

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Board Meeting Agenda
February 28, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

This is an open meeting of the Central Platte Natural Resources District. The NRD abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is displayed on the south wall of this room as required by State law. 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.

MEETING NOTICES

The meeting notice was published in the Grand Island Independent and the news release was provided to other media outlets in the District.

MEETING MINUTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

PUBLIC FORUM

BUSINESS:

1. Joe Krolkowski, District Liaison Report
2. Excused Absences
3. Variance/Appeals – Take Action
 - a. Water transfer from Lower Loup NRD to CPNRD in Custer County
 - b. Variance request from Merrick County
 - c. Report & request Cease and Desist Orders for violators
4. Eastern Projects Committee – Upper Prairie/Silver/Moores Flood Control Project – Take Action
 - a. Flood Alert System Contract-Amendment #8
 - b. Authorize & adopt resolution for Operation & Maintenance Manual for the Silver Creek Levee
 - c. Water Sustainability Fund-Conceptual design of dams for multiple beneficial uses
 - d. Update on crane viewing decks
5. Programs Committee
 - a. Review draft mission statement for the NRD
 - b. Update on Upper Prairie/Silver/Moores Flood Control Project promotion

6. Managers Report – Lyndon Vogt
7. Legislation Report – Mark Czaplewski
8. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission Report – Mick Reynolds
9. Cost Share Program Applications
10. Executive Committee – Discuss Legal Matters
11. Financial Report – February
12. Next Board Meeting – March 28, 2019; 2:00 p.m.
13. Upcoming Events
 - a. March 12, Water Programs Update, Amherst Community Center, Amherst, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 - b. March 14, Water Programs Update, Buffalo County Extension Building, Kearney, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 - c. March 26, Ag Day activity for 4th graders, Fonner Park, Grand Island, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 - d. March 30/April 3, NARD Legislative Conference, Washington, DC
 - e. May 7, Nebraska Children's Groundwater Festival, CCC/College Park, Grand Island
 - f. June 10/11, NRD Basin Tour
14. Other Business

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Board Meeting Minutes

February 28, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: Vice-chairman Mick Reynolds 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	Charles Maser	Mick Reynolds
Chris Henry	Barry Obermiller	Jay Richeson
Brian Keiser	Keith Ostermeier	Ed Stoltenberg
Ed Kyes	Doug Reeves	Deborah VanMatre
Dwayne Margritz	Marvion Reichert	Jerry Wiese

Excused absences – Jim Bendfeldt, Lon Bohn, Alicia Haussler, Jerry Milner, Steve Sheen, Keith Stafford

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

Others present – Joe Krolikowski – NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, Grand Island, Jacob Kendrick – NRCS Soil Conservationist Central City, Jason Scholz – NRCS Soil Conservationist Kearney, Lisa Heineman – Grand Island.

MEETING NOTICES: Vice-chairman Reynolds 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: Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the January board meeting minutes. Barry Obermiller seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS: Vice-chairman Reynolds asked if there were any announcements or suggestions for future meetings. There were none.

PUBLIC FORUM: Vice-chairman Reynolds asked if anyone wanted to address the board on any item not included on the agenda. No one requested time to speak.

NRCS REPORT: Joe Krolkowski, NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, reported on NRCS staffing changes. See enclosed report.

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Vice-Chairman Reynolds reported that Jim Bendfeldt, Lon Bohn, Alicia Haussler, Jerry Milner, Steve Sheen, and Keith Stafford had requested to be excused from the board meeting.

Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the absences as requested. Deborah VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

VARIANCE/APPEALS SUBCOMMITTEE: Jay Richeson reported for the subcommittee who met earlier that day.

Water Transfer from Lower Loup NRD to CPNRD in Custer County – Jay said the first request was from Ross Owen Inc. and Ross Land & Cattle LLC in the Northwest Quarter of Section 4, Township 14, Range 25 in Custer County. The request was to allow the acre for acre transfer of certified irrigated acres from the Lower Loup NRD to land located in Central Platte NRD. Jay said the request fits the criteria required for transfers between the two NRDs and the Variance/Appeals Subcommittee is recommending that the request be approved.

Jay Richeson then made the motion to approve the request from Ross Owen Inc. and Ross Land & Cattle LLC to allow the acre for acre transfer of certified irrigated acres from the Lower Loup NRD to land located in Central Platte NRD because it fits the criteria for transfers between the two NRDs. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Variance Request in Merrick County – Jay said the second request was from Don Daberkow in the West One-half of Section 3, Township 10, Range 8 Merrick County. He was re-appealing the board's 2013 denial for certification of irrigated acres. Jay said the land is in grass, hay or pasture, with no record of irrigation from FSA and Mr. Daberkow is not paying irrigated taxes to meet the requirements for certification.

Jay said the Variance/Appeals Subcommittee is recommending, and he made the motion, to deny the second appeal from Don Daberkow for irrigation certification as there was no new evidence presented to grant the appeal. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Report & Request Cease & Desist Orders for Violators – Jay said they also heard a report from Luke Zakrezewski, GIS Image Analyst, on two individuals who are in violation of the District's Groundwater Management Rules and Regulations due to

irrigating land that has not been certified as irrigated or approved for irrigation through a transfer and have not contacted him about trying to come into compliance with the NRD's rules. Luke is requesting permission to move forward to issue Cease and Desist Orders on the two violators if they have not contacted him by 5:00 p.m. today, February 28th.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve issuing Cease and Desist Orders as requested if the individuals have not contacted GIS Image Analyst Luke Zakrezewski by 5:00 p.m. today, February 28th. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

EASTERN PROJECTS COMMITTEE – REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS:
Committee chairman Ed Stoltenberg reported on their meeting held earlier that day.

Flood Alert System Contract Amendment #8 – Ed said the committee is recommending approval of JEO Consulting Group's Amendment #8 for a cost of \$30,638.00. The amendment is part of the Prairie/Silver/Moores Creek Flood Control Project contract. It is for real-time monitoring and data logging equipment consisting of water level sensors, cameras and rain gauge sensors to be placed at strategic locations throughout the project. The information will assist staff to help determine what actions need to be taken with the emergency action plans for the project. Central Platte NRD's 22 percent share of the cost was budgeted this year.

Ed Stoltenberg said the Eastern Projects Committee is recommending, and he made the motion, to approve Amendment #8 on the JEO Consulting Group Prairie/Silver/Moores Creek Flood Control Project contract. Doug Reeves seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Authorize & Adopt Resolution for Operation & Maintenance Manual for Silver Creek Levee – Ed said the committee reviewed Resolution 001-2019 for the Operation and Maintenance Manual for the Silver Creek Levee in connection with FEMA accreditation for the Upper Prairie/Silver/Moores Flood Control Project. Ed said this is another step in the map revision process.

