

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD MINUTES
BOARD MEETING
February 9, 2026**

The regular monthly meeting of the Lower Platte North NRD Board of Directors was called to order at 1:30 p.m. at Lowr Platte North NRD Office, Wahoo, NE on Monday, February 9, 2026.

1. NOTICE OF MEETING

The agenda and supporting documents are available on the district’s website – www.lpnnrd.org. A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Law has been posted on the NRD’s website.

The advanced notice of our February 9, 2026, board meeting was posted on the Lower Platte North NRD website and posted in the Wahoo Newspaper on January 30, 2026.

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 (Zoom)	Harders
Hilger	Johnson, Duane	Johnson, Jerry
Lawrence	McKnight (Zoom)	Meduna (arrived 1:54)
Olson	Saalfeld (left 4:17)	Saeger
Seier	Tonnies(arrived 1:36)	Yosten
Sabatka		

DIRECTORS ABSENT

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Gottschalk	Breunig	Chapman
Lausterer	Heimann	Elliott
Andersen	Maslonka (Zoom)	Don Kresl
Shupe	Beethe (Zoom)	Danielle Allen (Zoom)
L. Jha (Zoom)	O’Brien (Zoom)	Sean Parks, Olsson
Ross Lawrence, JEO	Jakob Andreasen, Olsson	

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. COMMENTS - ADVISORS/GUESTS/DIRECTORS

a. Guest Comments

Don Kresl addressed the Board on his property on Site #84.

b. NRCS Report

Bryan Shupe gave the NRCS Report.

c. NARD Report

Hilger gave the NARD Report.

d. NRC Report – None

e. Manager Report

Gottschalk gave his monthly report.

f. Education Program

Sean Parks and Jakob Andreasen updated the Board on the monitoring of Lake Wanahoo Dam.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, to approve the minutes from January 12, 2026, 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 – Update Given

2. NARD Washington DC Annual Meeting

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Johnson, J., to send Dave Saalfeld to the NARD Annual Washington DC Conference March 28-April 1, 2026. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

b. Reports

1. NARD Legislative Conference – Update Given

3. Management Items

a. Director Absences – None

b. Monthly Education Program – taken earlier

c. 2026 Election – Update Given

d. FEMA 428 Funding – Update Given

e. Wanahoo Amphitheater Project – Update Given

f. Morse Bluff Flood Reduction Project – Update Given

4. Equipment - None

5. Personnel

a. Assistant Water Manager Position – Update Given

b. Kaitlyn Barga Resignation

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, to accept Kaitlyn Barga's resignation effective January 16, 2026. Motion carried on consent agenda.

c. Bill Bos – Shell Creek Resources Technician

Bailey made the motion, seconded by Seier, to increase Bill Bos's salary \$5/hour effective immediately. Motion carried.

AYE: Bailey, Birkel, Engel, Goldsberry, Hilger, Johnson D., Johnson J., Meduna, Olson, Saalfeld, Saeger, Seier, Tonnie, Yosten, Sabatka

NAY: Harders

6. Finance

a. Approval of Financial Reports

Lawrence made the motion, seconded by Johnson J., to approve the July, August and September Financial Statements as attached to the Executive Committee Minutes. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

b. Approval of Managers' Expenses

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, 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 Report

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, to accept the Annual Audit dated June 30, 2025, as presented and prepared by AMGL, PC. Motion carried on consent agenda.

d. Dodge County Tax Roll Correction – Update Given

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, 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. WILD NE AND OTHER PROGRAMS – None

3. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS

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

Meduna made the motion, seconded by Engel, to go to bid for RFP on the Cottonwood 21-A project. Motion carried.

AYE: Bailey, Birkel, Engel, Goldsberry, Harders, Hilger, Johnson D., Johnson J., Meduna, Olson, Saalfeld, Seier, Tonnie, Yosten, Sabatka

NAY: Saeger

b. Wanahoo Basin Damage & Repair, FEMA & Houston Engineering – Update Given

c. NET Grant for No-Till Grass Drill

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, to approve new grass drill rental agreements with Clay Hills Ag and Rezac Seed with price increases for minimum charge at \$100 and a \$12/acre rate. Motion carried on consent agenda.

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, to approve the sale of the No-Till Grass Drill to Elliott Gee for \$18,000. Motion carried on consent agenda.

d. Haying Wanahoo – Update Given

e. Vehicles

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, to approve the sale of 2017 For Fusion to Ryan Chapman for \$9,100. Motion carried on consent agenda.

