

LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD MINUTES
BOARD MEETING
October 14, 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, October 14, 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 October 14, 2024, board meeting was posted on the Lower Platte North NRD website and posted in the Wahoo Newspaper on October 4, 2024.

Chair Thompson informed those present that a copy of the “Open Meetings Act” is posted for public viewing. Chair Thompson declared this meeting as a “virtual meeting” so any director on Zoom will be able to vote.

Pledge of Allegiance

2. ROLL CALL - INTRODUCTIONS

DIRECTORS PRESENT AND CONSTITUTING A QUORUM:

Bailey	Birkel (Zoom 6:35)	Engel (Zoom)
Goldsberry	Hilger	Johnson, Jerry
Lawrence (Zoom)	Meduna (arrived 6:15)	McKnight
Olson	Saalfeld	Sabatka
Seier	Tonnies(Zoom)	Yosten
Thompson		

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Johnson, Duane	Saeger
----------------	--------

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Gottschalk	Breunig	Chapman
Andersen	Elliott	Beethe
Heimann	Lausterer	Bryan Shupe
Danielle Allen (Zoom)	Bargen (Zoom)	Sabatka (Zoom)
Scott Bush	Kyle Overturf	

2a. Director Resignation

Saalfeld made the made motion, seconded by Yosten, to accept Director Thompson’s resignation from Sub-District 1. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

At this time Vice-Chair Sabatka took over the meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. COMMENTS - ADVISORS/GUESTS/DIRECTORS

a. Guest Comments

b. NRCS Report

Bryan Shupe reviewed the NRCS monthly report.

c. NARD Report

Hilger gave the NARD report.

d. NRC Report

Mountford's October 2nd NRC report is attached.

e. Manager Report

Manager Gottschalk gave his report.

f. Education Program

Kyle Overturf was present and gave the June 30th Annual Audit Report.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve the minutes from the September 9, 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. NACD Annual Meeting

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to send up to two directors and two staff to the NACD annual meeting in Salt Lake City, February 8-12, 2025. Motion carried on consent agenda.

2. GMDA Annual Meeting

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to send up to two directors and two staff to the GMDA Annual Meeting in Temecula, CA February 25-27, 2025. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Reports – None

3. Management Items

a. Director Absences - None

b. Monthly Education Program – Taken Earlier

c. New Office Update – Update Given

1. Construction Update – Update Given

2. Generator and Storage Building

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to continue with procurement of the Generator for the NRD Office building with same specs and existing subcontractor through the original office building RFP. Motion carried on consent agenda.

3. New Office Furnishings

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Seier, to purchase furniture including desks, tables, chairs, bookshelves, etc. for the new office building from Cornhusker State Industries not to exceed \$100,000 with funds coming from the NPAIT Wanhoo Recreation Account. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

d. Sub-District #8 Vacancy

Johnson, Jerry made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to appoint Mr. Roger Harders to fill the vacancy in Sub-District #8. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

e. December and January Committee Meeting Dates – Update Given

f. Cliff Prochaska - Update Given

g. Wahoo Creek Construction – Update Given

h. IT and Cyber-Security Services

Seier made the motion, seconded by McKnight, to proceed with HELM for hardware setup with a one-time charge of \$21,698 and sign a service contract for \$3,422 per month. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

4. Equipment – None

5. Personnel

a. Assistant Water Manager Position – Update Given

b. SWP/NWQI Position

Bailey made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to create a full-time project coordinator position to fulfill Source Water Projection (SWP) and National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) duties and sign the agreement with NRCS to support this position. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

c. Wahoo Creek Project Manager

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to advertise a RFQ to assist with construction of our Wahoo Creek Watershed construction projects. Motion carried on consent agenda.

6. Finance

a. Approval of Financial Reports

Attached to the Executive Minutes is the Draft August Financial Report.

b. Approval of Managers' Expenses

Olson 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. Annual Audit

Olson made the motion, seconded by Goldsberry, to accept the Annual Audit dated June 30, 2024, as presented and prepared by AMGL, PC. Motion carried.

AYE: Bailey, Engel, Goldsberry, Hilger, Johnson, J., Lawrence, Meduna, Olson, Saalfeld, Sabatka, Seier, Tonnies, Yosten

ABSTAIN: Birkel and McKnight

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, that the October 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 & HDR – Update Given

b. Wanahoo Basin Investigation for Damage – Update Given

c. Rawhide Ditch 8 Request

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to assist Mr. Brand in replacing a 24" CMP that drains his field and County Road ditch 24 into Rawhide Ditch 8 with a 36" CMP at 50% cost-share not to exceed \$4,000. Motion carried on consent agenda.

d. No-Till Grass Drill Schuyler Coop – Update Given

e. Wanahoo Dam Inspection – Update Given

f. Carl Sousek Water Line Request – Update Given

g. FEMA/NEMA 428 Flood Damage and Equipment

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Goldsberry, to purchase a dump trailer through a GSA contract, the ½ ton pickup through a State of Nebraska Contract and the boom lift from Titan Machinery out of Fremont totaling \$126,823.36. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

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

b. Education

1. Land Judging Contestant Fees

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve paying land judging contestant fees to the State Land Judging Coordinator At \$3 per contestant totaling \$831. Motion carried on consent agenda.

