

LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD MINUTES
BOARD MEETING
April 14, 2025

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, April 14, 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 April 14, 2025, board meeting was posted on the Lower Platte North NRD website and posted in the Wahoo Newspaper on April 4, 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	Goldsberry
Hanson	Harders	Hilger
Johnson, Jerry	Lawrence	Meduna (arrived 6:50)
McKnight	Saalfeld	Seier
Tonnies	Yosten	Sabatka

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Engel	Johnson, Duane	Olson
Saeger		

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Gottschalk	Breunig	Chapman
Andersen	Heimann	Elliott (Zoom)
Beethe (Zoom)	Lausterer	Sabatka (Zoom)
Danielle Allen (Zoom)	Cody Gerdes (Zoom)	Thad Kuntz

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. COMMENTS - ADVISORS/GUESTS/DIRECTORS

a. Guest Comments

b. NRCS Report - None

c. NARD Report

Hilger gave the NARD report.

d. NRC Report - None

e. Manager Report

Manager Gottschalk gave his report.

f. Education Program

Thad Kuntz from Longitude 103 updated the Board on costs associated with moving our data and annual

fees to maintain the database.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, to approve the minutes from March 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

1. NARD Basin Tour – Update Given

b. Reports

1. NARD Washington DC Annual Meeting – Update Given

3. Management Items

a. Director Absences

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, to approve the following Directors Absences: Yosten, Bailey, and Saalfeld from the February Board Meeting and Duane Johnson from the January and February Board meeting. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Monthly Education Program – Taken Earlier

c. New Office Update

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Seier, to enter into a three-year agreement with NextLink to provide internet service for approximately \$325 per month and a one-time installation fee of \$500. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

d. Sale of Current NRD Office – Update Given

e. HBE 360 Contract – Update Given

f. Texting and Emailing Policy – Update Given

4. Equipment – None

5. Personnel

a. Operation and Maintenance Technician

Saalfeld made the motion, seconded by Jonson, J., to ratify the hiring of Sean O'Brien to fill the vacant Operation and Maintenance position. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

b. NRCS Office Assistant Position – Update Given

6. Finance

a. Approval of Financial Reports

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, to approve the final February Financial Statement as attached to the Executive Minutes. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Approval of Managers' Expenses

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, 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

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, that the April LPNRRD 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. No-Till Grass Drill and Triple Axle Dump Trailer - Update Given

d. Hay Areas on Recreation Areas for 2025 – Update Given

e. Fire Incident on Wanahoo Property – Update Given

4. ROCK AND JETTY

Johnson, J., made the motion seconded by Saalfeld, to cost-share with the Timberwood HOA at \$6,000 and Platte Valley D & D at \$6,000 for their Platte River bank stabilization and levee maintenance. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

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. Dodge County Agricultural Society

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, to donate \$500 to the Dodge County Agricultural Society for sponsorship of 2025 Dodge County Fair. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. Shell Creek Scholarship

Johnson, J., made the motion seconded by Seier, to approve Aleeya Morris and Brooke Forre each for a \$1,000 Shell Creek Watershed Scholarship. Half of the scholarship will be paid after Board approval, with the remaining amount paid after successful completion of the first term. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

b. Education

1. Past Events – Update Given

2. Upcoming Events – Update Given

3. Outdoor Classrooms – Bloom Boxes – Update Given

4. LPNNRD Natural Resources Grant – Update Given

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

a. Rural Water Operations – Update Given

b. Colon – Update Given

c. Bruno – Update Given

d. Other - None

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Tonnie, that the April 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 MANAGEMENT AREA

1. Irrigated Acre Transfer

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Harders, to approve the certified irrigation acre transfer to Kolb Farms Inc. from Part of the SE¼-NW¼ and Part of the NW¼-SW¼-S35-T14-R9E to S½-NE¼-S13-T14-9E Saunders County. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

