

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD MINUTES  
BOARD MEETING  
March 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, March 10, 2025.

**1. NOTICE OF MEETING**

The agenda and supporting documents are available on the district's website – [www.lpnrd.org](http://www.lpnrd.org). A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Law has been posted on the NRD's website.

The advanced notice of our March 10, 2025, board meeting was posted on the Lower Platte North NRD website and posted in the Wahoo Newspaper on February 28, 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:**

Bailey	Birkel	Engel
Goldsberry	Hanson	Harders (left 2:15 )(back 4:28)
Hilger	Johnson, Duane(arrived 1:57)	Johnson, Jerry
Lawrence	Meduna	McKnight
Olson	Saalfeld	Saeger
Seier	Tonnies	Yosten
Sabatka		

**DIRECTORS ABSENT**

**STAFF AND GUESTS:**

Gottschalk	Breunig	Chapman
Andersen	Elliott (Zoom)	Beethe
Lausterer	Stacy Dam	Bryan Shupe
Danielle Allen (Zoom)	Adam Brockman	

**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 - Attached**

**e. Manager Report**

Manager Gottschalk gave his report.

**f. Education Program**

Stacy Dam with Set Your Sites updated the Board on the park reservations change over from Reserve America.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Hilger, to approve the minutes from February 10, 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 - None**

**b. Monthly Education Program – Taken Earlier**

**c. New Office Update**

McKnight made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, that due to the time sensitive nature of this work and to save additional costs in the future, to approve the bid from Diode Technology to provide essential wiring infrastructure to support surveillance, access control AV functionality and potential future automation at a cost of \$17,766.66. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Olson made the motion, seconded by Johnson, J., to approve having Scheele-Kayton install the flagpole at a cost of \$6,315. Motion carried.

**AYE:** Bailey, Birkel, Hanson, Hilger, Johnson, D., Johnson, J., Lawrence, Mcknight, Olson, Saeger, Seier, Tonnies, Yosten

**NAY:** Engel, Goldsberry, Meduna, Saalfeld, Sabatka

**d. RFP for Auctioneers**

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, that the NRD considers 511 Commercial Park Road as surplus property and will enter into a contract with Nebraska Reality to sell surplus property as outlined in the terms of the contract. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**4. Equipment – None**

**5. Personnel**

**a. Saunders County NRCS Office Assistant**

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Hilger, to accept Marla Milliken’s letter of resignation effective March 7, 2025. Motion carried on consent agenda.

Meduna made the motion, seconded by Olson, to pay Marla Milliken \$1,583.26 of unused leave time less deductions of retirement, taxes and any supplemental insurance. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**b. Water Resources Technician Position**

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Hilger, to ratify the hiring of Jake Pittman to fill the Water Resources Technician position. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**c. Operation and Maintenance Technician – Update Given**

**6. Finance**

**a. Approval of Financial Reports**

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Hilger, to approve the final January 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 Hilger, 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 Hilger, that the March 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. Nebraska Environmental Trust Grant – Native Grass Drill - Update Given**

**d. Landowner Access Bridge Request of Rawhide Ditch 8**

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Hilger, to approve Dave Heller to construct a UTV/Foot bridge over Rawhide Ditch 8 to access his property according to the Revocable Easement Agreement and construction specifications made by the district. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**e. 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. Lake Wanahoo New Mower Bids**

Engel made the motion, seconded by Seier, to approve the purchase of 3 new John Deere Z950M Ztrak mowers totaling \$42,811.74, and the selling of 4 old mowers by the Lower Platte North NRD. Motion carried all members present voting aye. Payment will be made from the Wanahoo Recreation Account.

**d. 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. 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 Hilger, that the March LPNNRD Operations Committee Minutes be received and placed on file. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**C. WATER COMMITTEE REPORT**

**1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE**

**2. Committee Meeting Date/Time – Update Given**

**3. REGULATORY**

**a. GROUNDWATER MANGEMENT AREA**

**1. Variance Request in the Hydrologically Connected Area (Limited Development Area)**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Seier, to allow Harlan Jacobson to drill test holes in N½-NE¼-S22-T21N-R4W, Madison County and allow staff to approve the well permit if test holes show sufficient water for a high capacity well. Motion carried.

**AYE:** Bailey, Birkel, Engel, Goldsberry, Hanson, Hilger, Johnson, D., Johnson, J., Lawrence, Mcknight, Meduna, Olson, Saalfeld, Seier, Tonnies, Yosten, Sabatka

**NAY:** Saeger

**2. Well Permit Program – Update Given**

**3. Transfer Acres Request**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Birkel, to not allow Mike Kubik from transferring acres to S27-T15N-6E Saunders County because of the restricted development rules in the Groundwater Management Plan of no new high capacity well beyond 1 mile. Motion carried all members present

voting aye.

