

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD MINUTES
BOARD MEETING
July 10, 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, July 10, 2023.

1. NOTICE OF MEETING

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

The advanced notice of our July 10, 2023, board meeting was posted on the Lower Platte North NRD website and posted in the Wahoo Newspaper on June 29, 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	Olson
Pollard	Saalfeld	Sabatka
Saeger	Seier	Thompson

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Meduna	McKnight (Zoom) – GMDA Mtg.	Tonnies
Yosten		

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Gottschalk	Breunig	Andersen (Zoom)
Lausterer	Lindahl	Schomer (Zoom)
Chapman	Elliott	Benal
Abbott (Zoom)	Sabatka (Zoom)	Bob Heimann (Zoom)
Travis Hazard		

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. COMMENTS - ADVISORS/GUESTS/DIRECTORS

a. Guest Comments

b. NRCS Report – Attached

c. NARD Report

Bob Hilger gave the NARD report.

d. NRC Report - None

e. Manager Report

Gottschalk reviewed his written report.

f. Education Program

Elliott updated the board on the Wahoo Creek progress and gave an update on the funding sources.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, to approve the minutes from the June 12, 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

1. Personnel Sub-Committee Meeting

The Personnel Sub-Committee met at 5:00 p.m. prior to the Board Meeting. Lawrence made the motion, seconded by Olson, to increase the salary ceiling this fiscal year for those frozen, allowing for a 3% increase and create a stipend of \$4,000 for a post graduate degree. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

b. Reports - None

3. Management Items

a. Director Absences

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, to approve Director Sabatka's excuse of absence from the June board meeting. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Monthly Education Program – Update Given

c. New Office Building Update

Johnson J. made the motion, seconded by Pollard, to proceed to the next phase of preparing the construction and bidding documents for the LPNNRD building. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

d. NRC Reimbursement Payment for Wanahoo Hay and Dirt Sales

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, to make our required dirt/hay sales payment to NRC in the amount of \$27,790.02. Motion carried on consent agenda.

e. Frank Pollard Resignation – Sub-District 2

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to accept Frank Pollard's resignation and declare a vacancy in Sub-District 2. Motion carried.

AYE: Bailey, Engel, Hilger, Johnson D., Johnson J., Kavan, Lawrence, Olson, Pollard, Saalfeld, Sabatka, Saeger, Seier, Thompson

NAY: Birkel

4. Equipment - None

a. Backhoe Purchase – Update given

5. Personnel

a. Information Coordinator Position Responsibilities

Pollard made the motion, seconded by Seier, to approve a \$2,000 annual salary increase to LPNNRD's Information Coordinator position for the added responsibility of coordinating our drone program. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

b. Operation and Maintenance Technician Position – Update Given

c. Water Specialist Position

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, to accept Tyler Benal's resignation and promote Noah Franzen to Water Specialist at an annual salary of \$50,000 per year. Motion carried on consent agenda.

d. Wahoo Creek Coordinator – Update Given

6. Finance

a. Approval of Financial Reports

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, to approve the May Financial Reports as presented. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Approval of Managers Expenses

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, 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. HBE Engagement Letter

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Birkel, to authorize Manager Gottschalk to sign the Engagement Letter and supporting Appendices with HBE as attached to the Executive Committee Minutes. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

e. Budget Workshop – Update Given

f. Budget Hearing and Levy Hearing – Update Given

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, that the July 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. Rehabilitation of Cottonwood 21-A – NRCS

Johnson J. made the motion, seconded by Birkel, to authorize Manager Gottschalk to sign the HDR contract for Rehabilitation of Cottonwood 21-A after review by Legal Counsel Lausterer. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

b. Czechland RV Camping Electrical Upgrades

Sabatka, made the motion, seconded by Seier, to approve G & R Electric to add 50-amp service to four RV pedestals at Czechland Lake at a price of \$1,150. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. ROCK AND JETTY – None