Ed Stoltenberg said the Eastern Projects Committee is recommending, and he made the motion, to approve Resolution 001-2019 for the Operation and Maintenance Manual for the Silver Creek Levee. Barry Obermiller seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Water Sustainability Fund – Conceptual Design of Dams for Multiple Beneficial Uses – Ed said the Eastern Projects Committee also discussed a proposed contract with JEO Consulting Group for the Conceptual Design of Dams for Multiple Beneficial Uses in the amount of \$140,680.00. A grant from the NE Water Sustainability Fund would pay for 40 percent of the cost and Central Platte NRD would pay the remaining 60 percent. The project would use data from the dam inventory study and ranking project

along with the surface and ground water modules to evaluate up to 150 existing and potential dam and other structure sites for recharge potential. The final products would be conceptual design, cost, and prioritization of evaluated sites for either dam improvement or new construction. The focus areas of the study would be Groundwater Management Areas 9 and 12; however, the project study would be district-wide.

Ed Stoltenberg made the motion to approve the Eastern Projects Committee's recommendation to approve the JEO contract for \$140,680.00 for the Conceptual Design of Dams for Multiple Beneficial Uses. Doug Reeves seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Update on Crane Viewing Decks – Ed said the Eastern Projects Committee also discussed the Alda and Gibbon area crane viewing decks which are becoming more popular. He said options were discussed and action may be required at a later time to help address traffic issues and project enhancements.

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE: Keith Ostermeier, committee chairman, reported on their meeting held earlier that day.

Review Draft Mission Statement for CPNRD – Keith said they discussed a draft mission statement that had been composed by staff which states: The mission of the Central Platte NRD is to wisely conserve, manage, and enhance the water, soil, range, wildlife, and forest resources within the District for the benefit of all. He said it is not required but some NRDs have adopted a mission statement and some have not.

Keith Ostermeier said the Programs Committee is recommending, and he made the motion, to adopt the proposed mission statement for Central Platte NRD. Deborah VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Update on Upper Prairie/Silver/Moores Flood Control Project Promotion – Keith said staff is working with the City of Grand Island to develop promotional information on the Upper Prairie/Silver/Moores Flood Control Project. He said it is hoped that an information event can be planned to coincide with the Railside activities in Grand Island in June. He said the board would be kept updated as plans develop.

MANAGER'S REPORT: General Manager Lyndon Vogt reported that the stakeholders have given their approval of both the Basin-wide and the Central Platte NRD Integrated Management Plans (IMP) and that a timeline has been established for public hearings and official approval of the plans. He said a copy of the drafts of the two IMPs are on drop box and asked the directors to contact him if they have questions or concerns. He briefly reviewed the changes in CPNRD's draft IMP and the steps necessary and schedule for approval. He also briefly reported that he has been working with a couple of landowners to purchase conservation easements, one in Dawson County and one in Buffalo County.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Mark Czaplewski, District Biologist, briefly reported on LB 48 which would change the provisions relating to sufficient cause for nonuse of a water appropriation and is on select file, and LB 134 which would provide levy authority and duties for natural resources districts, and LB 368 which would eliminate over-appropriated river basins, sub-basins and reaches, both of which are in committee. Mark said the NARD Legislative Update will be forwarded to the directors as it becomes available.

NE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION REPORT: Mick Reynolds, Middle Platte Basin Commission member, said the commission will have a meeting March 6th and said he would report at the March board meeting.

COST SHARE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS: Water Resources Technician Courtney Widup reported that we have received applications for the following cost share programs: NE Soil & Water Conservation Program, Center Pivot Incentive, Burn Preparation, Tree Planting, Capacitance Probes and Well Decommissioning (see enclosed). She said the applicants are in compliance with the District's rules and regulations, funds are available, and she recommended they be approved.

Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the cost share applications as reported. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Keith Ostermeier who abstained. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS LEGAL MATTERS: Vice-chairman Reynolds said a motion would be needed for the board to go into executive session.

Barry Obermiller made the motion that the board go into executive session at 2:37 p.m. for the purpose of discussing legal matters. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Ed Kyes made the motion that the board come out of executive session at 2:55 p.m. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Marvion Reichert made the motion to accept the February financial report as presented. Keith Ostermeier seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except Barry Obermiller who abstained. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Next Board Meeting -- Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, March 28th. Details to follow.

ADJOURN: Vice-chairman Reynolds adjourned the board meeting at 3:01 p.m.



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>

February 25, 2019

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

February Report to CPNRD

I would like to take this time to update the Central Platte NRD Staff and Board of Directors on the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staffing changes in two of our four offices. I am pleased to announce we have 2 new Soil Conservationists, Jason Scholz and Jacob Kendrick. They previously served as Pathway Student Interns and fortunately we were able to convert both to fulltime in the last year. Jason will be in the Kearney Field Office, and Jacob will be in the Central City Field Office. During their internship with NRCS they both spent two summers and part of the school year working in different NRCS field offices in Nebraska.

As you all know we have been waiting for some time to refill some open positions, and for the last couple years the only option to do this was to convert Pathway Student Interns. More recently the Natural Resources Conservation Service has been given the go ahead to start advertising vacancies again. These vacancies are to be grouped and then they will be advertised in phases going forward for the next year and beyond. This is being done so that Human Resources can handle the large number of vacancies that will need to be advertised for NRCS nationwide going forward.

We are very happy and excited to have Jason Scholz and Jacob Kendrick onboard, and after working with them now for several months I can say they both have very bright futures ahead of them.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Cost Share
February 28, 2019

NEBRASKA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COST SHARE PROGRAM...	\$	11,223.82
Casey Kyle Peterson – Custer – Planned Grazing	\$	7,500.00
Jonathan Bokenkamp – Buffalo – Brush Management		3,723.82
CENTER PIVOT INCENTIVE COST SHARE PROGRAM.....	\$	6,924.00
Adam Clausen – Hall	\$	6,924.00
BURN PREPARATION COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	412.50
Richard Sealey Jr. Trust – Polk	\$	412.50
TREE PLANTING COST SHARE PROGRAM.....	\$	2,271.57
Wade Kloepping – Dawson	\$	1,396.52
Kelly Jasnoch – Buffalo		875.05
CAPACITANCE PROBE COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	12,500.00
Oak Farms Inc. – Hall	\$	2,500.00
Jerry Dibbern – Hall		2,500.00
Michael Dibbern – Hall		2,500.00
Bruce Reeder – Hall		2,500.00
Wyatt Westberg – Kearney		2,500.00
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	750.00
Henry H & Catherine M Thaden Trusts – Hall	\$	750.00
Total	\$	34,081.89

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MEETING NOTICES

The meeting notice was published in the Grand Island Independent and the news release was provided to other media outlets in the District.

