

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD MINUTES
BOARD MEETING
February 10, 2022**

The regular monthly meeting of the Lower Platte North NRD Board of Directors was called to order at 1:30 p.m. at Lower Platte North NRD office on Thursday, February 10, 2022.

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 February 10, 2022, 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:

Bailey	Birkel	Hilger
Johnson	Kavan	Lawrence
McGinn	Meduna	Olson
Sabatka	Saeger	Seier
Veskerna	Pollard	

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Meyer (Zoom)	Saalfeld	Thompson
Yosten		

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Gottschalk	Breunig	Mountford
Andersen	Elliott (Zoom)	Schomer
Lausterer (Zoom)	Sotak (Zoom)	

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. COMMENTS - ADVISORS/GUESTS/DIRECTORS

a. Director Vacancy Report – At-Large

Meduna made the motion, seconded by McGinn to appoint Bruce Williams to fill the vacant At-Large position due to the resignation of Gene Ruzicka. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

At this time Breunig administered the Oath of Office to Bruce Williams.

b. Guest Comments

c. NRCS Report

Walkenhorst monthly report is attached.

d. NARD Report

Bob Hilger gave the NARD report.

e. NRC Report – None

f. Manager Report

Gottschalk reviewed his written report.

g. Education Program

Matt Moser from USGS as present to discuss the stream gages located on Shell Creek, Wahoo Creek and a dedicated Groundwater monitoring well that USGS and LPN have partnered for numerous years.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sabatka the motion, seconded by Johnson, to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2022, Board Meeting. Motion carried on consent agenda.

6. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

2. Meetings

a. Pending

b. Reports

1. NARD Legislative Conference – Update Given

2. NRD/NARD Employee Intergovernmental Risk Management Pool – Update Given

3. Management Items

a. Director Absence – None

b. Monthly Education Program – Update Given

c. Director Vacancy – At Large – This item taken earlier

d. 2022 Election Certification – Update Given

e. LB406 Update – Update Given

f. Dodge County – Fremont Beef 2020 Tax Roll Correction

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, to authorize management to send a letter to Dodge County Treasurer authorizing them to deduct \$662.42 from our account for the tax roll correction for Fremont Beef Company. Motion carried on consent agenda.

g. Director Retreat – Update Given

h. Building RFQ – Update Given

4. Equipment – None

5. Personnel

a. Water Resources Technician

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, to ratify the hiring of Noah Franzen to fill the Water Resources Technician position. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Assistant Manager Search Committee – Update Given

6. Finance

a. Approval of Financial Reports

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, to approve the Final December 2021 Financial Statement as attached to the Executive Committee Minutes. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

b. Approval of Managers Expenses

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, 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

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, that the February 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 – Update Given

3. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS

a. Wanahoo Dam Stilling Basin (FEMA)

Lawrence made the motion, seconded by Johnson, to proceed and have FYRA work with Valley Corporation to modify the current contract with a change order to add a layer of protection to the gabion rock baskets. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Management was instructed to setup a meeting with FYRA, Valley Corporation and Legal Counsel Lausterer to work out the details of the change order.

b. NRD Owned Lots – Update Given

c. Wanahoo Relief Wells – Update Given

d. Wanahoo Auxiliary Spillway RCC Crack Repair – Update Given

e. No-Till Grass Drill Revenue – 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. Clint Johannes Education Building – Update Given

6. INFORMATION & EDUCATION

- a. Information
 - 1. Radio and eAds – Update Given
 - 2. Analytics – None
 - 3. News Channel Nebraska Advertising – Update Given
- b. Education
 - 1. January Events – Update Given
 - 2. February Events – Update Given

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

- a. Colon – Update Given
- b. Bruno – Update Given
- c. Other – None

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, that the February LPNDRD Operations Committee Minutes be received and placed on file. Motion carried on consent agenda.

C. WATER COMMITTEE REPORT

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

2. USGS STREAM FLOW GAUGING SITES

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the joint funding agreement 22NRJFA00170 with USGS for stream gages on Shell Creek and Wahoo Creek and one real-time groundwater level monitoring site until September 30, 2022, with the amount of \$17,635 authorized for FY2022-23 budget. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Meduna made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve and authorize Board Chairman to sign the joint funding agreement for real-time continuous water quality monitoring in Lower Platte River Leshara for 3 Years. Lower Platte North NRD share will be \$6,400 in FY '23, \$5,320 (FY '24) and \$4,360 (FY '25). Motion carried all members present voting aye.

3. REGULATORY

a. GROUNDWATER MANGEMENT AREA

1. Well Permit Program

a. Duane Johnson Well Permit Application

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Meduna, to approve the well permit application for Duane Johnson in the NW¼ S14-T15N-R8E with no increase in irrigated acres, but more efficient irrigation management. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

b. Lyle Alswager Well Permit Application

Lyle Alswager has submitted an application to drill a new irrigation well in the SE¼-NE¼-S1-T18N-R1W, Platte County, SQS #2. The well will irrigate 121 certified irrigated acres that are currently serviced from well G-073135 located in the NW¼ of the same section. Attached to the Water Committee Minutes are two AEM profiles that were flown over the proposed well location, as well as a three-dimensional view of SQS #2.

