

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD MINUTES**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**February 10, 2023**

The regular monthly meeting of the Lower Platte North NRD Board of Directors was called to order at 1:30 p.m. at the NRD Office, Wahoo, NE on Friday, February 10, 2023.

**1. NOTICE OF MEETING**

The agenda and supporting documents are available on the district's website – [www.lpnrd.org](http://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, 2023, board meeting was posted on the Lower Platte North NRD website and posted in the Fremont Tribune on February 6, 2023.

Chair Thompson 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	Engel
Hilger	Johnson, Duane	Johnson, Jerry
Kavan	Lawrence	Meduna
McKnight	Olson	Pollard
Sabatka	Yosten	Thompson

**DIRECTORS ABSENT**

Saalfeld	Saeger	Seier
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**STAFF AND GUESTS:**

Gottschalk	Breunig	Heimann
Andersen	Chapman	Lausterer
Abbott (Zoom)	Elliott (Zoom)	

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**4. COMMENTS - ADVISORS/GUESTS/DIRECTORS**

**a. Guest Comments**

**b. NRCS Report**

Mark Walkenhorst was present to give the NRCS Report.

**c. NARD Report**

Bob Hilger gave the NARD report.

**d. NRC Report - None**

**e. Manager Report**

Gottschalk reviewed his written report.

**f. Education Program – None**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

J. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2023, Board Meeting. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**Agenda Item 6.D.9 – Village of Lindsay Pond Request**

The Village of Lindsay has formally requested cost-share assistance, up to \$50,000, for the village pond rehabilitation project. Sabatka made the motion, seconded by McKnight, to assist the Village of Lindsay with their pond rehabilitation project by committing \$25,000 this fiscal year and \$25,000 in FY2024. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**Agenda Item 6.B.4.a. – Wanahoo Stilling Basin – (FEMA)**

The final three panels were poured on Friday, January 27. The baffle plate may arrive in February for installation and grading and seeding will take place after the thaw. We have received Change Order 002 dealing with the extra cost of \$45,506 for overgrinding of the RCC Apron Floor and \$5,048.56 for steel reinforcement along with some deducts (\$4,106.32) totaling \$46,448.24. Pollard made the motion, seconded by Sabatka, to approve pay application #3 with change order 2 for a total payment to ME Collins of \$292,798.07. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**Agenda Item 6.B.4.d. – NRD Owned Thomas Lake Lots**

J. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to have staff re-write an agreement with Thomas Lakes Homeowners Association for the care and public green space use of lots 41, 42, 43, 44, 49 and 50. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**Agenda Item 6.C.3.a.4.G. – Hydrogeologic Assessment Database**

The Selection Committee of LPN staff reviewed the proposals of LRE and HDR. Both firms are very capable of doing the project with excellent RFQs. This project is for a maximum of \$56,000, of which 60% will be funded through a WSF grant. Birkel made the motion, seconded by J. Johnson, to authorize Chair Thompson to sign the agreement with LRE Water to develop the Hydrological Assessment Database for a maximum amount of \$56,000, because of projects conducted within the district and their familiarity this brings to the project. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**6. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None**

**2. Meetings**

**a. Pending**

**1. Director Retreat– Update Given**

**2. NARD Washington DC Trip**

J. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to send two staff and two directors to the NARD Washington DC Annual Meeting March 18-22, 2023. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**b. Reports**

**1. Legislative Conference – Update Given**

**2. GMDA Winter Conference – Update Given**

**3. Management Items**

**a. Director Absences**

J. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve Director Meduna's absence from the November Board Meeting. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**b. LPNNRD Sub-Committee Discussion – Update Given**

**c. Monthly Education Program – Update Given**

**d. New Office Building – Update Given**

**e. February Board Meeting Date – Update Given**

**f. Public Notice of Board Meetings – Update Given**

**g. Sub-District 3 Director Vacancy – Update Given**

**h. LPNNRD Policy Review Process – Update Given**

**4. Equipment - None**

**5. Personnel**

**a. Potential Position Opening – Update Given**

**b. Open NRD Technician Position – Update Given**

**c. Assistant Manager 6 Month Review**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Pollard, to adjust Ryan Chapman's salary effective immediately as discussed at the time of his hiring. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**d. Workers Compensation – Update Given**

**6. Finance**

**a. Approval of Financial Reports**

J. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve the December Financial Reports as presented. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**b. Approval of Managers Expenses**

J. Johnson 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**

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

**B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**1. NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Pollard was appointed Chair of the Operations Committee and J. Johnson was appointed as Vice-Chair.