MEETING MINUTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

PUBLIC FORUM

BUSINESS:

1. Joe Krolkowski, NRCS Liaison, District Conservationist Report
2. Excused Absences
3. Western Projects Committee – Report & Take Action
 - a. Urban Conservation Cost Share Application
 - b. Preliminary 2019/2020 Fiscal Budget - Report
4. Water Quantity Committee – Report & Take Action
 - a. Water Programs Updates in Amherst & Kearney
 - b. UNL – TAPS Farm Management Competition – Funding Request
5. Programs Committee - Report
 - a. Preliminary 2019/2020 Fiscal Budget
6. Flood Risk Reduction Update on CPNRD's Projects – Jesse Mintken
7. Managers Report – Lyndon Vogt
8. Legislation Report – Mark Czaplewski

9. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission Report – Mick Reynolds
10. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Report
11. Cost Share Program Applications
12. Financial Report – March
13. Next Board Meeting – April 25, 2019; 2:00 p.m.
14. Upcoming Events
 - a. March 30/April 3, NARD Legislative Conference, Washington, DC
 - b. May 6, Set up for Nebraska Children's Groundwater Festival 1:00 p.m.
 - c. May 7, Nebraska Children's Groundwater Festival, CCC/College Park, Grand Island
 - d. June 10/11, NRD Basin Tour
15. Other Business

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Board Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: Vice-chairman Mick Reynolds 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	Charles Maser	Jay Richeson
Lon Bohn	Jerry Milner	Steve Sheen
Alicia Haussler	Keith Ostermeier	Keith Stafford
Brian Keiser	Doug Reeves	Ed Stoltenberg
Ed Kyes	Marvion Reichert	Deborah VanMatre
Dwayne Margritz	Mick Reynolds	Jerry Wiese

Excused absences – Jim Bendfeldt, Chris Henry and Barry Obermiller

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

Others present – Joe Krolikowski – NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, Grand Island, Dean Krull - UNL Extension, Dale Whitefoot – Shelton, Robert Pore – Grand Island Independent.

MEETING NOTICES: Vice-chairman Reynolds 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: Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the February board meeting minutes. Keith Ostermeier seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except Alicia Haussler, Jerry Milner and Keith Stafford who abstained. Steve Sheen was absent for the motion. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS: Vice-chairman Reynolds asked if there were any announcements or suggestions for future meetings. There were none.

PUBLIC FORUM: Vice-chairman Reynolds asked if anyone wanted to address the board on any item not included on the agenda. No one requested time to speak.

NRCS REPORT: Joe Krolikowski, NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, reported on the NRCS Fiscal Year 2020 Local Working Group meeting (See enclosed report).

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Vice-Chairman Reynolds reported that Jim Bendfeldt, Chris Henry and Barry Obermiller had requested to be excused from the board meeting.

Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the absences as requested. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

FLOOD RISK REDUCTION UPDATE ON CPNRD'S PROJECTS: Assistant Manager Jesse Mintken showed a video and explained how the Prairie/Silver/Moores Creek project performed. Videos included the levee, detention cells, and the PCUL4 dam. He also showed pictures of the Wood River Flood Control Project. The videos and pictures were taken over a span of a few days during the recent storm event. Jesse said both projects performed as they were designed and also said there will be an analysis to evaluate the estimated savings to property, as well as how much water came through the project systems. Jesse said we can usually handle four inches of rain with no problems but this was a very unique event because between two and one half to four inches of rain fell between Gibbon and Grand Island, on top of the fact that there were 25 inches of frost in the ground, so there was no way for the water to soak in.

Jesse also showed several aerial views of some of the Custer and Dawson County flood control structures. The pilot was board member Dwayne Margritz and staff member Shane Max took the pictures. He said there are several dams in Dawson County that are doing a great job of retiming the water. In Dawson County CPNRD owns nine structures with B-1 being one of them.

Jesse said we will begin evaluating projects' maintenance needs as soon as conditions allow.

WESTERN PROJECTS COMMITTEE: Committee chairman Marvion Reichert reported on their committee meeting held earlier that day.

Preliminary 2019/2020 Fiscal Budget Report – Marvion said the 2019/2020 proposed budget for Western Projects should be about the same as 2018/2019 minus \$10,000.00 that was eliminated for some legal fees. He said the committee will meet again next month to continue their review.

Urban Conservation Cost Share Application – Marvion said the committee also discussed a \$40,000.00 Urban Conservation cost share program request from the City of

Gothenburg to assist with bank stabilization at Lake Helen. He said previously Central Platte NRD had contributed \$75,000.00 for the Lake Helen rehab project.

The Western Projects Committee discussed the request and were of the opinion that the work involves maintenance rather than actually building a project and are recommending that Central Platte NRD approve \$10,000.00.

Marvion Reichert then made the motion to approve the Western Projects Committee's recommendation to approve \$10,000.00 for the Urban Conservation Program application from the City of Gothenburg for Lake Helen bank stabilization. Brian Keiser seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except Jay Richeson who abstained. Motion carried.

WATER QUANTITY COMMITTEE: Committee chairman Jay Richeson reported on their meeting held earlier that day.

UNL TAPS Farm Management Competition Funding Request – Jay said the committee discussed a \$1,000.00 funding request from Chuck Burr with the University of NE/Lincoln for the TAPS program (Testing Ag Performance Solutions) for the 2019 growing season. TAPS hosts farm management competitions for local producers to make best management decisions.

Jay Richeson then made the motion to approve the Water Quantity Committee's recommendation to contribute \$1,000.00 to the UNL TAPS Farm Management Competition program. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

General Manager Vogt said he would invite Chuck Burr to report to the board on the TAPS program.

Groundwater Quantity Management Program – Jay said the committee discussed updating the Groundwater Quantity Management Program plan and are recommending that requests for proposals be sent to engineering firms.

Jay then made the motion to approve the Water Quantity Committee's recommendation to send out requests for proposals to engineering firms to update the Groundwater Quantity Management Program plan. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE REPORT: Committee chairman Keith Ostermeier, reported on their meeting held earlier that day and said they had worked on budget recommendations for Fiscal Year 2019/2020. Their proposed recommendations would reduce the cost share items by \$11,000.00 and would increase the Information/Education budget by \$300.00. The recommendations will be forwarded to the Budget Committee.

