

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD MINUTES
BOARD MEETING
February 12, 2024**

The regular monthly meeting of the Lower Platte North NRD Board of Directors was called to order at 1:30 p.m. at the Lower Platte North NRD Office, Wahoo NE on Monday, February 12, 2024.

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 12, 2024, board meeting was posted on the Lower Platte North NRD website and posted in the Wahoo Newspaper on February 2, 2024.

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
Goldsberry	Hilger	Johnson, Duane
Johnson, Jerry	Kavan	Lawrence
Meduna (arrived 1:42)	McKnight (Zoom)	Olson
Saalfeld	Sabatka (left 2:30)	Saeger
Seier	Tonnies	Yosten
Thompson		

DIRECTORS ABSENT

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Gottschalk (Zoom)	Breunig	Chapman (Zoom)
Heimann	Lausterer	Elliott
Andersen	Fehlhafer	Moore
Shupe	Storm, Jarad	Bartek, Bob
Kavan, Don	Blank, Aaron	Perrion, Matthew
Werner, Jake	Lebsock, Jehnsen	Allen, Danielle (Zoom)

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. COMMENTS - ADVISORS/GUESTS/DIRECTORS

a. Guest Comments

b. NRCS Report

Bryan Shupe reviewed his monthly report.

c. NARD Report

Bob Hilger gave the NARD report.

d. NRC Report - None

e. Manager Report

Manager Gottschalk gave his report.

f. Education Program

Aaron Blank, Matthew Perrion, Jake Werner and Jehnsen Lebsack with the Nebraska Game and Parks Fisheries Division updated the Board about fisheries management plans for Lake Wanahoo.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Johnson, J., made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2024, 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 Washington DC Annual Meeting – Update Given

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to send two Directors and two Staff to the NARD Annual Washington DC meeting March 16-20, 2024. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Reports

1. NARD Legislative Conference – Update Given

3. Management Items

a. Director Absences - None

b. Monthly Education Program – Update Given

c. New Office Building – Update Given

d. FEMA Closeout and Payment – Update Given

e. Director Computer Stipend – Update Given 2024 Election Certification - Update Given

f. JEDI Funding – Update Given

g. Dodge County Tax Correction – Update Given

h. 2024 Election Certification - Update Given

i. 414(h) Retirement Plan – Update Given

4. Equipment - None

5. Personnel

a. Leave Payout

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to pay Noah Franzen \$1,298.08 and Bret Schomer \$18,802.17 of unused leave time less deductions of retirement, taxes and any supplemental insurance. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Water Resources Specialist – Update Given

c. Operation and Maintenance Technician – Update Given

6. Finance

a. Approval of Financial Reports

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to approve the December Financial Statements as attached. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Approval of Managers Expenses

Johnson, J. 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

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Yosten, that the February LPNDRD 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 – Update Given

b. Wanahoo Relief Well Cleaning – Update Given

c. Intersection Highway 77 and 109 Round-About

d. NRD No-Till Grass Drills

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to have staff write a grant application to NET (Nebraska Environmental Trust) for a No-Till Grass Drill. Motion carried on consent agenda.

e. FEMA/NEMA Flood Damage Projects – Update Given

f. Sell the JD4450 – 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. Butler County Ag Expo

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to approve the booth rental of \$150 for the 2024 Butler County Ag Expo. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. Winter Viaduct – Update Given

5. 10/11 Local Business Spotlight – Update Given

b. Education – Update Given

1. Past Events - Update Given

2. Future Events – Update Given

3. Nebraska Alliance for Conservation and Environmental Education – Update Given

4. New Education and Outreach Animal – Update Given

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

a. Colon – Update Given

b. Bruno – Update Given

c. Other - None

Meduna, made the motion, seconded by Sabatka, that the January LPNRRD Operations Committee Minutes be received and placed on file. Motion carried on consent agenda.

