

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD MINUTES
BOARD MEETING
February 10, 2025**

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 10, 2025.

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 10, 2025, board meeting was posted on the Lower Platte North NRD website and posted in the Wahoo Newspaper on January 31, 2025.

Chair Sabatka 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:

Birkel (Zoom)	Goldsberry	Hanson
Harders	Hilger	Johnson, Jerry
Lawrence	Meduna (arrived 1:47)	McKnight
Olson	Saalfeld	Saeger
Seier	Tonnies	Sabatka

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Bailey	Johnson, Duane	Saalfeld
Yosten		

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Gottschalk (Zoom)	Breunig	Chapman (Zoom)
Andersen	Elliott	Beethe
Lausterer	Stacy Dam	Dave Ruder
Bryan Shupe	Cody Gerdes (Zoom)	Danielle Allen (Zoom)

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

At this time item 6.A.3.d was taken

Nominating Sub-Committee/Director Vacancy Report (Sub-District 1)

Director Olson reported that they received an application from Anthony Hanson to fill the vacancy in Sub-District 1 and the Committee is recommending him to fill the vacancy. Hilger made the motion, seconded by Olson, to have Anthony Hanson fill the vacancy in Sub-District 1. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

At this time Hanson took the oath of office.

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 - None

e. Manager Report

Manager Gottschalk gave his report.

f. Education Program

Dave Ruder gave his yearly Live Well Go Fish update.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Olson, to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2025, 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

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Olson, to approve Director Olson excuse of absence from the December Board Meeting. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Monthly Education Program – Taken Earlier

c. New Office Update

Olson made the motion, seconded by Hilger, to advertise for RFP from Real Estate/Auction firms for selling our current NRD office. Motion carried all members preset voting aye.

d. Nominating Sub-Committee/Director Vacancy – Item taken earlier

e. Legislative Update – Update Given

4. Equipment – None

5. Personnel

a. Water Technician – Update Given

6. Finance

a. Approval of Financial Reports

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Olson, to approve the final December Financial Statement as attached to the Executive Minutes. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Approval of Managers' Expenses

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Olson, 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

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

B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

2. COMMITTEE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Olson, to approve the nominations of Jerry Johnson and Ryan Engle as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively for the Operations Committee. Motion carried on consent agenda.

3. WILD NE AND OTHER PROGRAMS – Update Given

4. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS

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

b. Wanahoo Basin Investigation for Damage

Johnson J. made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, to approve ME Collins' bid of 134,327.60 to dewater the stilling basin below the Wanahoo Dam. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

c. Tree Debris Grinding on Wanahoo Area – Update Given

d. No-Till Grass Drill

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Olson, to sell the 2008 Great Plains No-Till Grass drill on our own for 30 days at an established price range of \$17,500 to \$12,500. If unsuccessful, we will put it up for auction. Motion carried on consent agenda.

e. Landowner Access Bridge Request of Rawhide Ditch 8

Engle made the motion, seconded by Seier, to allow Dave Heller to construct a UTV/Foot bridge over Rawhide Ditch 8 in accordance with NRD direction and have staff work with Legal Counsel for proper documentation. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

f. Power Saw Replacement – Update Given

g. Hay Harvest on the Wanahoo Area – Update Given

5. ROCK AND JETTY - None

6. LAKE WANAHOO

a. Lake Wanahoo Permit Sales - Update Given

b. Lake Wanahoo Camping Revenue – Update Given

c. Clint Johannes Education Building Rentals – Update Given

d. Set Your Sites – Update Given

e. Wanahoo and Czechland Camping Rate Increase

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Olson, to increase RV camping rates to \$25 and cabin rates to \$50 at Lake Wanahoo; it was further recommended to increase Czechland camping rates to \$20 effective April 1st. Motion carried on consent agenda.

f. Live Well Go Fish Building

Lawrence made the motion, seconded by Johnson, J., to proceed with an agreement with Live Well Go Fish to construct a storage building on Lake Wanahoo at 50% cost-share rate up to \$35,000 out of pocket for NRD. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

6. INFORMATION & EDUCATION

a. Information

1. Radio and Digital Ads – Update Given

2. Social Media and Website Analytics – Update Given

b. Education

1. Past Events – Update Given

2. Upcoming Events – Update Given

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

a. Colon – Update Given

b. Bruno – Update Given

c. Other

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

C. WATER COMMITTEE REPORT

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE

2. Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Olson, to retain Bob Hiler as Chair and Tom McKnight as Vice-Chair. Motion carried on consent agenda.