MANAGER'S REPORT: General Manager Vogt reported that a preliminary disaster request has been submitted to FEMA for NRD facilities damaged by the flood event. He also reported that the District's 2009 Chevy Malibu had been totaled in an accident. There were no injuries. The costs will be covered by the at-fault party's insurance. He reported that farmers who were affected by flooding and were not able to take soil samples for the Groundwater Quality Management Program will not be required to submit samples this year. He also said the first of the required public hearings on the basin wide and the individual Integrated Management Plans would be held in June and said the draft plans will be forwarded to the directors in the near future.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Mark Czaplewski, District Biologist, reported on three bills that have been passed: LB 48 changes the provisions relating to sufficient cause for nonuse of a water appropriation, LB 243 creates a Healthy Soils Task Force, and LB 302e merges the State Energy Office with the Department of Environmental Quality.

NE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION REPORT: Mick Reynolds, Middle Platte Basin Commission member, reported that at the March 6th Commission meeting new officers were elected. They are Chairman Scott Smathers and Vice-chairman Jeff Steffen. He said Emily Rose has been named as the new legal counsel and will replace retiring LeRoy Sievers. He also reported the budget for new applications will include \$11 million (not yet approved) plus \$5.3 million in carryover funds.

COST SHARE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS: Programs Coordinator Kelly Cole reported that we have received applications for the following cost share programs: Tree Planting, Capacitance Probes, Flow Meters, and Well Decommissioning (see enclosed). She said the applicants are in compliance with the District's rules and regulations, funds are available, and she recommended they be approved.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve the cost share applications as reported. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Alicia Haussler made the motion to accept the March financial report as presented. Deborah VanMatre 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 afternoon, April 25th. Details to follow.

Upcoming Events – March 30-April 3 - NARD Washington D.C. Legislative Conference, May 7 - NE Children's Groundwater Festival and June 10 & 11 - NRD Basin Tour.

ADJOURN: Vice-chairman Reynolds adjourned the board meeting.

March 27, 2019

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

March Report to CPNRD

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) recently held their FY2020 Local Working Group (LWG) meeting. The Local Working Group recommends to the NRCS State Conservationist how conservation programs like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) would be used most effectively in their area. The local work group does this by evaluating and prioritizing the resource concerns through their Natural Recourse District. These recommendations can include special target areas, cost share rates, which conservation practices should have cost assistance, or how many dollars could be needed. This work group allows local input into how Federal dollars are spent in their area and across the state. I have listed below some of the LWG recommendations from this year's meeting.

- After reviewing our current cost share programs available to producers in the Central Platte, the recommendation was to continue with all the current programs available. In addition, we also recommended the separation of dryland only applications from the fund code that also funds the irrigation system conversions. The intent is to better align these applications with the Central Platte Natural Resources Districts timelines for updating irrigated acres.
- Demand for financial assistance has remained high relative to available funds, so the recommendation was a gradual reduction in some payment rates to provide more broad access to the available funds. This will become even more important moving forward if some of the funds available to us are decreased or eliminated.
- It was suggested that looking at how available funds are being allocated between the different funding pools to insure a good balance exists to address the current resource concerns identified across the district and the state.

In conclusion, the signing of a new Farm Bill at the end of 2018 can also impact how Farm Bill programs like EQIP will be administered in future years. Currently there remains much uncertainty in how the new ranking tool named Conservation Application Ranking Tool (CART) will function, and if it will be implemented in FY2020. It is also unknown if each NRD will be able to continue to have their own fund pools as they have in the past or if this concept will change. These uncertainties did not stop the Local Work Groups from discussing local priorities within their respective Natural Resources Districts. We were simply honest with the LWG about the potential major changes from the current ranking tool Application Evaluation Ranking Tool (AERT) and to the funding pools currently available.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolkowski

Joe Krolkowski
District Conservationist

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Cost Share

March 28, 2019

TREE PLANTING COST SHARE PROGRAM.....		\$	949.00
Jeff Granger – Buffalo	\$	156.00	
Dale Stengel – Buffalo		793.00	
CAPACITANCE PROBE COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	2,500.00
Kurt Koepp – Sherman	\$	2,500.00	
FLOW METER COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	800.00
Bergman Land LLC – Dawson	\$	800.00	
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	750.00
Gary Mike Hubbard – Buffalo	\$	750.00	
Total		\$	4,999.00

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Board Meeting Agenda
April 25, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

This is an open meeting of the Central Platte Natural Resources District. The NRD abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is displayed on the south wall of this room as required by State law. 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.

MEETING NOTICES

The meeting notice was published in the Grand Island Independent and the news release was provided to other media outlets in the District.

MEETING MINUTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

PUBLIC FORUM

BUSINESS:

1. TAPS Program Update – Chuck Burr, UNL
2. Joe Krolikowski, NRCS Liaison, District Conservationist Report
3. Excused Absences
4. Variance/Appeals from Hall County – Report & Take Action
5. Eastern Project Committee – Preliminary 2019/2020 Fiscal Budget - Report
6. Western Projects Committee - Preliminary 2019/2020 Fiscal Budget - Report
7. Programs Committee – Ron Bishop-CPNRD College Scholarship Applications - Report & Take Action
8. Water Quality Committee – Report & Take Action
 - a. Compliance Cease & Desist Option for Producers Who Have Not Submitted Their 2019 Nitrogen Management Forms and/or Nitrogen Management Tests
 - b. Preliminary 2019/2020 Fiscal Budget Report

9. Water Quantity Committee – Report & Take Action
 - a. Wetland Easement
 - b. Preliminary 2019/2020 Fiscal Budget Report
10. Vehicle Bids – Report & Take Action
11. Managers Report – Lyndon Vogt
12. Nebraska Habitat Conservation Coalition (NHCC) Request a Change of Representation on the Coalition – Mark Czaplewski
13. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission Report – Mick Reynolds
14. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Report – Jim Bendfeldt
15. Cost Share Program Applications
16. Financial Report – April
17. Next Board Meeting – May 23, 2019; 2:00 p.m.
18. Upcoming Events
 - a. May 6, Set up for Nebraska Children’s Groundwater Festival 1:00 p.m.
 - b. May 7, Nebraska Children’s Groundwater Festival, CCC/College Park, Grand Island
 - c. June 5-7, Groundwater Management District Association Summer Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah
 - d. June 10/11, NRD Basin Tour
 - e. June 21, CPNRD Flood Control Stroll, Downtown Grand Island, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
19. Other Business

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Board Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2019

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	Charles Maser	Jay Richeson
Jim Bendfeldt	Jerry Milner	Steve Sheen
Alicia Haussler	Barry Obermiller	Ed Stoltenberg
Ed Kyes	Doug Reeves	Deborah VanMatre
Dwayne Margritz	Marvion Reichert	

Excused absences – Lon Bohn, Chris Henry, Brian Keiser, Keith Ostermeier, Mick Reynolds, Keith Stafford, and Jerry Wiese.