**2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None**

**3. WILD NE AND OTHER PROGRAMS - None**

**4. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS**

**a. Wanahoo Dam Stilling Basin (FEMA) – This item was taken earlier in the meeting**

**b. Cottonwood 21-A Dam Assessment – Update Given**

**c. Wanahoo Relief Well Cleaning – Update Given**

**d. NRD Owned Thomas Lakes Lot – This item was taken earlier in the meeting**

**e. Sand/Duck Dam 15 Land Locked Issue**

J. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve cost-sharing with Jason Scott at 50% up to \$4,000 to place a bridge over the creek of Sand/Duck Creek Dam Site 15 to reach a landlocked parcel for maintenance purposes. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**f. Dams Exceeding Planned Service Life – Update Given**

**5. ROCK AND JETTY – None**

**6. LAKE WANAHOO**

**a. Lake Wanahoo Permit Sales - Update Given**

**b. Lake Wanahoo Camping Revenue – Update Given**

**c. Clint Johannes Education Building Rentals – Update Given**

**6. INFORMATION & EDUCATION**

**a. Information**

**1. Radio and eAds – Update Given**

**2. Analytics – Update Given**

**3. Winter Viaduct – Update Given**

**4. News Channel Nebraska – Update Given**

**5. Shell Creek Watershed Supplies – Update Given**

**b. Education – Update Given**

**1. Past Events - Update Given**

**2. Future Events – Update Given**

**3. New Projector for the Education Building**

J. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to move forward with purchasing the BenQ 1080p, 5,000 lumen projector at \$3,300.12 from Diode Technologies. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS**

**a. Colon – Update Given**

**b. Bruno – Update Given**

**c. Other – None**

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

**C. WATER COMMITTEE REPORT**

**1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**2. NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Hilger was appointed Chair of the Water Committee and Saeger was appointed as Vice-Chair.

**3. REGULATORY**

**a. GROUNDWATER MANGEMENT AREA**

**1. Variance Request in the Hydrologically Connected Area (Limited Development Area) – None**

**2. Variance Request in the Non-Hydrologically Connected Area (Normal Development Area) – None**

**3. Variance Request in the Restricted Development Areas – None**

**4. Well Permit Program – Update Given**

**a. Norman Kavan Jr. Secondary Well Application**

McKnight made the motion, seconded by Bailey, to approve the well permit of Norman Kavan Jr. for a secondary well without increasing irrigated acres for S32-T32N-R8E, Saunders County. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**b. Supplemental Well Permit – UNL**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by J. Johnson, to approve a supplemental well for the University of Nebraska in the NE NW S18-14N-9E, Saunders County to assist well G-087929. Motion carried.

**AYE:** Bailey, Birkel, Engel, Hilger, D. Johnson, J. Johnson, Kavan, Lawrence, Meduna, McKnight, Olson, Pollard, Sabatka, Yosten

**ABSTAIN:** Thompson

**c. City of Schuyler Public Water Supply Well Applications**

D. Johnson made the motion, seconded Birkel, to approve two municipal well permits for Schuyler Department of Utilities. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**d. Well Permits Approved – Update Given**

**e. Variance Soil Scoring – Update Given**

**f. Transfer of Acres – Duane Johnson**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Birkel, to approve the additional 32 acres in the NE¼-S25-T14N-R7E, Saunders County for Duane Johnson after an updated soil and land class was received from NRCS Soil Scientists. The change in land class put this tract of land over the 300-point threshold. Motion carried.

**AYE:** Bailey, Birkel, Engel, Hilger, J. Johnson, Kavan, Lawrence, Meduna, McKnight, Olson, Pollard, Sabatka, Yosten, Thompson

**ABSTAIN:** D. Johnson

**g. Hydrogeologic Assessment Database – This item was taken earlier**

**h. Cost-Share Programs**

**1. Flow Meter Maintenance Program – Update Given**

**i. Bellwood Phase 2 Area – Update Given**

**j. Richland Schuyler Phase 3 Area – Update Given**

**k. LPNNRD Operator Certification – Update Given**

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

**m. Voluntary Integrated Water Management Plan – LPNNRD**

**5. CHEMIGATION – Update Given**

**6. GROUND WATER ENERGY LEVELS – Update Given**

**7. GROUND WATER SAMPLING – Update Given**

**8. LIVESTOCK WASTE PERMITS – Update Given**

**4. GROUND WATER PROGRAMS**

**a. Decommissioned Well Program**

**1. Well Estimates – Update Given**

**2. Plugged Wells**

J. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve payment of \$1,565.72 to LaRose Preister (Tom Presiter) for decommissioning an irrigation well. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**b. Ground Water Management Plan – Update Given**

