

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD MINUTES
BOARD MEETING
September 11, 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, September 11, 2023.

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 September 11, 2023, board meeting was posted on the Lower Platte North NRD website and posted in the Wahoo Newspaper on September 7, 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, Jerry	Kavan
Lawrence	McKnight (Zoom)	Saalfeld
Sabatka	Saeger	Seier
Tonnies	Yosten	Thompson

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Johnson, Duane	Meduna	Olson
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STAFF AND GUESTS:

Gottschalk	Breunig	Andersen
Lausterer	Chapman	Schomer (Zoom)
Abbott (Zoom)	Sabatka (Zoom)	Heimann (Zoom)

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. COMMENTS - ADVISORS/GUESTS/DIRECTORS

a. Guest Comments

b. NRCS Report – None

c. NARD Report

Bob Hilger gave the NARD report.

d. NRC Report - None

e. Manager Report

Gottschalk reviewed his written report.

f. Education Program

Gottschalk reviewed the financial portion of the operating policies.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve the minutes from the August 14, 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

1. NARD Fall Conference – Update Given

b. Reports - None

3. Management Items

a. Director Absences

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve Director McKnight’s excuse of absence from the July board meeting. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Monthly Education Program – Update Given

c. Temporary Construction Easement – City of Wahoo

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to authorize Chairman to sign the temporary construction easement, purchase agreement and permanent easement with the City of Wahoo for the Sand Creek Utility Project. Motion carried on consent agenda.

d. NARD Dues Payment

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to pay NARD \$32,575.87 for our FY 2023-24 membership dues. Motion carried on consent agenda.

e. Sub-District 2 Vacancy

Saeger made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to appoint John Goldsberry to fill the vacancy in Sub-District 2. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

f. FNIC – 10/1/23 Renewal

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Sabatka, to approve the proposal in the amount of \$116,293 from FNIC for insurance coverage from 10/1/23 to 10/1/24. It was further recommended to add downstream liability coverage on the Wanhoo Dam at an additional premium of \$1,214. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

g. New Office Building

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve the proposal from Thiele Geotech Inc. for Geotechnical Exploration for the proposed new office building for a lump sum of \$6,200 and authorize Manager Gottschalk to sign the proposal. Motion carried on consent agenda.

h. November Board Meeting – Update Given

i. Long Range Plan – Update Given

4. Equipment - None

5. Personnel

a. Water Department Staffing

Saalfeld made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to return Will Brueggemann to full-time status as Water Specialist in our Water Department. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

6. Finance

a. Approval of Financial Reports – Update Given

b. Approval of Managers Expenses

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, 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. Budget and Set Property Tax Rate

Saeger made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, to approve the State Budget that includes total expenditures of \$8,761,805 with a tax levy rate of .028652 for a tax asking of \$3,480,715. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, that the September LPNNRD Executive Committee Minutes be received and placed on file. Motion carried on consent agenda.

B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

1. UNFINISHED BUSIINESS – None

2. WILD NE AND OTHER PROGRAMS – Update Given

3. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS

a. Rehabilitation of Cottonwood 21-A – NRCS – Update Given

b. Grass Drill Rental 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 Rentals – Update Given

6. INFORMATION & EDUCATION

a. Information

1. Radio and Digital Ads – Update Given

2. Analytics – Update Given

3. Long Range Plan

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve the FY 2024 Long Range Plan as attached to the Operations Committee minutes. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

4. KZ100 Advertising – Update Given

5. Nebraska Public Media

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to run two 30-second spots on Wednesday night during science programming for a total of 14 weeks, totaling \$1,680. Motion carried on consent agenda.

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

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, that the September 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 Requests in the Hydrologically Connected Area (Limited Development Area) – Update Given

2. Variance Requests in the Non-Hydrologically Connected Area (Normal Development Area)

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Johnson, J., to approve the 4 applications for 365 acres and 68.267-acre feet of new depletion in the Non-Hydrological areas of the District as attached to the Water Committee Minutes. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

3. Well Permit Program

a. Well Permits Approved- Update Given

4. Irrigation Runoff Complaint – Update Given

5. Supplemental Well Permit

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve the supplemental well permit for Daivd and Jerry Proskovec for the NW¼ S2-T16N-R3E Butler County. Motion carried.