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

Others present – Joe Krolikowski – NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, Grand Island, Dean Krull - UNL Extension, Chuck Burr – UNL, Lori Potter – Kearney Hub.

MEETING NOTICES: Chairman Jim 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: Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the March board meeting minutes. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except Jim Bendfeldt and Barry Obermiller who abstained. Motion carried.

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.

TAPS PROGRAM UPDATE: Chuck Burr, UNL Extension Educator located in the West/Central Research and Extension Center in North Platte presented information on the TAPS program (Testing Agriculture Performance Solutions), that is now in its third year. He thanked the board for their support of the program. Its purpose is to facilitate farm management and education through real life farm management competitions and explained how the competition is conducted. The program is supported by the University of Nebraska Extension, natural resources districts, non-profit organizations, industry leaders and financial institutions. Chuck said more information is available on the web site TAPS.unl.edu.

NRCS REPORT: Joe Krolikowski, NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, reported on events and activities of the NRCS field offices in Central Platte NRD and the State. (See enclosed report).

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Chairman Jim Bendfeldt reported that Lon Bohn, Chris Henry, Brian Keiser, Keith Ostermeier, Mick Reynolds, Keith Stafford, and Jerry Wiese had requested to be excused from the board meeting.

Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the absences as requested. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

VARIANCE/APPEALS: Chairman Bendfeldt reported that the Variance/Appeals Subcommittee met earlier that day and reviewed a variance request from Ken and Adam Claussen to certify as irrigated acres a 2.86 acre tract in Hall County just south of Grand Island owned by Clarence and Martha Reif. The tract was a tree line that had been removed in, or prior to, 2004. The subcommittee reviewed the request and are recommending the request be denied because there are no FSA records to show irrigated history.

Jim Bendfeldt then made the motion to deny the variance request from Ken and Adam Claussen to certify as irrigated acres a 2.86 acre tract south of Grand Island in Hall County as reported. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

EASTERN PROJECTS COMMITTEE REPORT: Committee chairman Ed Stoltenberg reported on their meeting held earlier that day and continued their work on next fiscal year's budget recommendations. The committee is recommending that two new items be added for repair of over 40 existing dams. \$55,000.00 would be added under Professional Services and \$200,000.00 would be added under Project Operations and Maintenance. The overall increase from last year's recommendations would be approximately \$128,707.00. Ed said their recommendations will be forwarded to the Budget Committee.

WESTERN PROJECTS COMMITTEE: Committee chairman Marvion Reichert reported on their committee meeting held earlier that day. He said the budget numbers are down slightly from last year and would be forwarded to the Budget Committee.

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE – RON BISHOP CPNRD COLLEGE

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS – REPORT & ACTION: Deborah VanMatre reported on the committee's meeting and said they reviewed the applications for the Ron Bishop CPNRD College Scholarships. The committee is recommending the following five individuals to receive the \$1,000.00 scholarships: Klint Gill from Cozad, McKinley Harm from Gothenburg, Sage Williams from Eddyville, Juan Arellanes Gallorzo from Grand Island and Jason Line from Miller.

Deborah VanMatre then made the motion to approve the five applicants for the Ron Bishop CPNRD college scholarships for the 2019/2020 academic year. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE – REPORT & ACTION: Committee chairman Jerry Milner reported on the committee's meeting held earlier that day.

Compliance Cease & Desist Option – Jerry said they heard a report concerning the non-compliance of the nitrogen management forms and testing. There are six individuals in violation for the 2018 growing season and all were issued cease and desist orders. Management has been instructed to contact our legal council to have a certified letter sent to those six informing them that if they irrigate this growing season they will be in violation of the cease and desist order.

Jerry said the committee discussed the 2019 growing season noncompliance and difficulties caused by the recent flooding in parts of the district. He said a recommendation for noncompliance will be presented at a later date.

Budget Fiscal Year 2019/2020 -- Jerry said the committee also reviewed their fiscal year 2019/2020 budget recommendations and said those would be forwarded to the Budget Committee.

WATER QUANTITY COMMITTEE – REPORT & ACTION: Jay Richeson, committee chairman, reported on their meeting.

Wetland Easement – Jay said the committee discussed holding a conservation easement on a tract of farm land in Hall County to assist with the landowner's management plan in conjunction with the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture, which is a part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Central Platte NRD would be reimbursed the cost of the conservation easement.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve the recommendation from the Water Quantity Committee that Central Platte NRD move ahead in holding the wetland conservation easement on a piece of farm ground to assist with the landowner's management plan in conjunction with the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Preliminary Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Budget Report – Jay said the Water Quantity Committee will also forward their recommendations to the Budget Committee.

VEHICLES' BIDS – REPORT & ACTION: General Manager Lyndon Vogt reported that invitations to bid for two 2019 pickups were sent to all of the new vehicle dealerships in the District. Only Platte Valley Auto of Lexington responded. The bid was for \$41,853.00 for a 2019 Dodge 4-wheel drive ¾ Ton crew cab pickup minus the trade-in of the District's 2014 Chevy 4-wheel drive, ¾ Ton pickup for \$20,600.00 for a net difference of \$21,253.00. Thirty Mile Irrigation District, which Central Platte NRD owns 50% of, will buy the 2014. The second bid was for a Dodge Ram 3500 4-wheel drive, regular cab, non-dolly for \$37,581.00 with no trade-in. He said we have a 2004 Ford F350 fire truck that we plan to sell in the next couple of months. There has been some interest in the 2004 from some of the crews that David Carr helps with some of their prescribed burns. The truck is set up with a fire rig, and a pump and tank in it. He said Dave has already set up a pump to go into the new 1-ton. It is staff's opinion that we can get more out of the 2004 by selling it as a fire truck than we could get as a trade-in. In answer to a question General Manager Vogt said the specs would have fit either Ford, Chevy or Dodge and said staff feels the bid was fair and would have been competitive based on research. He said Platte Valley Auto has actually been the low bidder for the last few vehicles we have purchased. Also in answer to a question concerning whether we would be buying half of the ¾ ton pickup back General Manager Vogt said that was correct. Central Platte NRD owns 50 percent of Thirty Mile Irrigation District, and our agreement is to pay for 50 percent of their operating costs and equipment purchases.

Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the bids from Platte Valley Auto for the 2019 ¾ Ton Dodge and the 2019 1-ton Dodge as reported. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

General Manager Vogt also reported that next month we will probably let bids for a vehicle to replace the Chevy Malibu that was totaled in an accident and said we will probably be looking at a mid-size SUV.

MANAGER'S REPORT: General Manager Vogt reported that the Healthy Soils Task Force was approved by the Legislature this year and said the Governor will appoint two of the members. He said applications are available online if anyone is interested in serving on the task force.

General Manager Vogt also handed out information on the program “Time on the River” that is part of the time lapse program on the Platte and said the program is also available on-line.

General Manager Vogt also said we had a court date with Kelly Smith on April 24th. Before they went into the court room he and attorney Cathy Allen and Kelly Smith visited and it appears we have reached some common ground. The court date was postponed until the end of May. Kelly Smith has an appointment to come into the office next week to work with Luke Zakrzewski.

NEBRASKA HABITAT CONSERVATION COALITION (NHCC) – REQUEST CHANGE OF REPRESENTATION: Mark Czaplewski, District Biologist, said Central Platte NRD is a member of the NHCC that was formed under an interlocal cooperative agreement to deal with endangered species issues and said he was appointed by Central Platte NRD to serve as the District’s representative. Mark said it is his plan to retire before the group’s next annual meeting in April 2020. He asked that General Manager Vogt be named as his replacement.

Alicia Haussler made the motion that General Manager Lyndon Vogt be named as Central Platte NRD’s representative to replace Mark Czaplewski on the Nebraska Habitat Conservation Coalition. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS REPORT: Jim Bendfeldt said he did not have anything to report.

COST SHARE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS: Request to Transfer Funds -- Programs Coordinator Kelly Cole reported that we have received more applications for the Tree Planting cost share than there are funds available. She requested that \$1,500.00 be transferred from the Soil Moisture Sensor program to the Tree Planting program.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to transfer \$1,500.00 from the Soil Moisture Sensor cost share program to the Tree Planting cost share program. Barry Obermiller seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Applications -- Kelly reported that we have received applications for the following cost share programs: Center Pivot Incentive, Tree Planting, Capacitance Probes and Well Decommissioning (see enclosed). She said the applicants are in compliance with the District’s rules and regulations, funds are available, and she recommended they be approved.

Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the cost share applications as reported. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Alicia Haussler made the motion to accept the April financial report as presented. Marvion Reichert 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 afternoon, May 23rd. Details to follow.

Upcoming Events – May 6 Set up for Nebraska Children’s Groundwater Festival, May 7 Nebraska Children’s Groundwater Festival, June 5 – 7 GMDA Summer Conference, June 10 – 11 NRD Basin Tour, June 21 CPNRD Flood Control Stroll Downtown Grand Island.

ADJOURN: Chairman Bendfeldt adjourned the board meeting at 3:06 p.m.

April 23, 2019

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

April Report to CPNRD

This is a summary of events and activities currently happening at the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Field Offices throughout the Central Platte and the State. The recent weather events have brought a lot of damage and destruction to the State of Nebraska in the last month. In the Central Platte, for the most part, we have fared better than other places across our State. All this damage, and then the challenges that follow to repair can be hard to overcome, but the great people of this State are pulling together to help each other out. We can all use help at one time or another and listed below are some programs I would like to make you aware of that can provide some help for repairs.

- The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) administers the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP). The program was authorized by Congress to respond to emergencies created by natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes, tornadoes and wildfires. NRCS and EWP can provide technical and financial assistance to eligible projects to preserve life and property threatened by excessive erosion and flooding. Each EWP project requires a local sponsor to apply for assistance, examples would be legal subdivisions of State or local government, including local officials of city and county, Natural Resource Districts (NRD's) of State government. Sponsors are needed to provide legal authority to do repair work, obtain necessary permits, contribute funds or in-kind services, and maintain the completed emergency measures.
- The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) also administers the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP). This program and funds are available to plant severe weather damaged acres to cover crops this year if time does not allow for repairs and the planting of this year's cash crop. They also work extremely well to help stabilize newly repaired areas in cropland. The cover crops will help address many different resource concerns in the area and across Nebraska. This cover crop funding is available statewide to assist producer in their recovery from the March weather events. If applicable, producers can apply for funding by May 17, 2019 for the first cutoff date, or by June 21, 2019 for the second cutoff date at their local NRCS Field Offices.

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- The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) can also aid through another special initiative. This program is called the Livestock Mortality Program, for producers who have suffered livestock losses due to the extreme weather events this spring. This program is intended to help farmers and ranchers to properly dispose of their dead livestock carcasses in a safe manner. Proper disposal will help prevent impacts to water quality and other natural resources. This program has been in place for a while now, the first cutoff date was April 5, 2019 and the second cutoff will be May 1, 2019. More cutoff dates may be announced if the demand remains high and funding is available. Producers who have not already disposed of their deceased livestock can apply at their local NRCS Field Office. They will also want to complete a waiver request to start the work before the contract is approved because this work is time sensitive.
- The Farm Service Agency (FSA) administers the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP). The ECP program is intended to provide emergency funding and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers to repair damaged farmland and rangeland by natural disasters. Emergency conservation practices available are debris removal, grading, shaping, or leveling land, restoring fences, and restoring conservation structures. Producers who are interested should call or stop by their local FSA county office to check on eligibility and the enrollment periods. ECP is not offered in every county in Nebraska. Conservation problems existing before the applicable disaster event are not eligible for ECP assistance.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist

Attachments: EWP fact sheet 2019, Cover Crops for Disaster Assistance Initiative 2019, Livestock Mortality 2019, ECP fact sheet

Helping People Help the Land

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NATURAL DISASTER RECOVERY ASSISTANCE THROUGH EWP

When natural disasters strike, the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program offers vital recovery options for local communities. Administered by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, the program is designed to help people reduce hazards to life and property caused by floodwaters, droughts, wildfires, earthquakes, windstorms, and other natural disasters.

Project funds address erosion related watershed impairments by supporting activities such as removing debris from stream channels, road culverts, and bridges; reshaping and protecting eroded banks; correcting damaged drainage facilities; repairing levees and structures; and reseeding damaged areas.

Eligibility

Public and private landowners are eligible for assistance, but all projects must be sponsored by a legal subdivision of the State. This includes any city, county, general improvement district, conservation district, or Native American tribe or tribal organization. Sponsors are responsible for:

- Providing land rights to do repair work,
- Securing all necessary permits,
- Furnishing the local cost share,
- Implementation of work, and
- Operation and maintenance of the completed project.

