

THURSTON COUNTY RURAL WATER ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes
June 29, 2005

A meeting of the Thurston County Rural Water Advisory Board was held on June 29, 2005, at the NRCS Office at Walthill NE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Harlan Witte at 7:30 p.m.

QUORUM CALL: Quorum call was taken. The following subcommittee members were in attendance.

Advisory Members Present	Advisory Members Absent	Others Present
Harlin Witte	None	Dick Sklenar, NRD Staff
Marvin Baker		Dennis Piper, NRD Staff
Larry Athey		
Bruce Paeper		

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- ◆ **Chairman Witte called for discussion on tentative Agenda. It was moved by Witte, and seconded by Baker, that the Agenda be adopted.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 4 to 0.

Voting Yea: Witte, Baker, Athey, Paeper
 Voting Nay: None
 Abstaining: None
 Absent: None

WATER USAGE REPORT:

A graph depicting annual water sold since 1984 was provided to the Advisory Board members. The graph indicated a slight increase in consumption over the past 10 years. Dick Sklenar mentioned that the distribution system is still physically sound accounting for more than 90 percent of the water purchased from the City of Pender.

OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL REPORT:

Information regarding the status of the financial condition of the rural water system was distributed to Advisory Board members. It is expected that Pender will raise wholesale water rates to the rural water system in the near future inasmuch as their new water treatment facility is now in operation. There was discussion as to when the rural water system should pursue raising its rates. Dick Sklenar mentioned that the Advisory Board and the NRD Board of Directors already approved a rate increase that would be instituted when Pender adjusts their rates. Bruce Paeper inquired as to whether rates should not be adjusted now as opposed to later. There was further discussion.

Dick Sklenar also mentioned that his risk assessment of the rural water system indicated that there should be a second crossing under Logan Creek for the rural water system. Should the only existing crossing under Logan Creek become fractured, it would take approximately seven days to have a replacement crossing installed. All other components of the rural water system could be repaired or bypassed in less time. It is hoped that both the Lower Elkhorn NRD and Papio-Missouri River NRD can possibly provided cost sharing assistance for another crossing under Logan Creek. Timetable for such work is expected to occur late next year. Plans and specifications have already been completed.

PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2006 BUDGET:

Presented for the Advisory Board members was the draft of the proposed Fiscal Year 2006 Budget. The budget would be adjusted slightly once cash on hand was known on July 1. The proposed budget is about 4 percent less from last year's amount.

- ◆ **It was moved by Witte, and seconded by Paeper, that the Rural Water Advisory Board recommends to the District's Board of Directors that the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2006 be adopted.**

Roll call was taken on the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 4 to 0.

Voting Yea: Witte, Baker, Athey, Paeper

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: None

Excused Absence: None

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST:

Dick Sklenar provided photographs of the development of Washington County Rural Water System #2. He gave a progress report on the development of this project.

ADJOURNMENT:

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned by acclamation at 8:40 p.m.