2. Well Permits Program – Update Given

3. Well Permit Duck Pond – Update Given

4. Supplemental Well Permit

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Birkel, to approve the supplemental well permit to Wode Farms for the NW-SW-S14-T14-R8E Saunders County. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

5. Livestock Well Permit

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Birkel, to approve the livestock well permit for Beller Feedlot in NW-SW-S13-T20-R4W Platte County. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

6. Cost-Share Programs

a. NiRIA – Update Given

7. Lower Platte River Basin Water Management Plan Coalition (LPRBC) -Update Given

b. Ground Water Energy Levels – Update Given

3. 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

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, to approve payment to Richard Shonka for \$2,000 for two flow meters. Motion carried on consent agenda.

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

3. Lower Platte River Consortium – Update Given

c. New Monitoring Well – Update Given

d. Source Water Protection

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to approve payment to In-Situ for \$3,636.22 and Downey Well Drilling for \$1,055 for data logger, cable, Vulink connection and PVS tubing for assistance to the Village of Abie in drought management. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

1. Newman Grove Well Decommissioning- Update Given

4. Database Update

Hilger made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to enter into an agreement with Longitude 103 for migrating our current data into their system at a cost of \$17,500 of which \$10,000 will be paid by NeDNR and the annual cost for maintaining the database will be \$16,000 annually. Motion carried.

AYE: Bailey, Birkel, Goldsberry, Hanson, Harders, Hilger, Johnson, J., Lawrence, Meduna, McKnight, Saalfeld, Seier, Tonnies, Sabatka

NAY: Yosten

5. Texting and Email Policy – Update Given

6. Domestic Well Permits – Update Given

7. GMDA Summer Conference – Update Given

8. Surface Water Program -Update Given

9. OTHER

a. Comments from the Public – None

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, that the April 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. Wahoo Creek Cost Share Applications - None

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

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, to approve \$5,974.96 payment to Jeff Johnson for completed septic system upgrade and financially support SCWIG students with Lincoln tour, polos, and testing supplies. 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 and 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 - None

9. LOESS HILLS RC&D

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, to renew our 2025 membership with the Loess Hills RC&D at \$350. Motion carried on consent agenda.

10. NEBRASKA BUFFER STRIP PROGRAM

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, to approve two NeBSP contract applications: Rodeny Julesen - \$5,220 and Todd Maurer - \$3,200. Motion carried on consent agenda.

11. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE GIVEN

12. OTHER – Update Given

Yosten, made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, that the April 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

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

Yosten made the motion, seconded by Tonnies, to approve the April 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 McKnight, to go into Executive Session at 8:21 p.m. for the purposes of discussing Upper Wahoo Creek Watershed land rights and authorize the following staff to stay: Danielle Allen, Olsson; Cody Gerdes, Great Plains Appraisal; Legal Counsel Lausterer; Staff: Gottschalk, Elliott, Breunig and Chapman. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by McKnight, to go out of executive session at 9:09 p.m. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Meduna made the motion, seconded by Lawrence, to accept appraisals as prepared by Great Plains Appraisal for the Upper Wahoo Creek Watershed sites 77 and 85 and authorize Danielle Allen to move forward with offers. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

McKnight made the motion, seconded by Johnson, to authorize Legal Counsel Lausterer's office to commence the condemnation process on Tract 10 of Wahoo Creek Watershed Site 84 (listed as owned by Dick Cerv), on Tract 6 of Wahoo Creek Watershed Site 55 (listed as owned by Christian/Ostransky), and on Tract 3 of Wahoo Creek Watershed Site 55 (listed as owned by Charles Vesley). Motion carried all members present voting aye.

11. COMMENTS FROM DIRECTORS/GUESTS

12. MEETING ESTABLISHMENT AND ADJOURNMENT

Board Meeting Minutes

4/14/25

Page 8

The May Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Monday, May 12, 2025, 6:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 9:13 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 April 14, 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