual cost. The transfers reviewed at this meeting and ones pending in Grand Island on this date, will be handled under the previous method where the irrigator pays \$500 and the district pays \$500 of the \$1,000 initial charge. If the cost is over \$1,000 the district will pay the difference and if it is under \$1,000 the district will keep the excess.

Regarding the Amendment to the Contract, the Board signed the Amendment to be finalized by Reclamation and the Board signed a Resolution accepting the Amendment.

Darrell Carlson's request to transfer acres for pivot development in Section 23-3-5 which was approved last month was finalized.

Kenny discussed the need to change the repeater system for our radio at Lovewell Reservoir. The most feasible option is to move the system to Henry Pierce's tower. Henry has offered to rent tower space for \$300/year. Kenny will take Henry up on the offer and attempt to get a 5 yr. contract.

A personnel request for a pay raise was discussed. It was agreed not to give an increase outside the normal first of the year time frame unless extraordinary performance has merited it.

A discussion was held regarding water operations above and below Lovewell. The below Lovewell operations appear to be on schedule to draw the reservoir down to the need elevations for the construction program by the 20th of August and the final elevation on the 27th of August. Some release to the White Rock Creek may be required. The Board agreed to now set the final date for releases as the 27th of August. The above Lovewell operations have consisted of bleed down water from the canal system to 10 users who could be served by it. No rain event has occurred to allow wide spread irrigation. During the construction at Lovewell time frame when inflows will not be allowed into Lovewell, any possible deliveries to the irrigators above Lovewell will be made.


Repairs to the Fiat tractor and the Clark 35-C loader were explained.

A congressional inquiry to Congressman Moran's office regard transfer acres and the Environmental Quality Incentive Plan (EQIP) was discussed. Kenny continues the effort to get these acres accepted for EQIP funds.

The following projects were discussed for fall construction:

1. Lyle Anderson, Reggie Reed, Craig Elliott bury Courtland West 7.6 Lateral under the 70-30 plan. The board agreed to proceed if the entire 70-30 funding as identified at this time, was accepted by the parties involved.
2. Courtland Canal Lateral 41.4. This project is designed to be constructed with Bureau funds and landowner contributions. Whereas Richard or Ruby Barry have not responded to the request to participate in the project and Tom Marr has not been satisfied with the plan, the plan will be changed to leave the last .2 mile of open lateral which delivers to these users as is. The Board agreed to proceed if the other users agreed to the previously requested amounts.
3. Mike and Brian Brzon 5.0 lateral off the Ridge canal as part of an EQIP project. This project will require some large pipe. With the supply above Lovewell being uncertain, this project will be put on hold for the time being.

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


Secretary

MINUTES

The Board met Wednesday September 8, 2004 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 presented the board with draft copies of the newsletter to be sent the end of September. The board approved the draft with particular emphasis on the articles titled "Financial Adjustments" and "Operations at Guide Rock".

Correspondence for the month consisted of a Duplicate Original Copy of Amendment No. 1 to our Contract with the United States allowing for deferrment of 2004 repayment charges.

At the request of Nebraska Bostwick, a discussion was held regarding an IPRC meeting to discuss the possibility of requesting debt forgiveness due to extended drought. Kenny will inquire of the member districts as to the desirability of such a meeting. Also discussed was the need to meet with Nebraska Bostwick, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Corps of Engineers over O&M and safety of dams issues at Harlan County Dam.

A report was given on the watering season wrap up and lake elevations.

Kenny reported progress being made on the buried lateral - tile project replacing Courtland West 7.6 Lateral on the Lyle Anderson farm. Plans were reviewed to place drainage tile on the Wayne Allen and Marvin Bergstrom farms off the Courtland West in Section 32-3-5. The Board approved a small drainage tile for Ray Clark in Section 25-1-6. Kenny explained continuing complications on the 41.4 project.

Ray Clark's request to use fertilizer tanks for pivot crossings on the Ridge main canal was discussed. No decision was made at this time.

Bruce Ayers' request to divert 32.1 waste - way flows south along the county road was discussed. This would force the water through 3 different landowners along a natural course for the water. Some drain and ditch cleaning would be required to accomplish the task. The Board instructed Kenny to review the matter with the parties involved and report back.


The Board approved David Pope as the nominee for Kansas Headgate Award from Four States Irrigation Council. Kenny will contact the other Kansas Districts to receive confirmation of this from them.

The following transfer acre request were approved by the Board:

Lyle Anderson NE 32-3-5 up to 8.7 acres from the bank for pivot development. This is an EQIP approved development.

Joe Stenson NE 28-1-5 up to 2.0 acres from the bank for pivot development. This is an EQIP approved development.

With no futher business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Friday October 8, 2004, 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.

At 8:30, Robert Watson owner of property involved in the 41.4 pipe lateral project, met with the board. Mr. Watson will participate in the project contributing \$2,000.00. At Mr. Watson's request, the board agreed to allow him to spread the payments out as long as it is paid in full in the year 2005. The Board also agreed to add to irrigation service, a small field which is severed from irrigation service by the existing open lateral, providing the request is received within the 2005 time frame.