Generally, NRCS will pay up to 75 percent of the restoration costs, and the sponsor is responsible for the remaining balance of funding needs, which can include in-kind support. Sponsors have 60 days from the disaster occurrence to request Federal assistance.

More Information

To learn more about EWP and additional disaster recovery assistance available visit your local USDA Service Center or the Nebraska NRCS website www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov. Visit www.farmers.gov/service-locator to find your local USDA Service Center.



Quickly address serious and long-lasting damages to infrastructure with EWP funding.

**Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service**



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

100 Centennial Mall North
Federal Building, Rm. 152
Lincoln, NE 68508-3866
www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov
@NebraskaNRCS

News Release

Contact:

Joanna Pope, NRCS Public Affairs Officer
(402) 437-4123
joanna.pope@ne.usda.gov

Aaron Hird, NRCS Soil Health Specialist
(402) 437-4053
aaron.hird@ne.usda.gov

Funds Available to Plant Severe Weather Damaged Acres to Cover Crops

LINCOLN, NE, April 17, 2019 – To help manage cropland damaged by Nebraska's severe spring weather, the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is providing funds to plant cover crops on cropland acres. Producers are encouraged to apply by May 17, 2019, or June 21, 2019 at their local USDA Service Center.

Nebraska NRCS State Conservationist Craig Derickson said, "This funding will address resource concerns like erosion and water quality, resulting directly from the March 2019 severe weather damage on cropland acres. Cover crops are an excellent way to provide protection to cropland after conservation work has been completed. Cover crops can stabilize the soil and improve soil health."

This funding is available statewide in order to assist the widespread recovery work on cropland acres directly impacted by the severe weather in March. The highest priority cropland includes land which is unable to be planted with a cash crop and/or harvested in 2019.

Cover crops prevent erosion, improve soil's physical and biological properties, supply nutrients, suppress weeds, improve the availability of soil water, and break pest cycles along with various other benefits. Cover crops can also potentially be grazed.

Work currently being done to maintain conservation structures as well as sediment removal, debris removal or grading and reshaping can be stabilized and protected from further erosion and damage by planting a cover crop.

Derickson said, "For Nebraska's cropland that suffered significant damage, planting a cover crop can be a great way to help protect fields and help restore productivity."

For more information, visit NRCS at a USDA Service Center, or visit www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov

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United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

100 Centennial Mall North
Federal Building, Rm. 152
Lincoln, NE 68508-3866
www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov

News Release

Contact:

Brad Soncksen, ASCT-Programs
(402) 437-4111

Brad.soncksen@ne.usda.gov

Joanna Pope, NRCS Public Affairs Officer
(402) 437-4123

joanna.pope@ne.usda.gov

Funds from USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Help with Livestock Mortality

LINCOLN, NE March 21, 2019 – As the flood water recedes and snow melts, farmers and ranchers are getting a better look at the amount of damage their operations have suffered from last week's extreme weather events.

One of the more significant losses experienced by landowners has been livestock death. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has assistance available to help landowners cope with the aftermath of livestock death.

Through NRCS' Environmental Quality Incentives Program, commonly referred to as EQIP, farmers and ranchers can apply for assistance to properly dispose of dead livestock. Applications are being accepted now through April 5. The second cut-off date is May 1. Additional application cutoff dates may be announced if there is demand and available funding.

NRCS State Conservationist Craig Derickson said, "This was an unprecedented and devastating event for Nebraska. Some ranchers are dealing with hundreds of dead animals. This is not only damaging to their bottom-line, but if these animals are not disposed of properly, there could be negative impacts to water quality and other natural resources. NRCS conservationists are available to provide technical and financial assistance to help producers dispose of livestock carcasses in a safe manner."

Producers who have not already disposed of livestock can apply for EQIP now. Producers can then get a waiver to allow them to begin working to dispose of deceased livestock before having an approved EQIP contract.

-more-

been approved. But since this situation is so time-critical, NRCS is encouraging producers to sign up for EQIP first, then submit a waiver to go ahead and begin animal disposal prior to having their EQIP contract approved,” Derickson said.

Producers in the area who suffered other damages due to the blizzard and flooding – such as damaged fencing, water sources, or windbreaks – may also seek assistance from NRCS through general EQIP funding. The sign-up period for general EQIP is continuous and has no cut off application date.

Derickson said, “NRCS is committed to helping producers get back on their feet after these extreme weather events while also ensuring Nebraska’s natural environment remains healthy and productive.”

For more information about the programs and assistance available from NRCS, visit your local USDA Service Center or www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov.

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Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

OVERVIEW

The Emergency Conservation Program (ECP), administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA), provides emergency funding and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters and to implement emergency water conservation measures in periods of severe drought.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

ECP is administered by FSA state and county committees and county offices. Producers should inquire with their local FSA county office regarding ECP enrollment periods and eligibility.

LAND ELIGIBILITY

FSA county committees determine land eligibility based on on-site inspections of damaged land and the type and extent of damage. Eligible land includes land used for:

- Commercial farming, ranching and orchard operations;
- Growing nursery stock and Christmas tree plantations;
- Grazing for commercial livestock production; and
- Conservation structures; such as, waterways, terraces, diversions and windbreaks.

Conservation problems existing before the applicable disaster event are ineligible for ECP assistance.

COST-SHARE PAYMENTS

Cost-share payments are:

- Up to 75 percent of the cost to implement approved restoration practices;
- Up to 90 percent if limited resource producers; and
- Limited to \$200,000 per person or legal entity per disaster.

ELIGIBLE FARMLAND RESTORATION PRACTICES

To rehabilitate farmland, ECP participants may implement emergency conservation practices, such as:

- Debris removal from farmland (cleanup of woody material, sand, rock and trash on cropland or pastureland);
- Grading, shaping or leveling land (filling gullies, releveling irrigated farmland and incorporating sand and silt);
- Restoring fences (livestock cross fences, boundary fences, cattle gates or wildlife exclusion fence from agricultural land);
- Restoring conservation structures (waterways, diversion ditches, buried irrigation mainlines and permanently installed ditching system); and
- Providing emergency water during periods of severe drought (grazing and confined livestock and existing irrigation systems for orchards and vineyards).

FOR MORE INFORMATION

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only; other eligibility requirements may apply. More information on ECP is available at FSA offices, local USDA service centers and on FSA's website at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>. To find your local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- 1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- 2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- 3) email: program.makel@usda.gov.

