

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD MINUTES
BOARD MEETING
June 14, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of the Lower Platte North NRD Board of Directors was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the NRD Office, Wahoo, NE on Monday, June 14, 2021.

1. NOTICE OF MEETING

The agenda and supporting documents are available on the district's website – www.lpnrd.org. A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Law has been posted on the NRD's website.

The advanced notice of our June 14, 2021 board meeting was posted on the Lower Platte North NRD website.

Chair Pollard informed those present that a copy of the "Open Meetings Act" is posted for public viewing.

Pledge of Allegiance

2. ROLL CALL - INTRODUCTIONS

DIRECTORS PRESENT AND CONSTITUTING A QUORUM:

Birkel	Hilger	Johnson
Kavan	Lawrence	McGinn
Meyer	Olson	Ruzicka (left 8:12 pm)
Sabatka	Saalfeld	Saeger
Seier	Thompson	Veskerna
Pollard		

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Bailey	Meduna	Yosten
--------	--------	--------

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Gottschalk	Breunig	Mountford
Heimann	Andersen	Elliott (Zoom)
Lausterer		

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. COMMENTS - ADVISORS/GUESTS/DIRECTORS

a. Guest Comments - None

b. NRCS Report

Mark Walkenhorst reviewed his written report.

c. NARD Report

Bob Hilger and Dave Saalfeld gave the NARD report.

d. NRC Report – None

e. Manager Report

Gottschalk reviewed his written report.

f. Education Program

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve the minutes from the May 10, 2021 Board Meeting. Motion carried on consent agenda.

6. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

2. Meetings

a. Pending – None

b. Report

1. NARD Risk Pool and Benefits Committee – Update Given

3. Management Items

a. Director Absence

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve the absence requests received from Director Olson from the January Board Meeting, Director Saalfeld from the March Meeting and Director Ruzicka from the May Meeting. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Monthly Education Program – Update Given

c. LARM Changes to Insurance Coverage

Ruzicka made the motion, seconded by Olson, to go out for bids or RFP for District Insurance Coverage. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

d. LARM Workers Compensation Final Audit

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to pay LARM \$2,244.09 for Workers' Compensation for the 2019-2020 Pool Year. Motion carried on consent agenda.

e. President Biden's 30 by 30 Plan

Meyer made the motion, seconded by Ruzicka, to table the 30 by 30 topic until more information is obtained. Motion carried.

AYE: Birkel, Hilger, Kavan, Lawrence, McGinn, Meyer, Olson, Ruzicka, Saalfeld, Sabatka, Saeger, Seier, Thompson, Veskerna, Pollard

NAY: Johnson

f. Open Meeting Law – Update Given

4. Equipment – None

5. Personnel

a. Staff Annual Evaluations – Update Given

b. Fiscal Year 2022 Salary Adjustments

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve up to \$28,000 in total salary increase to allow for performance-based staff salary increases. Motion carried on consent agenda.

c. Wanahoo Staff Salary Adjustments

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve \$.50/hour pay raise to all returning Wanhoo Staff and begin park entrance staff at a rate of \$11.00/hour effective immediately. Motion carried on consent agenda.

6. Finance

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to transfer \$100,000 from account 450103 (Emergency Repair) to the NRD Emergency Flood Damage Sinking Fund Account. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

a. Approval of Financial Reports

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve the April Financial Reports as presented. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Approval of Managers Expenses

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve Manager Gottschalk's time and expense sheets as attached to the Executive Committee Minutes. Motion carried on consent agenda.

c. Accounts Over 90 Days - Update Given

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, that the June LPNNRD Executive Committee Minutes be received and placed on file. Motion carried on consent agenda.

B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

2. WILD NE AND OTHER PROGRAMS

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve a Corners for Wildlife Payment of \$3,820.00 to Gerhold Inc. in Butler County. Motion carried on consent agenda.

3. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS

a. Clear Creek Levee Repairs by Corps of Engineers – Update Given

b. Wanhoo Dam Stilling Basin (FEMA) – Update Given

c. Western Sarpy Clear Creek O & M Manuals – Update Given

d. Vehicle Purchase

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to budget up to \$30,655 for an extended cab 4 x 4 pickup with short box off the State of Nebraska Contract. Motion carried on consent agenda.

e. Sand/Duck Creek Dam Sites Fences – Update Given

f. North Bend Trail Request

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve the \$10,000 request from the North Bend Tree Board to assist in completing their community trail and to use of Fiscal Year 2020-2021 amount of \$5,000 and allocate additional funding in Fiscal Year 2021-2022. Motion carried on consent agenda.

g. New Equipment for 2019 Flood Damaged Project (FEMA)

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to have staff research budgetary cost for the purchase of new equipment in relation to our O & M needs on our 2019 damaged areas with FEMA assistance. Motion carried on consent agenda.

h. Operations & Maintenance Budget – Update Given

4. ROCK AND JETTY – None

5. LAKE WANAHOO

a. Lake Wanahoo Permit Sales - Update Given

b. Lake Wanahoo Camping Revenue – Update Given

c. Lake Wanahoo Trail Opening – Update Given

d. Lake Wanahoo Education Building – Update Given

6. INFORMATION & EDUCATION

a. Information

1. Radio and eAds – Update Given

2. Analytics – None

3. County Fair Booths

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve \$125 exhibitor booth rental at the Butler County Fair. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. News Channel Nebraska Commercials – Update Given

b. Education – Update Given

1. May Education Events – Update Given

2. June Education Events – Update Given

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

a. Colon – Update Given

b. Bruno – Update Given

c. Other – None

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, that the June LPNNRD Operations Committee Minutes be received and placed on file. Motion carried on consent agenda.

C. WATER COMMITTEE REPORT

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. REGULATORY

a. GROUNDWATER MANGEMENT AREA

1. Variance Request in the Hydrologically Connected Area (Limited Development Area)

Saalfeld made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to allow Gene Novak to switch the certified irrigation acres from the N½-NW¼-33-18N-3E to the S½-NW¼-33-18N-3E for 2021. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

2. Well Permit Program – Update Given

3. Geological Framework Study – Update Given

4. Draft 2021-22 Water Budget – Update Given

5. Lower Platte River Basin Water Management Plan Coalition (LPRBC) – Update Given

b. Chemigation – Update Given

c. Ground Water Energy Levels – Update Given

3. GROUND WATER PROGRAMS

a. Decommissioned Well Program

1. Well Estimates – Update Given

2. Plugged Wells

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve payment for well decommissioning to Gaylen L. Swartz for \$576.83, Kenneth J. Sousek for \$1,500 and Kenneth J. Sousek \$437.62. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Lower Platte North NRD Ground Water Studies

1. Phase Area Update – Update Given

2. Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assessment (ENWRA) – Update Given

c. New Monitoring Wells - Update Given

4. SURFACE WATER PROGRAMS

a. State Lakes – Update Given

5. OTHER

a. Comments from the Public – None

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, that the June LPNDRD Water Committee Minutes be received and placed on file. Motion carried on consent agenda.

D. PROJECTS COMMITTEE REPORT

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE

2. SWCP

a. SWCP Application Approvals – None

b. SWCP Payments

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve \$1,860 payment to Lee Seeman and \$820 payment to Bruce Williams for completed tree plantings. Motion carried on consent agenda.

c. SWCP Cancellations – None

d. Wahoo Creek Cost-Share Payment Approvals

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve septic system upgrade applications for \$4,800 each to Kenneth Sousek and Ron Sabatka. Motion carried on consent agenda.

3. WATERSHEDS

a. Shell Creek Watershed

1. Shell Creek Environmental Enhancement Plan Implementation – Update Given

a. Shell Creek Grant Funding Update

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to ratify General Manager Gottschalk’s signing of the Inter-Governmental Agreement Amendment with NDEE for receiving an additional \$226,000 EPA 319 Funds, as attached to the Projects Committee Minutes. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Shell Creek Septic System Upgrade Application

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve Terry Helmer and Glenn Theiden for up to \$4,800 for septic system upgrades. Motion carried on consent agenda.

c. Shell Creek Projects Payment

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve \$1,452.26 payment to Beau Klug for completed buffer strip seeding. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Wahoo Creek Watershed

1. Wahoo Creek Dam Site Planning Update FYRA Invoices

Ruzicka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, that based on information discussed with NRCS on May 26, 2021, to remove Dam Site 83 from the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan at this time and work with NRCS and FYRA on the additional contract expense and federal reimbursement.