**4. Supplemental Well – Update Given**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Johnson, J., to approve the supplemental well permit for Greg Kobza in S9-T16N-R3E, Butler County with the plan to change to a replacement well if new well produces sufficient water. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**5. Well Permit for Duck Pond – Update Given**

**6. Lake Allure Well Permit**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Birkel, to approve the municipal well permit for Lake Allure in S7-T13N-R10E, Saunders County. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**7. Cost-Share Programs**

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Hilger, to approve flow meter payments to A. Glenn Kluck Co. for \$14,000 for 14 meters, Richard Wolta \$3,000 for 3 meters and Gregg Mellinger \$2,000 for 2 meters. Motion carried on consent agenda.

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Hilger, to cover 75% of equipment and installation up to \$800 and the well registration fee of \$70 in unregistered for the following three applications, Allen Svatora, Tim Svatora and Allen Shonka. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**a. Flow Meter Maintenance Program**

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Hilger, to approve payment of \$27,705 to Tri-City Meters for our meter maintenance program. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**8. LPNNRD Operator Certification – Update Given**

**b. Groundwater Management Plan – Update Given**

**c. Domestic Well Permits**

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Meduna, to authorize NARD Representative to start discussions with NARD about awareness of permitting domestic wells due to depth and well interference that might cause conflicts in the future. Motion carried.

**AYE:** Bailey, Engel, Goldsberry, Hanson, Hilger, Johnson, D., Johnson, J., Lawrence, Mcknight, Meduna, Olson, Saalfeld, Saeger, Seier, Tonnies, Yosten, Sabatka

**NAY:** Birkel

**5. GROUND WATER PROGRAMS**

**a. Decommissioned Well Program**

**1. Well Estimates – Update Given**

**2. Plugged Wells – Update Given**

**b. LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD GROUND WATER STUDIES**

**1. Phase Area Update**

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

**c. New Monitoring Well**

Lawrence made the motion, seconded by Birkel, to have staff write and submit a WSF grant for test holes, monitoring well construction, data logger costs and HydroVu subscription for community's wellhead protection areas for \$416,000 at 60% cost-share for WSF and 40% for NRD share. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**6. SURFACE WATER PROGRAMS**

**7. OTHER**

**a. Comments from the Public – None**

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Hilger, that the March 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 - None**

**c. SWCP Cancellations – None**

**d. SWCP Policy**

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Hilger, to approve the updated SWCP policy as presented and attached to the Projects Committee Minutes. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**3. JOINT WATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD – Update Given**

**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 WATERSHED**

**a. Shell Creek Implementation – 319 and NET**

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Hilger, to approve up to 60% cost-share for onsite wastewater upgrade application for Jeffy Johnson. Motion carried on consent agenda.

**5. WAHOO CREEK WATERSHED**

**a. Flood Reduction Structures**

**1. Design – Olsson**

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Bailey, to approve Change Order #1 which is for altering auxiliary spillway alignment to remain outside of existing ammonia pipeline easement which

requires more rip-rap due to increased grade of spillway on site #27. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

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

**3. Construction – TCI & Olsson – Update Given**

**c. Water Quality – NWQI & 319 – Update Given**

**6. LOWER PLATTE RIVER COOIDOR ALLIANCE – Update Given**

**7. MORSE BLUFF LEVEE – UPDATE GIVEN**

**8. LINDSAY POND RESTORATION**

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Bailey, to pay Village of Lindsay the remaining \$25,000 committed for their pond restoration project. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**9. EROSION AND SEDIMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS - None**

**10. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE GIVEN**

**11. OTHER – Update Given**

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

**7. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS**

**7a. Electrical Bid**

Staff received a quote from Limbach Electric for the following:

1. Running electric to the new fuel barrel the Board approved last month
2. Splicing the main electrical feed to the existing storage building
3. Adding a light to the boat ramp/dock at Czechland Lake

Lawrence made the motion, seconded by Tonnie, to approve running electrical wiring to the storage building fuel barrel at a cost of \$1,680 and splicing the main electrical feed to the existing storage building at a cost of \$1,150. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**7b. Diode Technologies Proposal**

We have received a proposal from Diode Technologies to run and install data cabling and access point wiring in the new building. This agreement includes reduced drops that are not currently needed when compared to the original proposal. Data work still to come (likely from Diode) includes surveillance system cameras, board room audio and cameras, and board room/conference room TVs. We are still assessing the many options for these items and in some cases may wait until after moving to finalize.

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Engel, to accept the proposal from Diode Technologies for data cabling in the new office totaling \$34,727.30. 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**

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Hilger, to approve the March Consent Agenda. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**Item 6.D.5.b.2. - Real Estate – Olsson and Great Plains Appraisal was taken at this time.**

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Birkel, to go into Executive Session at 4:12 p.m. for the purposes of discussing Upper Wahoo Creek Watershed land rights and authorize the following staff to stay: 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 Johnson, J., to go out of executive session at 4:30 p.m. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Hanson, to authorize Chair Sabatka to sign purchase agreement on Wahoo Creek Site 84 with the following landowner:

- Gary R. Ostwald and Tracey S. Stevens

Motion carried all members present voting aye.

**11. COMMENTS FROM DIRECTORS/GUESTS**

**12. MEETING ESTABLISHMENT AND ADJOURNMENT**

The April Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Monday, April 14, 2025, 6:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 4:35 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 March 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.

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Bill Saeger, Secretary