C. WATER COMMITTEE REPORT

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. FIELD DEMONSTRATION – UPDATE GIVEN

3. REGULATORY

a. GROUNDWATER MANGEMENT AREA

1. Well Permit Program – Update Given

a. Well Permit Application

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve the new well permit for Merle Blum for the SW-SE-S2-T16N-R8E, Saunders County unless JEO evaluation is different. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

2. Special Quantity Subareas

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to allow a site within the SQS#2 to go to the 30-inch allocation, which allows for 1.19-acre inches for 2024. This site will require utilizing soil moisture sensors as a condition for accepting the new 30-inch allocation.

Meduna moved to amend the motion, seconded by Lawrence, that the NRD go to the site, pull the meter and have it calibrated.

The motion and amendment were withdrawn and sent back to the Water Committee for further discussion.

3. Phase Area Update for Schuyler-Richland Management Area

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to approve a cost-share payment to Nathan Oehlrich \$1,000 for 1 flow meter. Motion carried on consent agenda.

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Birkel, to establish a Phase 4 Water Quality Management Area with boundary and rules as presented. Motion carried.

AYE: Bailey, Birkel, Engle, Goldsberry, Hilger, Johnson, D., Johnson, J., Kavan, Lawrence, Meduna, Olson, Saalfeld, Saeger, Seier, Tonnie

NAY: Yosten

ABSENT: Thompson

4. Cost-Share Programs – Update Given

1. Conservation Practices Discussion – Update Given

2. Flow Meter Maintenance Program

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to approve the flow meter maintenance agreement expiring March 1, 2028 with TRI CITY METER and authorize Board Chair to sign said agreement. Motion carried on consent agenda.

5. LPNNRD Operator Certification – Update Given

6. Groundwater Management Plan – 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. Geological Interpretation Information – Update Given

2. Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assessment (ENWRA)

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to pay our Annual Dues to ENWRA in the amount of \$30,000. Motion carried on consent agenda.

c. Conference Reports – Update Given

4. SURFACE WATER PROGRAMS – Update Given

5. OTHER

a. Comments from the Public – None

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Yosten, 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 Payments

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to approve a \$10,996.77 SWCP Payment to Mark Kaspar for completed conservation work. Motion carried on consent agenda.

3. JOINT WATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD

a. Rawhide Creek Watershed – NRCS WFPO

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to proceed with elevation surveys of residential properties west of Rawhide Cutoff Ditch with an additional cost of up to \$5,000. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. SHELL CREEK WATERSHEDS

a. Shell Creek Implementation – 319 and NET – Update Given

b. Shell Creek Onsite Wastewater Upgrade Applications

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to approve Shell Creek 319 onsite wastewater upgrade improvement applications to Kenneth Nelson, Dean Sander and Rick Loseke for 60% cost-share up to \$7,500. Motion carried on consent agenda.

5. SKULL AND BONE CREEK WATERSHED – Update Given

6. 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

Meduna made the motion, seconded by Johnson, J., to go into Executive Session at 4:10 p.m. for the purpose of discussing Upper Wahoo Creek Watershed land rights and authorize the following to stay: Danielle Allen with Olsson (Zoom), Legal Counsel Lausterer, Chapman (Zoom), Gottschalk (Zoom), Elliott and Breunig. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Bailey, to come out of Executive Session at 4:39 p.m. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Lawrence made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to authorize Danielle Allen with Olsson and NRD Staff to present counter offers to landowners impacted in the Upper Wahoo Creek Watershed sites 26a, 26b and 27. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

3. Funding NRCS WFPO & NeDNR JEDI – Update Given

b. Water Quality – NWQI & 319 – Update Given

7. LOWER PLATTE RIVER COORIDOR ALLIANCE – Update Given

8. MORSE BLUFF LEVEE – Update Given

9. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE GIVEN

10. OTHER

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

7. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS – NONE

8. BILLS TO BE APPROVED

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Olson, 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

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Yosten, 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 11, 2024, 1:30 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 4:48 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 12, 2024, 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

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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