Ruzicka made the motion, seconded by Sabatka, to approve FYRA’s contract amendment (\$22,305) and to approve and authorize Chairman to sign the NRCS amendment for reimbursement in the amount of \$22,305 subject to Staff and Legal Counsel review. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

2. Olsson Design Update and Invoice – Update Given

3. Wahoo Creek Watershed Water Quality Plan Phase II – Update Given

4. JOINT WATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD

a. Platte River Breach Repair Project (Rod & Gun Club)

1. Platte River Breach Repair Project Bid Award and Update

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to endorse Dodge County’s selection of Yost Excavation Inc. for the Platte River Breach Repair Project (Fremont Rod & Gun Club Location). Motion carried on consent agenda.

2. Platte River Breach Repair Project (Rod & Gun Club) O & M Agreement

Olson made the motion seconded by Johnson, to approve the Platte River Breach Repair Project O & M Agreement and authorize the LPNNRD Board Chairman to sign as attached to the Projects Committee Minutes. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

b. East Fremont/Elkhorn Township Project Proposal

Ruzicka made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve and authorize the LPNNRD Board Chairman to sign the Elkhorn Township/East Fremont Assessment Interlocal Agreement with Dodge County and City of Fremont as attached to the Projects Committee Minutes. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

c. Rawhide Creek Evaluation RFP's (WFPO)

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to support Dodge County's selection of Burns and McDonnell Inc., as the firm to complete the Rawhide Watershed Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) flood reduction study with NRCS. Motion carried on consent agenda.

d. North Bend Drainage District Project Repair Inspection – Update Given

5. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – Update Given

6. EROSION AND SEDIMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS - None

7. OTHER

a. Schuyler Flood Risk Reduction/Drainage Improvement Project Payment

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, to pay the City of Schuyler the first of two \$25,000 assistance payments toward their flood water reduction/drainage improvement project. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

b. SID No. 8 (Woodcliff) Assistance Payment

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Thompson, to pay SID No. 8 (Woodcliff) the last of four \$75,000 assistance payments on their original levee/road stabilization project. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

c. Moving Budgeted Funds into Sinking Funds

Olson made the motion, seconded by Thompson, to move \$400,000 of FY2021 budgeted funds into the Flood Reduction Sinking Fund Account. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to move \$20,000 of FY 2021 unused budgeted funds into the Shell Creek Land Treatment Sinking Fund Account. Motion carried on consent agenda.

d. LPRCA Meeting – Update Given

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, that the June LPNNRD Projects Committee Minutes be received and placed on file. Motion carried on consent agenda.

7. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

a. Shell Creek Watershed Environmental Enhancement Plan Practice Payment

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Seier, to pay Merlin Groteluschen \$9,079.62 for livestock well, pump, tank, and forage planting. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

b. Create New Sinking Fund O & M Large Structures

Lawrence made the motion, seconded by McGinn, to set up a new sinking fund for Operation and Maintenance on our Large Structures and move carry over cash of \$100,000 from FY21 into the sinking fund. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

c. NRD/Project Progress LR23 Report – No Action

d. NSWCP Tree Planting Payment

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Sabatka to pay Elaine Zoucha \$300 for her completed acreage windbreak. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

8. BILLS TO BE APPROVED

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, that all bills be approved, and warrants be drawn in payment of the same. Motion carried.

AYE: Birkel, Hilger, Johnson, Kavan, Lawrence, McGinn, Olson, Saalfeld, Sabatka, Saeger, Seier, Thompson, Veskerna, Pollard

ABSTAIN: Meyer

9. CONSENT AGENDA ADOPTION

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve the June Consent Agenda. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

10. COMMENTS FROM DIRECTORS/GUESTS

11. MEETING ESTABLISHMENT AND ADJOURNMENT

The July Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Monday, July 12, 2021 6:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Discussion on all agenda items that have "Update Given" can be found in corresponding Committee Minutes.

The undersigned, the duly elected and acting Secretary of the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District (the "District"), hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the District held on June 14, 2021, that all of the matters and subjects discussed at the meeting were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the principal office of the District during normal business hours, and except for items of emergency nature, the agenda was not altered later than twenty-four (24) hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the above minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurred earlier; and, that reasonable efforts were made to provide all news media requesting notification of the meeting and of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.