

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD MINUTES**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**June 12, 2023**

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 12, 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 June 12, 2023, board meeting was posted on the Lower Platte North NRD website and posted in the Wahoo Newspaper on June 1, 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	McKnight
Olson	Pollard	Saalfeld
Seier	Tonnies	Yosten
Thompson		

**DIRECTORS ABSENT**

Meduna	Sabatka	Saeger
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**STAFF AND GUESTS:**

Gottschalk	Breunig	Andersen
Lausterer	Schomer (Zoom)	Chapman
Joel Schrader	Kole Pederson	Drew ten Bensel
Amelie Tschauer		

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**a. Guest Comments**

Joel Schrader commented on AltEn and the potential for contamination of the Todd Valley Aquifer. Kole Pederson with Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation was present and introduced himself.

**b. NRCS Report**

Mark Walkenhorst report is attached to the minutes.

**c. NARD Report**

Bob Hilger gave the NARD report.

**d. NRC Report**

Mountford's report is attached to the minutes.

**e. Manager Report**

Gottschalk reviewed his written report.

**f. Education Program**

Amelie Tschauner a German exchange student at Wahoo Public gave a short presentation on her experiences while staying with the Gottschalk family.

**a. Review and Approval of Operating Policies**

Pollard made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve the attached General Operating polices as reviewed at the April and May Board Meetings. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2023, 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. Reports**

**1. Nitrate Testing: FFA Chapters and Natural Resources District – Update Given**

**3. Management Items**

**a. Director Absences – Update Given**

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

**c. 2023-2024 Health Insurance Rates – Update Given**

**d. NRD Cleaning Bid**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to approve the Office Cleaning Bid from McKenna Smith at a cost of \$110 per week beginning June 12, 2023. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**4. Equipment - None**

**5. Personnel**

**a. Staff Cost of Living and Merit Pay Increase FY 2024**

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Olson, to approve a 3% cost of living increase and a 2% merit increase based on our total salaries from FY 22-23. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**b. Returning Wanahoo Summer Staff Pay Increase**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to increase returning Wanahoo seasonal staff \$1/hour effective immediately as all returning summer staff have reported. It is further recommended the \$1/hour increase be applied to our Czechland and Homestead Lake recreation technician position. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**c. Staff Cell Phone Reimbursement**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Yosten, that all staff be reimbursed at the same level of \$45/month effective June 2023. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**6. Finance**

**a. Approval of Financial Reports**

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

**b. Approval of Managers Expenses**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Yosten, 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**

**d. Create New LPNNRD Sinking Funds**

Pollard made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve establishment of a LPNNRD New Office Building Sinking Fund and transfer the budgeted \$400,000 into the fund and create a Groundwater Projects Sinking Fund and transfer the budgeted \$100,000 into the fund. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**e. Transfer Funds to Established Sinking Funds**

McKnight made the motion, seconded by Johnson, J., to transfer unspent budgeted funds into established sinking fund accounts as listed: Flood Reduction Sinking - \$400,000; Shell Creek Land Treatment – Unspent balance up to \$100,000; and Large Structure Operation and Maintenance - \$400,000. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**f. East Fremont/Elkhorn Township Drainage – FEMA – Financial Commitment**

Pollard made the motion, seconded by Tonnie, that the LPNNRD will commit 20% not to exceed (\$2,216,125.50) and annual mowing for the Elkhorn Township Project excluding the portion that is in the City of Fremont name storm sewer contingent on receiving Federal Funding. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Yosten, 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 – Update Given**

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

**a. Wanahoo Dam Stilling Basin and Apron Floor Repair (FEMA) – Update Given**

**b. Wanahoo Relief Well Reconditioning**

Johnson, J., made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to accept the two-year proposal from Rieschick Drilling to rehabilitate the 22 remaining relief wells on the Wanahoo Dam at a cost of \$250,404. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**c. Rehabilitation of Cottonwood 21-A NRCS Contract**

Pollard made the motion, seconded by Seier, to accept HDR's Supplemental Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment for the rehabilitation of Cottonwood 21-A at a cost of \$309,682. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**c. Lower Platte Weed Management Program**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to pay Papio Missouri River NRD \$30,000 as the representative for the Lower Platte Weed Management Group in controlling noxious invasive vegetation. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**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 Rentals – Update Given**

