

## MINUTES

The Board met Tuesday May 6, 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.

Correspondence for the month was read and discussed as follows:

Robert Thompson Commissioner of Reclamation – Canals in urban areas

Aaron Thompson- 2009 Harlan County O&M charges

Aaron Thompson- 2007 Contract reports.

David Barfield to Brian Dunnigan – Kansas's economic demands

Aaron Thompson - flood pool storage at Lovewell

In regards to the 2009 Harlan County charges, Kenny forwarded this material along with an e-mail to Aaron Popelka of Congressman Moran's office emphasizing the need to pass legislation allowing relief from Harlan County O&M charges.

Kenny read a progress report from Chris Kingsley of Hess Services regarding the repair of the White Rock Extension Tube and the radial gate on the Courtland Canal in Nebraska. Kenny explained he had instructed Chris to paint the gate once it was built. Chris estimated being able to deduct \$1,500 from his original bid to paint by doing it in their yard in Hays.

A report was given on Kenny's recent trip to Berthoud Co for a 4-States Director meeting. The 2009 Annual Meeting and Headgate awards were discussed.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield health insurance rates will increase 17% effective in June. This will increase 2 of the 4 categories to slightly more than the 2004 cap on insurance. The Board agreed not to increase the employees share in January but to inform the employees that if the rate increase again in June of 2009, the employees amount withheld for insurance will increase in 2010.

Elvin Hobson's transfer acre, which was previously approved by the District and the Bureau but not assessed because of short water supply, was reviewed. It was agreed to assess Elvin for the 2008 charges, which finalizes the transfer.

A discussion was held regarding the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lovewell Dam dedication to be held on Sunday June 1. On Wednesday June 4, a presentation will be made to a group from Nebraska touring our area and on Thursday June 5, Kenny will spend some time with a Kansas group touring the area.

Kenny reported that Senate Bill 89 had been passed by the Governor allowing the district to change its election method to mail in ballots according to a plan developed by the Board of Directors.

Nebraska Bostwick's response to splitting Harlan County O&M charges between the districts by a constant percentage was that the proposal was worth looking into according to a report from Steve Ronshaugen.

Kenny reported on work progress. The 2025 lateral projects of 21.8 and 23.3 are complete except a few days of clean up work. Mason Ely's custom pipeline has been installed. The crew is busy spraying and preparing the canals for water. Several turnouts are yet to be constructed for new pivot installations. Pipelines for Craig Elliott and Bob Reed will be installed as time permits.

A report from Family Farm Alliance regarding the Clean Water Act was discussed. Congress is considering legislation to include all waters of any form as being under the clean water act.

Regarding water supply, Bill Peck now estimates 12.5" available to the district. Considering this, our 9" restriction remains with intent to carry over some supply for 2009. A discussion was held regarding the effect of floods in 2007 and the deal water in Nebraska on the supply currently available.

The Board agreed to allow transfers between landowners and tenants under the same procedures as the past few years.

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

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Secretary