3. Committee Meeting Dates

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Olson, to move the Water Committee Meeting to Wednesday, March 5th. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. REGULATORY

a. GROUNDWATER MANGEMENT AREA

1. Well Permit Program – Update Given

2. Supplemental Well – Update Given

3. Cost-Share Programs

a. Nitrogen Reduction Program – Update Given

b. Domestic Well Water Treatment Cost-Share

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, to cover 75% of equipment and installation up to \$800 and the well registration fee of \$70 for Dan Stevenson’s domestic RO unit. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

4. LPNNRD Operator Certification – Update Given

5. Lower Platte River Basin Water Management Plan Coalition – Update Given

b. Groundwater Management Plan – Update Given

c. Groundwater Retreat – Update Given

5. GROUND WATER PROGRAMS

a. Decommissioned Well Program

1. Well Estimates – Update Given

2. Plugged Wells – Update Given

3. Abandoned Well Cost-Share Discussion - Update Given

b. LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD GROUND WATER STUDIES

1. Phase Area Update

Meduna made the motion, seconded by McKnight, to approve Tom Svatora cost-share payment of \$2,000 for 2 flow meters. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

c. New Monitoring Well – Update Given

6. SURFACE WATER PROGRAMS

7. OTHER

a. Comments from the Public – None

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Olson, 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

a. Committee Chair Election

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Olson, to elect Andrew Tonnie as Chair and Chris Yosten as Vice-Chair. Motion carried on consent agenda.

2. SWCP

a. Application Approvals - None

b. SWCP Payments - None

c. SWCP Cancellations – None

d. Wahoo Creek Cost-Share Approvals - None

3. JOINT WATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD – Update Given

a. East Fremont/Elkhorn Township Drainage – FEMA – HMPG – None

b. West Fremont – FEMA BRIC – None

c. Rawhide Creek Watershed NRCSA WFPO – Update Given

d. North Bend Drainage District – Update Give

4. SHELL CREEK WATERSHEDS

a. Shell Creek Implementation – 319 and NET

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Olson, to approve onsite wastewater applications for Carol Littje and Steve Gehring. Motion carried on consent agenda.

5. WAHOO CREEK WATERSHED

a. WCW Construction – Update Given

b. Dam Site Planning Update

1. Design – Olsson - Update Given

2. Real Estate Olsson & Great Plains Appraisal – This item will be taken at the end of the meeting.

3. Funding – NRCS WFPO & NeDNR JEDI – Update Given

c. Water Quality – NWQI & 319 – Update Given

6. LOWER PLATTE RIVER COOIDOR ALLIANCE – Update Given

7. MORSE BLUFF LEVEE – UPDATE GIVEN

8. EROSION AND SEDIMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS - Update Given

9. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE GIVEN

10. OTHER – Update Given

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Olson, 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

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by McKnight, 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 Olson, to approve the February Consent Agenda. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Item 7.D.5.b.2. - Real Estate – Olsson and Great Plains Appraisal was taken at this time.

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by McKnight, to go into Executive Session at 3:29 p.m. for the purposes of discussing Upper Wahoo Creek Watershed land rights and authorize the following staff to stay: Cody Gerdes, Great Plains Appraisal; Danielle Allen, Olsson; Legal Counsel Lausterer; Staff: Gottschalk, Elliott, Breunig and Chapman. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to go out of executive session at 4:11 p.m. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Hanson, to authorize Chair Sabatka to sign purchase agreements on Wahoo Site 55 with the following landowners:

- Lawrence Pacula Res Life Estate to Emily J Pacula
- Gordon & Jean Ohnoutka/Kurt & Barb Ohnoutka Trust
- Tammie L. Holley
- Michael Holley
- Rose M. & Robert O liams
- Theresa J & Geroge Borreson
- Timothy & Janelle Schulz
- Gerald & Monica Osmera

Motion carried.

AYE: Engel, Goldsberry, Hanson, Hilger, Johnson, J., Lawrence, Meduna, McKnight, Olson, Saeger, Seier, Tonnies, Sabatka

ABSTAIN: Harders

Lawrence made the motion, seconded by Engel, to accept appraisals as prepared by Great Plains Real Estate for the Upper Wahoo Creek Watershed Site 84 and move forward with offers. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

11. COMMENTS FROM DIRECTORS/GUESTS

12. MEETING ESTABLISHMENT AND ADJOURNMENT

The March Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Monday, March 10, 2025, 1:30 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 4:17 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 10, 2025, 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.

Bill Saeger, Secretary