4. ROCK AND JETTY – Update Given

5. LAKE WANAHOO

a. Lake Wanahoo Permit Sales - Update Given

b. Lake Wanahoo Camping Revenue – Update Given

c. Clint Johannes Education Building – Update Given

d. Wanahoo Amphitheater Project - 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. Rural Water Operations – Update Given

b. Colon – Update Given

c. Bruno – Update Given

d. Other - None

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, 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. REGULATORY

a. GROUNDWATER MANGEMENT AREA

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

2. Variance Request in the Non-Hydrologically Connected Area (Normal Development Area) -Update Given

3. Variance Request in the Restricted Development Areas – Update Given

4. Well Permit Program – Update Given

5. Groundwater Management Plan – Update Given

6. Special Quantity Subareas

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, to present the SQS #2 boundaries as 2 management areas as shown on the map attached and rules described in the Water Committee Minutes to producers in SWS #2 management areas. Motion carried on consent agenda.

7. Well Registration Status Change Policy – Update Given

8. Cost-Share Programs – Update Given

3. GROUND WATER PROGRAMS

a. Decommissioned Well Program

1. Well Estimates – Update Given

2. Plugged Wells

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, to approve payment of \$797.43 for well decommissioning to Daivd Deerson. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD GROUND WATER STUDIES

1. Phase Area Update

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, to approve the following flow meter cost share payments to Tim Rodenhorst - \$2,000; Jon Engel - \$1,000; Lloyd Cuda - \$1,000; David Sobota - \$7,000; Jon Sobota - \$1,000 and Gravity to Pivot Conversion for Jon Sobota - \$10,000. Motion carried on consent agenda.

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

c. New Monitoring Wells - Update Given

d. Source Water Protection – Update Given

e. Longitude 103 – Update Given

4. SURFACE WATER PROGRAM -Update Given

a. State Lakes – Update Given

b. USGS Stream Flow Gauging Sites – Update Given

5. OTHER

a. Comments from the Public – None

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, 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

2. SWCP

a. SWCP Policy – Update Given

b. Application Approvals - None

c. SWCP Payments – None

d. SWCP Cancellations – None

e. Wahoo Creek Cost Share Approvals – None

3. Stan Keiser Dam – Update Given

4. JOINT WATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD – Update Given

a. East Fremont/Elkhorn Township Drainage – EMDA 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

d. Cotterell Diking and Drainage District – Update Given

5. SHELL CREEK WATERSHED

a. Shell Creek Implementation – 319 and NET

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, to sponsor up to 10 students and chaperones to participate in the 2026 Spring SWCS Conference. Motion carried on consent agenda.

6. WAHOO CREEK WATERSHED

a. Construction – Update Given

b. Dam Site Planning – Update Given

1. Design Olsson – Update Given

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

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

c. Water Quality – NWQI & 319 – Update Given

7. Skull and Bone Creek Watershed – Update Given

8. LOWER PLATTE RIVER COOIDOR ALLIANCE – Update Given

9. MORSE BLUFF FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Yosten, for the district to determine that the procurement of site acquisition and real estate services for the Morse Bluff Dike Project qualifies as a sole source procurement and that issuance of Requests for Proposal is not required. This determination is based upon the recommendation of staff and the Board's findings that:

1. Olsson has previously provided substantially similar services for the WCW project under the same or similar funding sources and regulatory requirements;
2. Olsson has demonstrated specialized knowledge, experience, and familiarity with the District's project requirements and applicable compliance obligations;
3. Use of Olsson will promote efficiency, continuity, and cost-effective administration of the project;
and
4. Procurement through competitive solicitation is not in the best interests of the district for these services.

It was further moved to authorize Board Chair Sabatka to execute the attached Real Estate Services Agreement with Olsson for the Morse Bluff Dike Project, subject to final legal review. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

10. LESHARA DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, to approve payment of \$13,000 of the \$31,000 pledged and budgeted to the Village of Leshara for their drainage improvement project. Motion carried on consent agenda.

9. EROSION AND SEDIMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS - None

10. HAZARD MITIGATION – Update Given

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, 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

Olson made the motion, seconded by Saeger, 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 Saeger, to approve the February 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 Johnson J., to go into Executive Session at 4:31 p.m. for the purposes of discussing Upper Wahoo Creek Watershed land rights and authorize the following to stay: Danielle Allen, Olsson; Legal Counsel Lausterer; and Staff: Gottschalk, Breunig, Elliott and Chapman. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Sabatka made the motion, seconded by Birkel, to go out of executive session at 5:54 p.m. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

10. COMMENTS FROM DIRECTORS/GUESTS

11. MEETING ESTABLISHMENT AND ADJOURNMENT

The March Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Monday, March 9, 2026, 1:30 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 5:56 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 9, 2026, 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