AYE: Bailey, Birkel, Engel, Hilger, Johnson, J., Kavan, Lawrence, Saalfeld, Sabatka, Seier, Tonnies, Yosten, Thompson

NAY: Saeger

6. Flow Meter Discussion – Update Given

7. Special Quantity Subareas – Update Given

8. Cost-Share Programs

a. Irrigation Well Sample Kits- Update Given

9. Bellwood Phase 2 Area – Update Given

10. Richland – Schuyler Phase 3 Area – Update Given

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

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to pay our FY23-24 Lower Platte River Basin Coalition dues in the amount of \$10,000. Motion carried on consent agenda.

12. Voluntary Integrated Water Management Plan – Update Given

b. CHEMIGATION – Update Given

3. GROUND WATER PROGRAMS

a. Decommissioned Well Program

1. Well Estimates – Update Given

2. Plugged Wells

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve the cost-share payment for the following well decommissioning: Jack Barta - \$1,067.80. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD GROUND WATER STUDIES

1. Phase Area

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve the following flow meter cost-share payments: Oehlrich Farms - \$2,000 and Gene Novak - \$1,000. Motion carried on consent agenda.

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to increase the dollar amounts from \$800 to \$1000 for cost-share on all flow meters in the Schuyler/Richland Management Area, as there is not much difference in price. Motion carried on consent agenda.

2. Regenerative Ag Conference - Update Given

3. Lower Platte River Consortium – Update Given

c. Long Range Plan – Update Given

4 SURFACE WATER PROGRAMS

a. USGS Stream Flow Gauging Sites

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Engel, to approve the current invoice from USGS in the amount of \$18,190 for two stream gages and 1 groundwater monitoring site. It was further recommended to authorize Chairman to sign the attached agreement with USGS dated October 2023 to September 2024 in the amount of \$19,010 for two stream gages and 1 groundwater monitoring site. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

5. OTHER

a. Comments from the Public – None

Tonnies the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, that the September 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 – Update Given

a. SWCP Application Approvals

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

4. SHELL CREEK WATERSHEDS

a. Shell Creek Implementation – 319 and NET

1. NET – Alternate Water Source Payment

Tonnies made the motion seconded by Saalfeld, to approve the following payments for completed alternate water source projects within the Shell Creek:

Fred Siefken - \$16,852.94

Arden Saalfeld - \$11,593.25

Motion carried on consent agenda.

2. On-Site Wastewater System Upgrade

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve payment to Kyle Reed in the amount of \$7,377.71 and approve a \$7,500 cost-share application to Jeff Klug for wastewater system upgrades within the Shell Creek. 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. County Road Impacts – Update Given

b. Water Quality – NWQI & 319 – Update Given

6. LOWER PLATTE RIVER COORIDOR ALLIANCE – Update Given

7. SCRAP TIRE COLLECTION

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to assist Keep Fremont Beautiful with their tire collection event by providing staff help and 33% of overages up to \$2,500. Motion carried.

AYE: Bailey, Engel, Hilger, Johnson, J., Kavan, Lawrence, Saalfeld, Sabatka, Saeger, Seier, Tonnies, Yosten, Thompson

NAY: Birkel

8. Long Range Plan – Update Given

13. OTHER – Update Given

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, that the September LPNNRD Projects Committee Minutes be received and placed on file. Motion carried on consent agenda.

7. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

7a. Big Game Conservation Association Agreement

Seier made the motion, seconded by Johnson, J., to authorize Chair Thompson to sign the Agreement between the Lower Platte North NRD and Big Game Conservation Association for providing maintenance and co-sponsorship of the archery range being developed by Troop 405. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

8. BILLS TO BE APPROVED

Yosten 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

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve the September Consent Agenda. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

10. COMMENTS FROM DIRECTORS/GUESTS

11. MEETING ESTABLISHMENT AND ADJOURNMENT

The October Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Monday, October 9, 2023, 6:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 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 September 11, 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