

Washington County Rural Water Advisory Board #1
Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2012

A meeting of the Washington County Rural Water Advisory Board was held at the Papio-Missouri River NRD office, 1060 Wilbur St., Blair, NE, on Wednesday, February 22, 2012. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Paul Oestmann at 7:15 p.m.

QUORUM CALL:

Quorum call was taken. The following members and individuals were in attendance:

<u>Advisory Board Members</u>	<u>Advisory Board Members</u>	<u>Others In Attendance</u>
<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	
Paul Oestmann	Jim Shields	Dick Sklenar
Mitch McGowan	Dennis Miller	Marty Thieman
Mark Welsher		

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Discussion was called for on the tentative agenda. It was moved by Welsher, and seconded by Oestmann, that the agenda be adopted.

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Voting Yea: Oestmann, McGowan, Welsher

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: Shields, Miller

RECOMMENDATION ON WATER RATE ADJUSTMENT:

It was noted by Dick Sklenar that it had been several years since the last adjustment to the water rates had been made. Information on previous adjustments was provided. The rural water system's supplier, Metropolitan Utilities District, has made several adjustments to their rates during those past years. Higher energy costs were also another factor necessitating an increase to the rural water rates.

Another item discussed was the possible implementation of automatic meter read (AMR) system later this year. This would be a drive-by system allowing rural water personnel to read customers meters, and subsequently forward a billing to the consumer. Water meters would have to be replaced, or retrofitted, for data to be transmitted to the meter reader. A slow, but steady, transition to an AMR system is projected to take 5-7 years.

The proposed water rate adjustment would generate an additional \$25K-\$30K annually for the rural water system. The recommendation is that the adjustment commence on

April 1, 2012. There was further discussion by advisory board members on factors dealing with inflation.

It was moved by McGowan, seconded by Miller, that the Advisory Board recommends to the District Board of Directors that the following water rate schedule adjustment be effective April 1, 2012;

Base Monthly Charge.....	\$15.95
First 10,000 gls.....	\$4.35 per/1,000 gls.
Next 10,000 gls.....	\$3.25 per/1,000 gls.
Next 30,000 gls.....	\$2.20 per 1,000 gls.
All Over 50,000 gls.....	\$1.66 per 1,000 gls.

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Voting yae: Oestmann, McGowan, Welsher
Voting nay: None
Abstaining: None
Absent: Shields, Miller

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:55 p.m.

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