2. New Addition – Denver Abbott

3. Upcoming Event – Update Given

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

a. Rural Water Operations

b. Colon – Update Given

c. Bruno – Update Given

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, that the October LPNRRD 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 Hydrologically Connected Area (Limited Development Area)

Hilger made the motion, seconded by McKnight, to approve all variances shown on the attachment that scored 333 or higher, which is 2612.16 acres for 199.48-acre feet of depletion. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

2. Variance Requests Expansion of Acres with Allocations

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve the expansion of acres variances for John Schure and Tim Foltz, with a new allocation of 28 and 27.35 respectively over a 3-year rolling allocation. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

3. Request in the Non-Hydrologically Connected Area (Normal Development Area) – Update Given

4. Well Permit Program - Update Given

5. Existing Irrigation Well - Update Given

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

7. Cost-Share Programs

a. Irrigation Well Sample Kits – Update Given

b. Flow Meter Maintenance Program – Update Given

8. Bellwood Phase 2 Area – Update Given

9. Richland – Schuyler Phase 3 Areas – Update Given

10. Schuyler-Richland Management Area

Hilger made the motion, seconded by McKnight, to start the hearing process to elevate part of the Schuyler-Richland Management Area to a Phase 4 water quality management area. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

11. Nitrate Assessment – Update Given

b. Groundwater Management Plan – Update Given

c. Ground Water Energy Levels – Update Given

d. Ground Water Sampling – Update Given

3. GROUND WATER PROGRAMS

a. Decommissioned Well Program

1. Well Estimates – Update Given

2. Plugged Wells

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve paying Audra Jedlicka for decommissioning of an irrigation well in the amount of \$1,197.76. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD GROUND WATER STUDIES

1. Phase Area Update

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to request a contract from NeDNR to participate in the Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act and authorize Board Chairman to sign the contract. Motion carried on consent agenda.

c. Monitoring Well Equipment – Update Given

4. SURFACE WATER PROGRAMS – Update Given

a. State Lakes – Update Given

b. Stream Gages and Groundwater Gage – Update Given

5. UPCOMING MEETINGS – Update Given

6. OTHER

a. Comments from the Public – None

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, that the October 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

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve SWCP application to Ron Vanek for up to \$15,000. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. SWCP Payments

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve \$1,399.61 payment to Kirk Carpenter for windbreak/shelterbelt planting. Motion carried on consent agenda.

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 Given

4. SHELL CREEK WATERSHEDS

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

1. Septic System Upgrade Application and Payment Approval

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve septic system upgrade application for Daniel Wegener and a completed system upgrade payment of \$8,363.56 to Leon Wemhoff. Motion carried on consent agenda.

5. WAHOO CREEK WATERSHED

a. Dam Site Planning Update

We received four bids from ME Collins Contracting, General Excavating, Pruss Excavation and Thompson Construction Inc. Bids range from 4.3 to 5.7 million dollars. Bid tabs are attached the Projects Committee Minutes. Thompson Construction Inc. was the lowest responsible bidder at \$4,314,772.70.

Bailey made the motion seconded by Hilger, to award the Wahoo Creek Dam site 26a, 26b and 27 construction contract to Thompson Construction Inc. of Fremont pursuant to their lowest responsible bid and have legal counsel negotiate a contract. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

1. Olsson Design - Update Given

2. Real Estate – Olsson and Great Plains Appraisal

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Olson, to approve, make payment and authorize the Board Chair to sign the temporary construction easements for the Wahoo Creek Flood Reduction Project 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

6. EROSION AND SEDIMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS – Update Given

7. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN - Update Given

8. NEBRASKA BUFFER STRIP PROGRAM PAYMENTS

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve Nebraska Buffer Strip payments to listed contract holders totaling \$49,139.26. Motion carried on consent agenda.

9. OTHER – None

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

7. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

7a. Lake Wanahoo 50 Amp Electrical Service

Saalfeld made the motion, seconded by Seier, to accept the bid from Schutt Electrical to upgrade 20 camp sites to 50-amp pedestals not to exceed \$12,000. Motion carried all members voting aye.

7b. Shell Creek Implementation 319 and NET

Bailey made the motion, seconded by Seier, to approve \$19,379.93 payment to Tony Long for implementation of an alternate water source and fencing within the Sheel Creek Environmental Plan. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

7c. Skull Creek Repair Work

McKnight made the motion, seconded by Yosten, to approve \$4,500 payment to Steve Beyer for completed dike repair work long Skull Creek. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

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 Saalfeld, to approve the October Consent Agenda. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

10. COMMENTS FROM DIRECTORS/GUESTS

11. MEETING ESTABLISHMENT AND ADJOURNMENT

The November Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Monday, November 11, 2024, 4:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 8:48 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 October 14, 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 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