

**CENTRAL PLATTE NRD**  
Board Meeting Minutes  
October 25, 2018

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Jim Bendfeldt called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. He reported that the NRD abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business and said that a copy of the Open Meetings Act was displayed on the south wall of the conference room, that the Board reserves the right to change the order of an item on the agenda, and some items on the agenda are subject to closed session.

**ATTENDANCE:** Board members present were:

LeRoy Arends	Dwayne Margritz	Bob Schanou
Jim Bendfeldt	Charles Maser	Steve Sheen
Alicia Haussler	Jerry Milner	Keith Stafford
Chris Henry	Keith Ostermeier	Ed Stoltenberg
Brian Keiser	Doug Reeves	Deborah VanMatre
Ed Kyes	Mick Reynolds	Jerry Wiese

Excused absences: Barry Obermiller, Marvion Reichert and Jay Richeson

Staff present: Lyndon Vogt – General Manager, Jesse Mintken – Assistant Manager, Dianne Miller – Administrative Director, Mark Czaplewski – District Biologist, Kelly Cole – Programs Coordinator, Marcia Lee – Information/Education Specialist, Sandy Noecker – Data Compliance Officer, Luke Zakrzewski – GIS Image Analyst, Tricia Dudley – Resources Conservationist, Courtney Widup – Water Resources Technician.

Others present – Randy Zach – NE Public Power District Columbus, Neil Bankson – Central City.

**MEETING NOTICES:** Chairman Bendfeldt reported that the notices of the meeting had been published in the Grand Island Independent and the news release was provided to other media outlets in the District.

**MEETING MINUTES:** Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the September board meeting minutes. Deborah VanMatre seconded the motion. Board members voting in favor were LeRoy Arends, Alicia Haussler, Ed Kyes, Keith Ostermeier, Mick Reynolds, Keith Stafford, Ed Stoltenberg and Deborah VanMatre. Board members abstaining were Jim Bendfeldt, Chris Henry, Brian Keiser, Dwayne Margritz, Jerry Milner, Doug Reeves, Bob Schanou, Steve Sheen and Jerry Wiese. Motion failed to get a quorum (17 board members present, 8 voted in favor, 9 abstained). Mick Reynolds explained that even if a board member had not attended the previous meeting if they read the minutes and approved of them they could vote yes on the motion to approve.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to reconsider a motion to approve the September board meeting minutes. Keith Ostermeier seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Bob Schanou who abstained. Charles Maser was absent for the motion.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:**

Chairman Bendfeldt asked if there were any announcements or suggestions for future meetings. There were none.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** Chairman Bendfeldt asked if anyone wanted to address the board on any item not included on the agenda. No one requested time to speak.

**NRCS REPORT:** The report from Joe Krolikowski, NRCS District Conservationist, had been put on drop box for the directors review before the board meeting (see enclosed).

**EXCUSED ABSENCES:** Chairman Bendfeldt reported that Barry Obermiller, Marvion Reichert and Jay Richeson had requested to be excused from the board meeting.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the absences as requested. Bob Schanou seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried. Charles Maser was absent for the motion.

**LIFT MORATORIUM ON NEW WELLS & NEW IRRIGATED ACRES:**

Chairman Bendfeldt said board action was required to lift the 180-day moratorium on new wells and new irrigated acres. General Manager Lyndon Vogt asked to have included in the motion that this would be effective November 1<sup>st</sup> because that is when our amended Groundwater Management Plan Rules and Regulations will go into effect.

Bob Schanou made the motion to lift the 180-day moratorium on new wells and new irrigated acres, effective November 1, 2018. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried. Charles Maser was absent for the motion.

**EASTERN PROJECTS:** Jerry Wiese, committee chairman, reported on their meeting held earlier that day.

**JEO Contract – Amendment #7 Regarding Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) for the Upper Prairie Risk Reduction Project** – Jerry said the committee reviewed JEO's proposed Amendment #7 that includes project management, meetings, hydrologic and hydraulic analysis, floodplain mapping, public notification, riverine structures and levee certification, project narrative and LOMR application and FEMA LOMR review coordination. He said the cost of the amendment is \$75,006.00 and was included in this year's budget.

Jerry Wiese made the motion to approve the JEO Consulting Group contract amendment #7 in the amount of \$75,006.00 to add engineering services for the analysis, floodplain delineation and preparation of the LOMR as a follow up to the approved Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR). Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Charles Maser who was absent for the discussion and abstained. Motion carried.

**Dirt Work Bid for Garage Expansion** – Jerry reported that bids had been requested for the dirt work needed for the south garage expansion. Only one was received which was from Hooker Brothers Construction in the amount of \$7,506.00.

Jerry Wiese said the Eastern Projects Committee is recommending, and he made the motion, to approve the Hooker Brothers Construction bid of \$7,506.00 for the dirt work needed for the south garage expansion. Bob Schanou seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**PROGRAMS COMMITTEE:** Committee chairman Keith Ostermeier reported on their meeting held earlier that day.