5. LAKE WANAHOO

a. Buoy System Repair – Update Given

b. Campground Marina – Update Given

c. Housing Donation – Update Given

d. Lake Wanahoo Permit Sales - Update Given

e. Lake Wanahoo Camping Revenue – Update Given

f. Clint Johannes Education Building Rentals – Update Given

6. INFORMATION & EDUCATION

a. Information

1. Radio and eAds – Update Given

2. Analytics – Update Given

3. Dodge County Fair Sponsorship

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, to make a \$250 sponsorship donation to the Dodge County Fair in Scribner. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. Viaduct – Update Given

b. Education – Update Given

1. Past Events - Update Given

2. Future Events – Update Given

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

a. Colon – Update Given

b. Bruno – Update Given

c. Other – None

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, that the July LPNRRD 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. Acre Allocation Discussion – Update Given

2. Well Permit Program – Update Given

a. Well Permits Approved – Update Given

3. Irrigation Runoff Complaint – Update Given

4. Cost-Share Programs

a. Irrigation Well Sample Kits- Update Given

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

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Johnson J., to authorize Gottschalk to sign the agreement with Phoenix Webgroup as attached to update the online and production sites at a cost of \$17,270 with a 50% deposit or \$8,625 at the beginning of the project. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

2. Demonstration Projects

Johnson J. made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to remove item 6.C.3.b.2. from consent agenda and vote on it separately. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Lawrence made the motion, seconded by Johnson J., to support the UNL nitrate proposal up to \$1,500 for one year with the option of renewing annually. Motion carried.

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

ABSTAIN: Birkel

3. Lower Platte River Consortium – Update Given

c. Monitoring Wells Equipment

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Engel, to purchase In-Situ remote readers on monitoring wells for LPNNRD dataloggers with updated cost of \$91,901.45 which includes 64 Vulink remotes, 6 HydroMace for weather stations and 15 dataloggers that our outdated. Motion carried.

AYE: Bailey, Birkel, Engel, Hilger, Johnson D., Johnson J., Kavan, Lawrence, Olson, Pollard, Saeger, Seier

NAY: Saalfeld, Sabatka, Thompson

Pollard made the motion, seconded by Olson, to pay In-Situ \$3,253 to replace three unrepairable data loggers. Motion carried all member present voting aye.

a. Source Water Protection – Update Given

4. SURFACE WATER PROGRAMS

a. State Lakes – Update Given

b. Groundwater Budget – Update Given

5. OTHER

a. Comments from the Public – None

Sabatka the motion, seconded by Seier, that the July 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

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, to authorize Manager Gottschalk to sign a formal request to the NRC to approve “slip-lining” as an accepted practice within the NeSWCP. Motion carried on consent agenda.

a. SWCP Application Approvals - None

b. SWCP Payments - None

c. SWCP Cancellations – None

c. Wahoo Creek Cost-Share Approvals – None

3. 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

d. North Bend Drainage District – Update Given

4. SHELL CREEK WATERSHEDS

a. Shell Creek Implementation – 319 and NET

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, to purchase shirts for SCWIG conference participants and active volunteer monitoring students. Motion carried on consent agenda.

5. WAHOO CREEK WATERSHED

a. Dam Site Planning Update – Update Given

1. Olsson Design Update and Invoice – Update Given

2. Real Estate – Olsson and Great Plains Appraisal – Update Given

3. Funding- NRCS WFPO and NeDNR JEDI – Update Given

4. Sites 26/77 Road Impacts – Update Given

5. Water Quality – NWQI & 319

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, to proceed with a 319-grant application for Wahoo Creek Watershed to include a coordinator position with staff to draft a job description. Motion carried on consent agenda.

6. LOWER PLATTE RIVER COORIDOR ALLIANCE – Update Given

7. MORSE BLUFF LEVEE – Update Given

8. LESHARA DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT – Update Given

9. EROSION AND SEDIMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS – None

10. OTHER – Update Given

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

7. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

7a. Computer Consultant Contract

Pollard made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to extend Chris Poole’s IT Contract until December 2023. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

8. BILLS TO BE APPROVED

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, 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

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, to approve the amended July Consent Agenda by removing item 6.C.3.b.2. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

10. COMMENTS FROM DIRECTORS/GUESTS

11. MEETING ESTABLISHMENT AND ADJOURNMENT

The August Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Monday, August 14, 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 July 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.

Robert Meduna Jr., Secretary