**6. INFORMATION & EDUCATION**

**a. Information**

**1. Radio and eAds – Update Given**

**2. Analytics – Update Given**

**3. News Channel Nebraska Advertising - Update Given**

**4. County Fair Booths**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to approve booth rental of \$130 for the Butler County Fair and Bronze Sponsorship Level (\$500) for the Saunders County Fair. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**b. Education – Update Given**

**1. Past Events - Update Given**

**2. Future Events – Update Given**

**3. Aquinas Catholic Elementary Outdoor Playground**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to donate \$500 towards the water table purchase for Aquinas Catholic Elementary for water-based activities and lessons. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS**

**a. Colon – Update Given**

**b. Bruno – Update Given**

**c. Other – None**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Yosten, that the June LPNDRD 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. Complaint Discussion – Update Given**

**2. Variance Request in Hydrologically Connected Area (Limited Development Area) – Update Given**

**3. Variance With Allocation**

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to approve Crucible Farms variance with allocation for G-169245 in the SE¼-S11-T16N-R2E Butler County which would give Crucible Farms 14.48 acre/inches over a 3-year period ending October 2026. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

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

**a. Well Permits Approved – None**

**5. Cost Share Programs**

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

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

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

**b. CHEMIGATION – Update Given**

**c. GROUND WATER ENERY LEVELS – Update Given**

**d. GROUND WATER QUALITY SAMPLIG – Update Given**

**3. GROUND WATER PROGRAMS**

**a. Decommissioned Well Program**

**1. Well Estimates – Update Given**

**2. Plugged Wells – None**

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

**1. Phase Area – Update Given**

**2. TAPS PROGRAM**

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by McKnight, to contribute \$500 to the TAPS program for support of participant Daniel Hilger. Motion carried.

**AYE:** Bailey, Engel, Hilger, Johnson D., Johnson J., Kavan, Lawrence, McKnight, Olson, Pollard, Saalfeld, Seier, Tonnies, Thompson

**NAY:** Birkel, Yosten

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

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

**d. Source Water Protection – Update Given**

**4. SURFACE WATER PROGRAMS**

**a. State Lakes – Update Given**

**5. GMDA Conference**

**6. OTHER**

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

Hilger the motion, seconded by Yosten, that the June LPNNRD Water Committee Minutes be received and placed on file. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**D. PROJECTS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE**

**2. 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**

**3. SWCP**

**a. SWCP Application Approvals - None**

**b. SWCP Payments**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to approve five tree planting cost share payments as listed below:

Derek Simonds - \$432.40

Bill Zumbrennen - \$436.16

Seth McGinn - \$1,504.00

Angie Fuhlrodt - \$485.04

Jordan Larsen - \$376.00

Motion carried on consent agenda.

**c. SWCP Cancellations – None**

**e. Wahoo Creek Cost-Share Approvals – None**

**4. WATERSHEDS**

**a. Shell Creek Watershed**

**1. Shell Creek Implementation – 319 and NET – Update Given**

**b. Wahoo Creek Watershed**

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

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

**b. Real Estate – Olsson and Great Plains Appraisal – Update Given**

**c. Funding- NRCS WFPO and NeDNR JEDI – Update Given**

**2. Water Quality – NWQI & 319 Update Given**

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

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

**6. MORSE BLUFF LEVEE – Update Given**

**7. WOLFE JETTY – Update Given**

**8. LESHARA DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT – Update Given**

**9. LOWER PLATTE RIVER COORIDOR ALLIANCE – Update Given**

**10. EROSION AND SEDIMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS – None**

**11. OTHER - None**

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

**7. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS**

**7a. Purchase of New Laptop – No action needed**

**7b. Decommissioned Well Cost-Share Payment**

Saalfeld made the motion, seconded by Pollard, to approve the decommissioned will payment to Jonathan Howell for \$1,203. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**7c. Lands for Conservation Applications**

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Johnson, J., to approve two Land for Conservation cost-share applications for Austin Vermeline - \$9,400 and Carol and Dorothy Peterson Trust - \$9,400. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**7d. Personnel – Part-time Water Specialist Position**

Olson made the motion, seconded by McKnight, to increase the part-time Water Specialists hours from 20 to 30 hours per week through September 15<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**8. BILLS TO BE APPROVED**

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Yosten, 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**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Yosten, 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 10, 2023, 6:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 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 12, 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