

LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD MINUTES
BOARD MEETING
July 8, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Lower Platte North NRD Board of Directors was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Lower Platte North NRD Office, Wahoo NE on Monday, July 8, 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 July 8, 2024, board meeting was posted on the Lower Platte North NRD website and posted in the Wahoo Newspaper on June 28, 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 (arrived 6:05)
Goldsberry	Hilger	Johnson, Duane
Johnson, Jerry	Lawrence (arrived 6:04)	Meduna (arrived 6:03)
McKnight	Olson (arrive 6:04)	Saalfeld (left 8:00)
Saeger	Seier	Tonnies
Yosten	Thompson	

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Sabatka

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Gottschalk	Breunig	Chapman
Lausterer	Heimann (Zoom)	Sabatka (Zoom)
Austin Aufenkamp, Scheele-Kayton Construction		

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. COMMENTS - ADVISORS/GUESTS/DIRECTORS

a. Guest Comments

b. NRCS Report

Payton Harsin reviewed the NRCS monthly report.

c. NARD Report

Hilger gave the NARD report.

d. NRC Report - None

e. Manager Report

Manager Gottschalk gave his report.

f. Education Program

Austin Aufenkamp from Scheele-Kayton updated the Board on the progress and answered questions about the NRD Office construction.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Olson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve the minutes from the June 10, 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 - None

b. Reports – None

3. Management Items

a. Director Absences – No Action

b. Monthly Education Program – Update Given

c. New Office Update – Update Given

d. July 30th Meeting with the Governor – Update Given

e. NARD Resolution on the 414(h) Change

Olson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the NARD 414(h) Contribution Resolution by increasing the employee contribution to 6.5% and the employer contribution to 7% effective January 1, 2025, as attached. Motion carried on consent agenda.

f. Approval of Policies

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve the Financial Policies as presented and attached to the Executive Committee Minutes. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

g. 2024 Legislative Changes Affecting NRD's – Update Given

h. Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Prep – Update Given

4. Equipment – None

5. Personnel

a. SWP/NWQI Position – Update Given

b. GIS/Grants Specialist

Birkel made the motion, seconded by McKnight, to ratify the hiring of Brandon Beethe for the GIS/Grant Specialist position, with a starting date of August 12th. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

c. Assistant Water Manager Position

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saeger, to create an Assistant Water Manager position with a salary range of \$70,000 - \$75,000. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

6. Finance

a. Approval of Financial Reports

Olson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve the May Financial Statements as attached to the Executive Committee Minutes. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Approval of Managers Expenses

Olson 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

d. Dodge County Tax Roll Correction – Update Given

e. Sinking Funds and Transfers

Olson made the motion, seconded by Johnson, J. to approve establishment of a Joint Water Management East Fremont Sinking Fund and transfer the budgeted \$440,000 into the fund. It was further recommended to transfer unspent budgeted funds into established sinking fund accounts as listed: District Wide Flood Reduction Sinking – \$400,000; Shell Creek Land Treatment – Unspent balance up to \$100,000; and NRD New Office - \$500,000. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

f. Budget Workshop

The Budget Workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6th at 5:00 p.m.

g. Budget Hearing and Levy Hearing

The Budget Hearing will be held Monday, August 12th at 5:00 p.m. and Levey Hearing Monday, September 9th at 5:00 p.m.

Olson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, that the July 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. Intersection Highway 77 and 109 Round-About – Update Given

c. FEMA/NEMA Flood Damage Inspection - Update Given

d. Clear Creek Levee & Tie Back Levee Elevations – Update Given

e. Rawhide Ditch 8 Request – Update Given

f. Lower Platte Weed Management – 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. County Fairs – Update Given

4. Summer Viaduct – Update Given

b. Education – Update Given

1. Past Events - Update Given

2. FY 2023 Impact Numbers and Year End Review – Update Given

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

a. Rural Water District Operations – Update Given

b. Colon – Update Given

c. Bruno – Update Given

d. Other - None

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

C. WATER COMMITTEE REPORT

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE

2. REGULATORY

a. GROUNDWATER MANGEMENT AREA

1. Variance Request in Restricted Development Areas – Update Given

2. Well Permit Program - Update Given

a. Well Permits Approved – Update Given

3. Hazard Mitigation Drought Plan

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve and authorize Chair Thompson to sign the amendment to the Hazard Mitigation Plan by adding the Drought Management Plan for \$95,000, with NRD share at \$23,750. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

4. Nitrate Assessment – Update Given

5. Groundwater Management Plan – Update Given

6. Cost-Share Programs

a. Drinking Water RO Units

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, to budget \$20,000 for cost-sharing on Reverse Osmosis (RO) Systems and have staff investigate a grant. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

7. Bellwood Phase 2 Area – Update Given

8. Richland – Schuyler Phase 3 Areas – Update Given

9. Groundwater Modeling Project – Update Given

b. Chemigation – Update Given

c. Ground Water Sampling – 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 – Update Given

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

3. Lower Platte River Consortium – Update Given

4. SURFACE WATER PROGRAMS – Update Given

a. State Lakes – Update Given

5. OTHER

a. Comments from the Public – None

Olson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, 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

a. Application Approvals - None

b. SWCP Payments

Olson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve a \$3,594.56 payment to Tom Schrak for completed wildlife planting. Motion carried on consent agenda.

c. SWCP Cancellations – Update Given

d. Wahoo Creek 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 NRCSA WFPO – Update Given

d. North Bend Drainage District - Update Given

e. Cotterell Diking and Drainage District - Update

4. SHELL CREEK WATERSHEDS

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

1. Onsite Wastewater Upgrade Application

Olson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve onsite wastewater upgrade application to Rod Flodman for \$6,300. Motion carried on consent agenda.

5. WAHOO CREEK WATERSHED

a. Dam Site Planning Update – Update Given

1. Olsson Design - Update Given

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

3. Funding NRCS WFPO & NeDNR JEDI – Update Given

b. Water Quality – NWQI & 319 – Update Given

6. LOWER PLATTE RIVER CORRIDOR ALLAINCE – Update Given

7. MORSE BLUFF LEVEE – Update Given

8. WOLFE JETTY – Update Given

9. LESHARA DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT – Update Given

10. EROSION AND SEDIMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS – Update Given

11. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN Update Given

12. TRAILS

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Engel, to partner with the Nebraska Trails Foundation to submit Federal ATIP planning/feasibility grant for Rail-with-Trail project between David City and Columbus with the NRD being the fiscal agent, reflecting our previous letter of support approved at the January 2023 Board Meeting. Motion carried.

AYE: Bailey, Engel, Johnson, J., McKnight, Olson, Saeger, Seier, Tonnies, Yosten, Thompson

NAY: Birkel, Goldsberry, Hilger, Johnson, D., Lawrence, Meduna

Olson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, that the July LPNRRD Projects Committee Minutes be received and placed on file. Motion carried on consent agenda.

7. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS - NONE

8. BILLS TO BE APPROVED

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Goldsberry, 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

Olson made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve the July Consent Agenda. 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 12, 2024, 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 July 8, 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 scheduled commencement of the meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting

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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