N-CORPE

 ***Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project***

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 **Board Meeting**

*February 19th 2025, 10:00am Central Time*

Mid-Plains Community College Room #209,

1101 Halligan Dr., North Platte, NE 69101.

**Draft Version**

Agendas were sent to board members and others requesting agendas. Agendas were posted at [www.ncorpe.org](http://www.ncorpe.org) and in the following offices: Twin Platte NRD; Lower Republican NRD, Middle Republican NRD; and Upper Republican NRD.

**Board Members Present:** Dean Large (URNRD); Benjie Loomis (MRNRD), Jerry Weaver (TPNRD); Troy Fletcher (LRNRD)

**Others Present:** Kyle Shepherd (NCORPE); Jasper Fanning (URNRD); Todd Siel (LRNRD); Nick Simonson (LRNRD); Kent Miller (TPNRD); Mike Keller (NCORPE); Jack Russell (MRNRD); Josh Westling (JWC); Ellen Kreifels (BWJ Law); Gary Person (NP Chamber); Jason Schultz (Lincoln County); Dave Behle (Dawson Public Power); Cory Reuner; Dewey Schaffer; Kurt Pieper; Kirk Olson; Marvin Knoll; David Pieper; Jordan Maassen; Vern Friesen; Kerry McPheeters; Clark McPheeters; Micaela Wuehler (Lincoln County); Judy Clark (Lincoln County); Ken Schilz; Brian Glos (Lincoln County); Lynn Frederick; Shawn Boyd; Wayne Williams (ISI Consulting); Dick Hasenhauer; Scott Harris; Randy Robinson; Henry Vogt (Lincoln County); Dan Esterman; Corey Johansen (NP Chamber); Arron Edwards (Dawson Public Power); Tristin Winder (KNOP); Chris Bruns (Lincoln County); Jerry Woodruff (Lincoln County); Rusty Kemp; Josh Friesen; Caitlyn Thomas (NP Telegraph); Marlene Esterman; Joe Walgren (TPNRD)

**Information Sent to Board Members:** Notice, Agenda, Minutes of the December 9th Board Meeting, Accounts Payable, Financial Statement

Dean Large called the meeting to order at 10:03am and designated NCORPE’s General Manager Kyle Shepherd to chair the meeting. Shepherd pointed out that the Open Meetings Act was posted.

Roll call was taken. Voting representatives from the Upper Republican NRD (Dean Large); Twin Platte NRD (Jerry Weaver); Middle Republican NRD (Benjie Loomis); Lower Republican NRD (Troy Fletcher).

**Public Forum**

Shepherd opened the Public Forum. Several members of the public asked questions and made comments in opposition and support relating to the proposed lease with the Meadowlark Project.

**Approval of the minutes of the December 9th, 2024 Meeting**

Shepherd presented the draft minutes of the December 9th meeting to the board.

Weaver moved to approve the minutes of the December 9th, 2024 meeting. The motion was seconded by Loomis.

Roll Call: Upper Republican NRD – Yes; Middle Republican NRD – Yes; Lower Republican NRD – Yes; Twin Platte NRD – Yes. Vote 4 – Yes, 0 – No. Motion approved.

**Payables**

Shepherd presented the payables to the board. Several questions were discussed.

Loomis moved to approve the payables and was seconded by Fletcher.

Roll Call: Upper Republican NRD – Yes; Middle Republican NRD – Yes; Lower Republican NRD – Yes; Twin Platte NRD – Yes. Vote 4 – Yes, 0 - No. Motion approved.

**Financial Statement**

The second quarter financial statement was presented.

Fletcher moved to accept the financial statement and was seconded by Large.

Roll Call: Upper Republican NRD – Yes; Middle Republican NRD – Yes; Lower Republican NRD – Yes; Twin Platte NRD – Yes. Vote 4 – Yes, 0 - No. Motion approved.

**Project Update**

**Managers Reports**

Shepherd discussed the snow, the computer updates, conferences and work on Medicine Creek.

**Property Management/Operations**

**Contract Consideration – Josh Westling, Meadowlark Project**

The lease of a potential renewable energy project at NCORPE that would complement the Meadowlark Project in Gothenburg. Westling gave an overview of the project. Shepherd talked about grazing. Williams talked about solar panel and field construction. Kreifels discussed the contract.

**Legislative Update**

The proposed merger of DNR and NEDEE was discussed.

**Public Forum**

Shepherd again opened the Public Forum. Several members of the public asked questions and made comments in opposition and support relating to the proposed lease with the Meadowlark Project.

**Executive Session**

Weaver moved to go into executive session for contract negotiations including NRD staff, NCORPE Board Members, Meadowlark representatives and NP Chamber representatives at 11:24am and was seconded by Fletcher.

Roll Call: Upper Republican NRD – Yes; Middle Republican NRD – Yes; Lower Republican NRD – Yes; Twin Platte NRD – Yes. Vote 4 – Yes, 0 - No. Motion approved.

Fletcher moved to come out of executive session at 1:22pm and was seconded by Weaver.

Roll Call: Upper Republican NRD – Yes; Middle Republican NRD – Yes; Lower Republican NRD – Yes; Twin Platte NRD – Yes. Vote 4 – Yes, 0 - No. Motion approved.

No motions or action were taken after the Executive Session.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:24pm.

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Benjie Loomis, Board Secretary Date