**c. LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD GROUND WATER STUDIES**

**1. Phase Area – Update Given**

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

**3. Lower Platte River Consortium – Update Given**

**d. New Monitoring Wells – Update Given**

**e. GMDA Winter Conference – Update Given**

**5. SURFACE WATER PROGRAMS**

**a. USGS Stream Flow Gauging Sites**

J. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve and authorize the General Manger to sign the joint agreement with USGS with LPNNRD budgeting \$18,190 in FY 23-24. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**6. Phoenix Database – Update Given**

**7. OTHER**

**a. Comments from the Public – None**

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

**D. PROJECTS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**1. NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Olson was appointed Chair of the Projects Committee and Yosten was appointed as Vice-Chair.

**2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE**

**3. SWCP**

**a. SWCP Tree Application Approvals**

Listed are three applications for tree planting cost-share:

Derek Simonds - 230 trees - \$431.25

Jordan Larsen - 200 trees - \$375.00

Seth McGinn - 800 trees - \$1,500.00

J. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve 3 tree planting applications totaling \$2,306.25. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**b. SWCP Policy – Update Given**

**c. SWCP Cancellations – None**

**d. Wahoo Creek Cost-Share Payment Approvals – None**

**4. WATERSHEDS**

**a. Shell Creek Watershed**

**1. Shell Creek Implementation – 319**

J. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to send up to two directors, two staff, and six volunteer monitoring students to the 2023 Soil and Water Conservation Society International conference in Des Moines, IA. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**2. Shell Creek Student Testing Supplies**

J. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve \$1,609.75 for Shell Creek testing supplies. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**b. Wahoo Creek Watershed**

**1. Wahoo Creek Dam Site Planning Update**

Yost made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to have staff negotiate a contract for General Managers signature after Legal Counsel approval with two firms: Great Plains Appraisal to complete appraisals not to exceed \$126,000 and with Olsson for coordination and negotiations not to exceed \$210,000. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**a. Olsson Design Update and Invoice – Update Given**

**b. NeDNR Agreement with JEDI Funds – Update Given**

**2. Wahoo Creek Watershed Water Quality Plan – 319 – Update Given**

**c. Skull & Bone Creek – Update Given**

**5. JOINT WATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD**

**a. East Fremont/Elkhorn Township Drainage – FEMA HMPG – Update Given**

**b. West Fremont – FEMA BRIC – Update Given**

**c. Rawhide Creek Watershed – NRCS WFPO – Update Given**

**6. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – Update Given**

**7. MORSE BLUFF LEVEE – UPDATE GIVEN**

**8. WOLFE JETTY – UPDATE GIVEN**

**9. LESHARA DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT – UPDATE GIVEN**

**10. VILLAGE OF LINDSAY POND REQUEST – This item was taken earlier**

**11. EROSION AND SEDIMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS – UPDATE GIVEN**

**12. OTHER – UPDATE GIVEN**

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



**7. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS - NONE**

**a. Expansion of Irrigated Acres – SQS #2**

Todd Mauer has submitted an application to expand irrigated acres within SQS #2 without increasing the 27-inch rolling allocation. Todd is asking for an additional 42 acres on the SW1/4 S18-19N-1E, Platte County. If Mauer increases to 177 acres, his allocation would be reduced to a 20.21-acre inch/3-year rolling allocation from well G-053124. His 3-year average was 5.14 with a 2022 use of 5.58. Mauer is also planting rye on this field. This has been allowed by other producers in the past years. Pollard made the motion, seconded by Bailey, to approve Todd Mauer's application to expand irrigated acres within SQS#2 for SW1/4 S18-19N-1E, Platte County with his new allocation being 20.21-acre inch/3-year rolling allocation from Well G-053124. Motion carried.

**AYE:** Bailey, Engel, Hilger, D. Johnson, J. Johnson, Kavan, Lawrence, Meduna, McKnight, Olson, Pollard, Sabatka, Yosten, Thompson

**NAY:** Birkel

**8. BILLS TO BE APPROVED**

Meduna made the motion, seconded by Sabatka, that all bills be approved, and warrants be drawn in payment of the same. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**9. CONSENT AGENDA ADOPTION**

J. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, 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 13, 2023, 1:30 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 4:19 pm.

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, 2023, 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.

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Robert Meduna Jr., Secretary