LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD MINUTES
BOARD MEETING
September 14, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Lower Platte North NRD Board of Directors was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at Lower Platte North NRD Office, Wahoo, NE on Monday, September 14, 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 September 14, 2026, board meeting was posted on the Lower Platte North NRD website and posted in the Wahoo Newspaper on September 4, 2026.

Chair Sabatka informed those present that a copy of the "Open Meetings Act" is posted for public viewing. Chair Sabatka 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:

Baiely (Zoom)	Birkel	Engel (Zoom)
Goldsberry (Zoom)	Hanson (Zoom)	Harders (Zoom)
Hilger (Zoom)	Johnson, Duane	Johnson, Jerry
Lawrence (Zoom)	McKnight	Meduna
Olson (Zoom)	Saalfeld	Saeger
Seier	Tonnies	Yosten (Zoom)
Sabatka		

DIRECTORS ABSENT

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Gottschalk	Breunig	Chapman
Lausterer	Elliott (Zoom)	Abbott (Zoom)
Marlin Fujan	Alvarez (Zoom)	Beethe (Zoom)
Danielle Allen (Zoom)	Dorsey (Zoom)	Pittman (Zoom)
O'Brien (Zoom)	Heimann (Zoom)	

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. COMMENTS - ADVISORS/GUESTS/DIRECTORS

a. Guest Comments

Marlin Fujan addressed the Board.

b. NRCS Report

Bryan Shupe gave the monthly NRCS Report.

c. NARD Report

Tonnies reminded the Board of the upcoming NARD Fall Conference.

d. NRC Report – None

e. Manager Report
Gottschalk gave his monthly report.

f. Education Program - None

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to approve the minutes from August 10, 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. NARD Fall Conference – Update Given

b. Reports - None

3. Management Items
a. Director Absences
Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to approve Director's Lawrence and Duane Johnson excuse of absence as listed in the Executive Committee Minutes. Motion carried on consent agenda.

b. Director Computer Stipend
Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to remove Director computer stiped and related policy due to funding being cut from the budget. Motion carried on consent agenda.

c. Monthly Education Program – None

d. FNIC Insurance Renewal
Meduna made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to approve the Commercial Insurance package from FNIC in the amount of $171,298.35 with a renewal date of October 1, 2026. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

e. Amphitheater Update
Johnson, D. made the motion, seconded by McKnight, that the Board hereby approves the Long-Term Development Agreement for the Amphitheater Project with Lonny L. Hansen and Denise Hansen, Husband and Wife, subject to final review and approval by the District's legal counsel. The District's General Manager and Board Chairperson are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate, resolve, and approve any remaining points, revisions, clarifications, exhibits, schedules, implementation details, or ancillary matters associated with the Amphitheater Project and the Long-Term Development Agreement, provided that any such negotiated matters are consistent with the material purposes and intent of the agreement and are approved as to legal form by the District's legal counsel. Following legal counsel's review and approval, the General Manager, Board Chairperson, or either of them acting on behalf of the District, is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the Long-Term Development

Agreement and any related instruments, acknowledgments, notices, certificates, consents, approvals, amendments, administrative documents, or other writings necessary or appropriate to effectuate the agreement and the Amphitheater Project. The General Manager is hereby granted general authority to oversee, administer, coordinate, and implement the Amphitheater Project on behalf of the District in accordance with the Long-Term Development Agreement, including authority to undertake, issue, approve, or administer all approvals, consents, determinations, confirmations, notices, directives, inspections, administrative decisions, and other project-related actions necessarily associated with the Amphitheater Project as contemplated within the approved agreement. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

f. Community Foundation Donor Advised Fund Agreement

McKnight made the motion, seconded by Johnson, J., to approve the Donor Advised Fund Agreement with the Wahoo Community Foundation and authorize the Board Chairperson to executive the agreement on behalf of the District. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

g. Educational Stormwater Detention Basin – Update Given

4. Equipment

a. Computer Replacement

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to purchase Information Coordinator and Water Resources Technician new computers and peripherals at an estimated cost of $10,000. Motion carried on consent agenda.

5. Personnel - None

6. Finance

a. Approval of Financial Reports

The Draft July Financial Report is attached and will not be approved until after the Annual Audit.

b. Approval of Managers' Expenses

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

e. Budget and Set Property Tax Rate

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to approve the State Budget that includes total expenditures of $10,869,830 with a tax levy rate of .022115 for a tax asking of $3,480,714. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

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

B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

1. UNFINISHED BUSIINESS – None

2. WILD NE AND OTHER PROGRAMS – None

3. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS

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

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to approve the Cottonwood Creek Watershed Flood Reduction Structure 21-A Professional Engineering Services RFP and authorize staff to advertise and solicit proposals. Motion carried on consent agenda.

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

c. Sand/Duck Creek Dam 16

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to approve a new Ingress/Egress access driveway off of Hwy 79 to Sand/Duck Dam 16, to solicit 3-4 bids and to have staff accept the most reasonable bid. Motion carried on consent agenda.

d. Haying on Wanahoo

e. FEVR (Fremont Elkhorn Valley Railroad Project – Fremont – Update Given

f. Platte River Reserve Habitat Restoration Request – Colfax – Update Given

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 – 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

3. Education Flyer – Update Given

4. East Central Land Judging Contest – Update Given

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

a. Colon – Update Given

b. Bruno – Update Given

c. Abie Rural Water System – Update Given

d. Potential New RW District (Prague/Malmo)

Johnson, J., made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to accept planning funding from DWEE to evaluate rural water system alternatives to serve Prague, Malmo, and other potentially related communities/rural water users, and to authorize staff to solicit proposals/qualifications for professional services necessary to complete the planning effort. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., that the September 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 Requests in the Hydrologically Connected Area (Limited Development Area) - None

2. Variance Requests in the Non-Hydrologically Connected Area (Normal Development Area)

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to approve a new well variance application for Sandra Muhle for the N1/2, NW1/4, 17-18N-1E, Platte County. Motion carried on consent agenda.