The following correspondence was read and discussed as follows:

Western Area Power Administration - Contract for wheeling with South Central Public Power at Pump 1.

Fred Koziol - results of RRA Audit

Alice Johns - Reclamations charges for transfer of acres

Alice Johns - NWRA convention in San Diego

Tracy Streeter Kansas Water Office - Agreement for payment at Harlan County -- signed by Wayne

Alice Johns - permission to extend irrigation season and not to deliver any water into Lovewell during construction under contract.

In regards to the last correspondence, the Board instructed Kenny to send Ms. Johns a letter expressing our disagreement regarding placing water into Lovewell while the construction is going on.

At this time, Tom Marr met with the Board regarding our transfer acre policy. Tom would like to see the policy changed to allow persons who wish to give up irrigated acres to be paid for removing them. The Board explained our current policy and why it was developed. No action was taken on Toms request.

The Board approved a Request according to our Transfer Acre Policy to remove 80 acres from service in the SE 24-1-6 for the Margaret Estealine Bouray Trust.

Kenny explained the topics for the upcoming IPRC meeting.

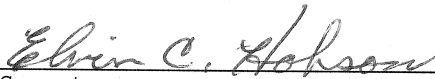
Drought aid and testimony at NRD hearings will be the principle topics. A November 5 meeting is planned in Franklin if possible.

Kenny explained the 41.4 pipeline project is ready to be started. Work on the project should begin next week.

Kenny will attend a Four States planning session on October 22 in Fort Collins Colorado.

A report was given on Water supply.

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


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Thursday November 4, 2004, with Wayne Allen, Elvin Hobson, Gary Housholder, and Kenny Nelson present.

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

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

Alice Johns - testimony at the Middle Republican NRD meeting
Tandy Rundus - Republic County Leadership class
Alice Johns - Lovewell repairs and refill

The Board signed a cover letter to go with the \$2.00/acre refund to be mailed to the irrigated land owners above Lovewell from drought assistance received from Reclamation.

Kenny updated the Board on the upcoming 4-States meeting in January at Fort Collins Colorado.

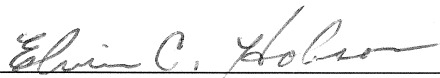
Kenny reported two irrigators were running pivots on alfalfa above Lovewell at this time.

A discussion was held regarding 2005 wages. The discussion was tabled until next meeting.

The Board attended an IPRC meeting in Franklin, Nebraska regarding the possibility of seeking drought aid for the group. The Council will look into the possibility further and if agreeable, meet with congressional representatives and others on the issue.

A work progress report and water supply report were given.

Upon returning from the meeting in Franklin, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.


Secretary

Minutes

The Board met Tuesday December 7, 2004, 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. Four States registration was discussed and tabled until the next meeting.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

- Employers Mutual Insurance Co. - dividend
- Steven Ronshuagen - Safety meeting
- Invitation to Maryanne Bach's retirement party
- Thank yous from Republic County Leadership Class

At this time, the Board set crop prices for the 2005 Crop Census.

The possibility of drought aid similar to last year for leaving a set amount of water in Harlan County was discussed. No decision about pursuing these funds will be made until later in next year.

A discussion was held regarding an IPRC proposal to defer, forgive, and utilize repayment funds. Kenny felt the IPRC districts as a whole will not be willing to spend money on the effort. Other alternatives will need to be pursued for 2005 relief. A meeting with the IPRC districts and the Bureau is likely at the Four States meetings in January.

A considerable amount of time was spent on 2005 salaries. The Board agreed to give a 3% cost of living increase based upon the highest paid laborers salary. Last June, the Board had agreed to cap the district's share of the health insurance increases at ½ of the increase starting in 2005. In order to help the employees pay their portion, the Board agreed to raise the districts capped premium by 3% in addition to the 3% cost of living increase. This change will take place with the salaries and insurance paid at the end of the month of January. The Board also agreed to give the employees a \$25 cash Christmas present.

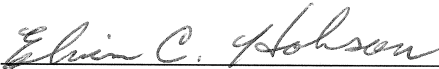
Kenny informed the Board about the archaeological dig which recently took place at Lovewell Reservoir. The district furnished our ATV and will receive environmental credits according to the terms of our contract.

The construction on the gates at Lovewell is nearing completion. The district has been delivering water to the reservoir since the 19th of November.

Transfer Acre Request for pivot irrigation were discussed. The Board approved a request for Don Mikesell pending his final design. Proposals from Joe Stenson and Shirley Strnad were discussed and appeared acceptable once the request is made.

A water supply report was given at this time with Harlan County being at elevation 1925.53 and Lovewell at 1573.15 and gaining about .05/day.

At 11:00, the meeting adjourned for a board tour of projects under construction and some for future construction.


Secretary