Well G-073135 is irrigating 2 pivots on 244 acres and has used 7.45 inches/acre over the last 2 years. Committee and staff discussed the efficiency side of one well, handling 2 pivots and trying to get over all of the acres in a 1 weeks' time. The Board reviewed the amount of water used over the last 2 years and commented on the producer's efficiency. The AEM flights show that this area has a better aquifer than other parts of the SQS #2 area. The Board wanted to make sure no increase in acres would occur and allow this because of family estate planning.

As per LPNNRD Ground Water Rules and Regulations Section U, Rule 2.1, a good cause variance can be allowed if a producer provides written documentation to justify approving the variance.

Lawrence made the motion, seconded by Johnson, to approve the well permit (as per LPNNRD Ground Water Rules and Regulations Section U, Rule 2.1 as a good cause variance) for Lyle Alswager for SE¼-NE¼-S1-T18N-R1W, Platte County, SQS #2. The well permit is approved with the understanding of no increase of irrigated acres but potentially more efficient irrigation management. The new well would have the established irrigation SQS #2 allocation but would take into account the previous 2 years of water use from original well. Motion carried.

AYE: Bailey, Birkel, Hilger, Johnson, Kavan, Lawrence, McGinn, Meduna, Olson, Saeger, Seier, Veskerna, Williams, Pollard

NAY: Sabatka

2. 2021 Approved Well Permit Summary – Update Given

3. Variance Score Sheet – Update Given

4. LPNNRD Operator Certification – Update Given

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

6. Flow Meter Program

McGinn made the motion, seconded by Saeger, to approve payment of \$12,980 to Tri-City Meters for their contracted flow meter maintenance work. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

4. GROUND WATER PROGRAMS

a. Decommissioned Well Program

1. Well Estimates – Update Given

2. Plugged Wells

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, to approve payment for well decommissioning to Justin Krafska for \$1,000 and Kerry Knuth for \$968.18. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Lower Platte North NRD Ground Water Studies

1. Phase Area Update

Meduna made the motion, seconded by Bailey, to approve a cost-share incentive for iron chlorosis chemistry on soybeans at \$15/acre, with total cost-share funds limited to \$3,000 for the current Fiscal Year. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

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

3. GMDA Winter Conference – Update Given

5. OTHER

a. Comments from the Public – None

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, that the February LPNNRD 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 – None

c. SWCP Cancellations – None

d. Wahoo Creek Cost-Share Payment Approvals – None

3. WATERSHEDS

a. Shell Creek Watershed

1. Shell Creek Environmental Enhancement Plan Implementation – Update Given

a. Shell Creek Grant Funding Update – Update Given

b. Tom Sprunk Bank Stabilization Project – Update Given

2. Shell Creek Septic System Upgrade Application

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, to approve Craig Nelson - \$4,800 for septic system upgrade application within the Shell Creek Watershed Water Quality Plan. Motion carried on consent agenda.

3. Shell Creek Septic System Upgrade Payment

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, to approve \$6,964.85 payment to Mark Etling for septic system upgrade within Shell Creek Watershed. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Wahoo Creek Watershed

1. Wahoo Creek Dam Site Planning Update FYRA Invoices – Update Given

2. Olsson Design Update and Invoice

Johnson made the motion, seconded by Seier, to give Olsson Associates the notice to proceed on completing final designs and permitting for Wahoo Creek Dame Sites 26a, 26b and 27. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

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

4. Wahoo Creek Septic System Upgrade Payment

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, to approve \$4,881 payment to Ron Sabatka for completed septic system upgrade within Wahoo Creek Watershed Water Quality Plan. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. JOINT WATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD

a. North Bend Drainage District Project Assessment – Update Given

b. Platte River Camera/Gauges Project – Update Given

c. Rawhide Creek WFPO Water Plan – WA – Update Given

5. EROSION AND SEDIMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS - None

6. OTHER

a. NRD/NRCS Local Work Group Meeting - Update Given

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, that the February LPNNRD Projects Committee Minutes be received and placed on file. Motion carried on consent agenda.

7. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

a. Shell Creek Septic System Upgrade Application

Seier made the motion, seconded by Bailey, to approve a Shell Creek Septic System Upgrade application for Steven Bender - \$6,000. Motion carried.

AYE: Bailey, Birkel, Hilger, Johnson, Kavan, Lawrence, McGinn, Meduna, Sabatka, Saeger, Seier, Williams, Veskerna, Pollard

NAY: Olson

8. BILLS TO BE APPROVED

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

AYE: Bailey, Birkel, Hilger, Johnson, Kavan, Lawrence, McGinn, Meduna, Olson, Sabatka, Saeger, Seier, Veskerna, Pollard

ABSTAIN: Williams

9. CONSENT AGENDA ADOPTION

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Johnson, to approve the February Consent Agenda. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

10. COMMENTS FROM DIRECTORS/GUESTS

11. MEETING ESTABLISHMENT AND ADJOURNMENT

The March Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Monday, March 14, 2022, 1:30 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 3:33 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 February 10, 2022, 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.

Robert Meduna Jr., Secretary