3. Variance Requests in the Restricted Development Area

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to approve the new well variance for Eric Nelson for the SW1/4 SE1/4, 3-15N-8E, Saunders County and to follow Section P criteria in the Groundwater Rules and Regulations or alternative of utilizing Ttem technology to determine best location for 1 test hole. Motion carried on consent agenda.

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to approve the expansion of acres variance for Randy Rasmussen, E1/2 of NE1/4, 21-16N-8E, Saunders County, and to follow Section P criteria in the Groundwater Rules and Regulations.

4. Well Permit Program – None

5. Citizen Well Interference Complaint – Update Given

6. Well Interference Complaints

Meduna made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to approve the well interference complaint form and well interference protocol with staff making the recommended changes as discussed and attached to the Water Committee Minutes. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

7. Special Quantity Subareas – Update Given

8. Cost-Share Programs

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to approve cost-share payments on chemigation equipment to Jay Jedlicka ($500), and Randy Kassmeier ($500). Motion carried on consent agenda.

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Seier, to update the cost-share amount for Reverse Osmosis (RO) systems to 75% up to $1,200 and pay registration cost of $240 for domestic well if not registered. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

a. Irrigation Well Sample Kits – None

b. NET Grant – Update Given

9. Lower Platte River Basin Water Management Plan Coalition (LPRBC)

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by, Johnson, D. to approve the $10,000 invoice from NARD for Annual Lower Platte Basin Water Management Plan Coalition dues. Motion carried on consent agenda.

10. Cleanup Site – Update Given

b. Chemigation – Update Given

c. Ground Water Energy Levels - None

d. Ground Water Quality Sampling – Update Given

3. GROUND WATER PROGRAMS

a. Decommissioned Well Program

1. Well Estimates – None

2. Plugged Wells - None

b. Lower Platte North NRD Ground Water Studies

1. Phase Area

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to move forward with asking the WSF Commission for a scope change at the Fall Conference to use remaining funds for vadose zone sampling equipment. Motion carried on consent agenda.

c. New Monitoring Wells – None

d. AI Model – Update Given

e. Source Water Protection – Update Given

4. WEATHER STATIONS – UPDATE GIVEN

5. SURFACE WATER PROGRAM -Update Given

a. State Lakes – Update Given

b. USGS Stream Flow Gauging sites – None

5. OTHER

Johnson, J., made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., that the September 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 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. Rawhide Creek Watershed – NRCS WFPO – Update Given

b. Cotterell Diking and Drainage District – Update Given

4. SHELL CREEK WATERSHED

a. Shell Creek and Implementation – 318 & NET – Update Given

b. Shell Creek Cost-Share Applications

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to approve 7 cover crop applications totaling $30,099 within SCWIG 319 program as listed in Projects Committee Minutes. Motion carried on consent agenda.

5. WAHOO CREEK WATERSHED

a. Construction – Update Given

b. Dam Site Planning – Update Given

1. Design Olsson – Update Given

2. Phase 2 Construction

Meduna made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to approve advertisement of bids for construction of WCW sites 55, 84 & 77. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

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

4. Funding – NRCS WFPO and NeDNR JEDI – None

c. Water Quality – NWQI & 319 – Update Given

6. SKULL AND BONE WATERSHED

Birkel made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., to approve the Skull Creek Watershed Plan-EA Professional Services RFP and authorize staff to advertise and solicit proposals. Motion carried.

AYE: Bailey, Birkel, Engel, Goldsberry, Hanson, Hilger, Johnson, D., Johnson, J., Lawrence, McKnight, Meduna, Olson, Saalfeld, Saeger, Seier, Tonnies. Yosten, Sabatka
NAY: Harders

7. LOWER PLATTE RIVER COOIDOR ALLIANCE – Update Given

8. MORSE BLUFF FLOOD REDUCTION – Update Given

9. EROSION AND SEDIMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS – None

10. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – Update Given

11. OTHER - None

Johnson, J. made the motion, seconded by Johnson, D., that the September 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

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

AYE: Birkel, Engel, Goldsberry, Hanson, Harders, Hilger, Johnson, D., Johnson, J., Lawrence, McKnight, Meduna, Olson, Saalfeld, Saeger, Seier, Tonnies. Yosten, Sabatka
ABSTAIN: Bailey

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 7:29 p.m. for the purposes of discussing Upper Wahoo Creek Watershed land rights and authorizing 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 7:49 p.m. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

Tonnies made the motion, seconded by Saalfeld, to authorize Chair Sabatka to sign purchase agreements with George Cejka -Site 86, Maahs – Site 66 and Library Foundation - Site 66. Motion carried all members present voting aye.

10. COMMENTS FROM DIRECTORS/GUESTS

11. MEETING ESTABLISHMENT AND ADJOURNMENT

The October Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Monday, October 13, 2026, 6:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 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 August 10, 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.

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Bill Saeger, Secretary