



Resource Conservation & Development, Inc.

*Empowering Citizens to Build Strong Communities*

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## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 9, 2009

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Call to Order:** The April 9, 2009 Meeting of the Panhandle RC&D Board of Directors was called to order by President Larry Gibbs at 11:00 a.m. Attendees included: President Larry Gibbs, City of Gering; Brenda Johnson, City of Crawford; Josh Skovdahl, Sioux County; Webb Johnson, Dawes County; Terry McCord, Garden County; Ron Klemke, Vice President, City of Oshkosh; Harold Winkelman, Cheyenne County; Treasurer Verlin Bruns, Treasurer, Deuel County; Rick Soper, Kimball County; Dave Boeckner, City of Scottsbluff; Gary Grubbs, Banner County, Ron Miller, Scotts Bluff County. Staff: Joyce Mick, Program Assistant Guest: Jennifer Rogers with Senator Nelson's Office

**Approve Consent Agenda:** Motion made by Ron Klemke to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Terry McCord. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** The April 9, 2009 Treasurer's Report was sent out prior to the meeting, so the Board Members had a chance to look through the items. There was a beginning balance of \$61,838.67. Receipts included \$155.28 from the sustainability conference; \$100.00 from Great Plains Communications for Fig; \$630.00 from the sustainability conference. Receipts totaled \$885.28. Expenses included: \$120.75 to Mike's Screenprinting & Awards Inc; \$50.00 to Allo Communications; \$945.79 for payroll. Expenses totaled \$1116.54. Ending Balance of all accounts \$61,607.41.

**Approval of Bills:** Motion made by Ron Miller to approve the bills-to-be paid as presented; seconded by Brenda Johnson. Motion carried

### Coordinator Reports

#### Friends of the Intertribal Gathering:

Ron explained to the Board that FIG is in need of \$10,000.00 to help defray expenses. Ron informed the Board that in past years we have loaned out \$2500-\$3000 every year and have gotten it back. By loaning out the monies it would keep the Gathering from closing it down. Larry Walker who is a Ponca Native American is bringing history teachers from Lincoln to participate in the PowWow. A group of students out of Colorado are coming to participate in story telling. 800 Native American students learn about their culture that helps build their self-esteem. This will be the tenth year into the program and it is a great tourist attraction. Five different states participate in this event. Attendance at this event is around 3500 people. Discussion was held on generating monies at this event and we can't charge since it is a State Park, and that they should offer more than just the land and since the economic is bad. To offset the cost an auction in December raised \$1500.00 and probably will ask the vendors to pay more. This year we will have an information booth and try to get donations there. The event will take place June 12, 13 & 14<sup>th</sup>. Asked the Treasurer if there would be sufficient resources to cover both this event and the October Conference and there would be. Suggestion was made to help promote outside the area to help with monies. Motion made by Verlin Bruns to approve the loan of \$10,000.00, seconded by Ron Klemke. Motion carried.

### **Banner County Wind Energy:**

Ron Moore reported Midwest & Terrigen are signing up properties and Midwest are looking to put up 600-1000 2 1/2 megawatts turbines. The estimated income to Banner County would be \$118 million over five years with depreciation of the Wind Turbines. Terrigen is only going to do 60 turbines. Sign up is a \$1000.00 plus \$1.50 per acre per year for the next three years. They need 60,000 acres and as of last week they only need 20,000 acres or more. These acres will have studies done on air speed. Midwest will be sending the electric West. Discussion was held on why NPPD didn't do this and the end result was that they could not afford to do this on their own, and that they are looking short term and not long term. In the future there will be a certain amount of green energy that will have to be purchased.

### **Kiwanis Theme Park Play Ground/Valley Visions**

Valley Visions signed on and are taking charge of this project. The project is costing \$150,000.00 and the funds are needed to be raised by August 2009 and they are currently at \$86,000.00. Jay McCabe and Jolliffe Funeral Home have had fund raisers. The closest one to this size of play ground equipment is Casper, Wyoming.

### **RC&D Stimulus Requests**

List of projects implemented next two weeks that will create jobs and business creation are as follows:

1. Big Springs Pond - \$200,000.00
2. Oshkosh Hospital - \$1.9 million – create 100 jobs
3. Chadron Native Center – remodeling - \$200,000.00 - \$250,000.00 – heat, air condition, tornado shelter, handicap accessible.
4. Friends of the Intertribal Gathering
5. Kiwanis Theme Park Play Ground
6. Mitchell Park and Walk Way – ITEA funds are coming for this project
7. Organic Farming and Ranching - \$25,000.00 – test sites
8. Gering Tree Planting - \$160,000.00
9. Gordon Pathway in Sheridan County

Discussion was held on whether memberships were paid before we do any projects. The questions is, are we to make sure they are.

### **Committee Reports State Association Meeting**

Discussion was held and ideas were given for entertainment. If any board member has any ideas for workshops and training sites they are to give them to Ron Moore, as finalization will be done next month.

Verlin Bruns asked about the report that is to be given in Grand Island on April 21, 2009 and Ron Moore will help him with that.

### **Old Business:**

There was no old business.

### **New Business:**

There was no new business.

**Adjourn:** Ron Klemke moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ron Miller. Motion carried. At 11:35 a.m., the meeting was adjourned by President Larry Gibbs.