**Outdoor Classroom Application on Grant Request from NE Wildlife Encounter Discovery Center, Kearney** – Keith said the committee reviewed an application from the Wildlife Encounter Discovery Center in Kearney for an Outdoor Classroom Community Grant in the amount of \$2,000.00 to be used for computer components to build an “augmented reality sandbox” that is combined with 3D visualization applications.

Keith made the motion to approve the application from the Wildlife Encounter Discovery Center in Kearney for an Outdoor Classroom Community Grant in the amount of \$2,000.00 to be used for building a reality sandbox. Deborah VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Bob Schanou asked if that type of display could be purchased for use by the District. It was stated that could be an option for the board to consider. Chairman Bendfeldt requested that I&E Specialist Marcia Lee present the video on the “reality sandbox” at the end of the board meeting.

**Agreement for NE Community Foundation to Reimburse CPNRD for Cost of a Conservation Easement Specialist & Easement Administrative Specialist to be Housed at Grand Island NRCS Office** – Keith also reported the committee discussed a proposed agreement between the NE Community Foundation, on behalf of its affiliated fund the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture Fund, and Central Platte NRD. Federal funds were deposited in the NE Community Foundation to be used to help in the accelerated delivery of easement programs. The agreement allows 100% reimbursement to Central Platte NRD for three years for a Conservation Easement Specialist and an Easement

Administrative Specialist. Both would be considered NRD employees and would be housed at the Grand Island U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

Keith Ostermeier said the Programs Committee is recommending, and he made the motion, to approve and sign the proposed agreement with the NE Community Foundation for the purpose of hiring a Conservation Easement Specialist and Easement Administrative Specialist. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**New CPNRD Sign at Office** – Keith also reported the committee had reviewed designs and costs for a new sign for the office. The committee requested that staff get additional bids for a metal style sign and will consider this item next month.

**2018/2023 LONG RANGE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN:** I&E Specialist Marcia Lee said the draft plan had been put on drop box for board review and had been reviewed by staff. She asked if there were any additional suggestions or questions. There were none.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the 2018/2023 Long Range Implementation Plan. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**CENTRAL NE IRRIGATION PROJECT ESTABLISHED IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, NESTLE PURINA & CARGILL – UPDATE:** Courtney Widup, Water Resources Technician, gave an update on the project. She said the goal of the project is to improve sustainability along the beef chain by using new technology such as the Arable Mark field-level weather and crop monitoring device to make real time decisions. Courtney said 19 low tech/no tech producers in Central Platte NRD enrolled in 2018 and said the goal is to get a total of 50 producers enrolled by 2020. If a producer is interested she said they can contact her at our office.

**NE ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS:** Chairman Bendfeldt, Central Platte NRD's NARD board representative, said he did not have anything to report on the NE Association of Resources Districts board at that time.

**NE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION REPORT:** Mick Reynolds, Middle Platte Basin Commission member, reported that the scoring committee for the NE Water Sustainability Fund had met and would present their recommendations to the Commission board in December.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the October financial report as presented. Steve Sheen seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS: Next Board Meeting** -- Scheduled for Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. One week early due to Thanksgiving. Details to follow.

**Board Retreat** – Chairman Bendfeldt reminded the directors of the board retreat to be held December 13<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Bosselman’s new headquarters facility.

**ADJOURN:** Chairman Bendfeldt adjourned the board meeting at 2:25 p.m.

**Video on augmented reality sandbox** – I&E Specialist Marcia Lee showed a short video on the augmented reality sandbox that is combined with 3D visualization applications. The sand is augmented in real-time with an elevation color map, topographic contour lines and simulated water.

United States Department Of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Grand Island Field Office  
2550 N. Diers Ave., Suite L  
Grand Island, NE 68803  
Phone (308) 395-8586 (Ext. 3)

<http://www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov>

October 15, 2018

Central Platte NRD  
215 North Kaufman Avenue  
Grand Island, NE 68803

October Report to CPNRD

Central Platte NRD Board and Staff, I'm sorry I will be unable to attend this month's meeting in person, NRCS employees have a training on the same day that we must attend. I look forward to seeing you all again at the November meeting. Until then, I have prepared this short update for you all on our current NRCS happenings.

The NRCS is currently working on finishing up the Conservation Stewardship Program (CStP) contract renewals. These are existing contracts held by producers throughout the CPNRD that have the option to renew their contract for another 5 years, or let it expire and then reapply. The Conservation Stewardship Program helps you build on your existing conservation efforts while strengthening your operation. Whether you are looking to improve grazing conditions, increase crop yields, or develop wildlife habitat, we can work together to custom design a CSP plan to help you meet those goals.

For the applicants who chose to reapply for the 2019 signup, that signup is currently on hold. More than likely this signup will be on hold until more develops with the New Farm Bill. The CStP program could go through an extensive change depending on the Farm Bill that is passed. NRCS staff is currently awaiting guidance from National Headquarter on how to proceed with new applications. If you are interested in this program I would ask you stay in contact with your local NRCS field office for more information.

Respectfully Submitted,

*/s/ Joe Krolikowski*

Joe Krolikowski  
District Conservationist

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