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CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Cost Share

April 25, 2019

CENTER PIVOT INCENTIVE COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$ 7,500.00
Ryan Hanousek – Hall	\$	7,500.00
TREE PLANTING COST SHARE PROGRAM.....		\$ 2,168.40
Adam Grabenstein – Dawson	\$	958.95
Wyatt Olson – Buffalo		900.70
Jered Jones – Hall		308.75
CAPACITANCE PROBE COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$ 2,500.00
DJ Wrage Farms Inc - Buffalo	\$	2,500.00
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$ 2,250.00
City of Kearney – Buffalo	\$	750.00
Andrew & April Brabec – Hall		750.00
Marian Hubbard Living Trust – Buffalo		750.00
Total		\$ 14,418.40

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Board Meeting Agenda
May 23, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.

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MEETING NOTICES

The meeting notice was published in the Grand Island Independent and the news release was provided to other media outlets in the District.

MEETING MINUTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

PUBLIC FORUM

BUSINESS:

1. Joe Krolikowski, NRCS Liaison, District Conservationist Report
2. Excused Absences
3. Water Quantity Committee – Report & Take Action
 - a. Basin-Wide & CPNRD Individual Integrated Management Plans
 - b. Water Exchange Memorandum of Understanding with Central Neb. Public Power & Irrigation District
 - c. Cover Crop Memorandum of Understanding with Lower Loup NRD
 - d. NRCS Watershed Planning Grant
4. Budget Committee – Preliminary 2019/2020 Fiscal Budget - Report
5. Cease & Desist Order for a Landowner in Hall County
6. Manager's Report – Lyndon Vogt
7. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission Report – Mick Reynolds
8. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Report – Jim Bendfeldt

9. Cost Share Program Applications
10. Financial Report – May
11. Next Board Meeting – June 27, 2019; 2:00 p.m.
12. Upcoming Events
 - a. June 5-7, Groundwater Management District Association Summer Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah
 - b. June 10/11, NRD Basin Tour
 - c. June 21, CPNRD Flood Control Stroll, Downtown Grand Island, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
13. Other Business

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Board Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2019

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ATTENDANCE: Board members present were:

LeRoy Arends	Ed Kyes	Mick Reynolds
Jim Bendfeldt	Dwayne Margritz	Jay Richeson
Lon Bohn	Jerry Milner	Keith Stafford
Alicia Haussler	Barry Obermiller	Ed Stoltenberg
Chris Henry	Keith Ostermeier	Deborah VanMatre
Brian Keiser	Doug Reeves	Jerry Wiese

Excused absences – Charles Maser and Marvion Reichert. Absent – Steve Sheen

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

Others present – Joe Krolikowski – NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, Grand Island, Dean Krull - UNL Extension, Melissa Mosier and Sarah Nevison – NE Dept. of Natural Resources Lincoln, Randy Zach – NE Public Power District Columbus, Bill Taddicken – Rowe Sanctuary, Lori Potter – Kearney Hub.

MEETING NOTICES: Chairman Jim 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 April board meeting minutes. Barry Obermiller seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except Lon Bohn, Chris Henry, Brian Keiser, Keith Stafford and Jerry Wiese who all abstained. Motion carried.

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: Joe Krolkowski, NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, reported on NRCS events and activities (see enclosed report).

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Chairman Jim Bendfeldt reported that Charles Maser and Marvion Reichert had requested to be excused from the board meeting.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the absences as requested. Deborah VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

WATER QUANTITY COMMITTEE – REPORTS & ACTION: Jay Richeson, committee chairman, reported on their meeting held earlier that day.

Basin-wide & CPNRD Individual Integrated Management Plans – Jay said the committee discussed the drafts of the proposed Basin-wide IMP and Central Platte NRD's individual IMP.

Jay said the Water Quantity Committee is recommending, and he made the motion, to approve the drafts of the proposed Basin-wide IMP and Central Platte NRD's individual IMP for the purpose of holding the required public hearings on July 15. Barry Obermiller seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

The July 15 public hearing on the proposed Basin-wide IMP is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. with the public hearing on Central Platte NRD's proposed IMP to follow at 3:30 p.m. General Manager Vogt said the drafts are on drop box and if anyone wanted a printed copy they would be made available.

Water Exchange Memorandum of Understanding with Central NE Public Power & Irrigation District (CNPP&ID) – Jay said the committee discussed the proposed one year agreement with CNPP&ID. General Manager Vogt said this would allow Central Platte NRD to store the exchange water from the three canals in Lake McConaughy. Prior to this we have been returning that water at the head gates during the irrigation season. The agreement would allow us to store the water in Lake McConaughy and it would become part of the environmental account for the Platte River Program. (Copy of MOU attached).

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve the one year Water Exchange Memorandum of Understanding Between the Central NE Public Power & Irrigation District and Central Platte NRD. Doug Reeves seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Cover Crop Memorandum of Understanding with Lower Loup NRD – Jay said the committee also discussed a proposed agreement with the Lower Loup NRD for a cover crop study (see enclosed). A copy of the MOU was put on drop box prior to the board meeting. General Manager Vogt said the board had previously approved applying for a Water Sustainability Fund grant for this project and said our application has been approved. He said the proposed Cover Crop Groundwater Impact Study would be to assist the Lower Loup NRD and Central Platte NRD in making scientifically defensible management decisions regarding cover crop management. Central Platte NRD's share of the three-year study would be \$33,500.00.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve the Water Quantity Committee's recommendation to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding with the Lower Loup on the three-year cover crop study. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Watershed and Flood Prevention Operation (WFPO) Grant – Jay said the committee discussed two NRCS grants that we may want to consider for Buffalo Creek and the Wood River above the town of Wood River.

General Manager Vogt explained that the deadline for applying for the grants is mid-July. He said it would probably be the end of the year before we know if the funding is approved. If we are approved NRCS, or a subcontractor, would develop a watershed work plan to address flooding concerns. The plan would include 30% of the design for any projects they recommend for flood control purposes.

In answer to a question General Manager Vogt said if we are approved and if there is funding moving forward there would be a second round of grants after the planning and 30% design for any structural projects. The second round of grants to implement the projects would actually pay for everything except for land rights and permitting which would be CPNRD's responsibility. He said the attractiveness of the grant is if we get through the first round we not only would have a layout of what needed to be done in that watershed but we would have 30% of the design done. Even if there were not federal dollars available we could possibly be in a position where we could move forward in looking for other funding sources.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve applying for the NRCS Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations grants. Doug Reeves seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairman Bendfeldt said the Budget Committee met earlier that day to review the recommended Fiscal Year 2019/2020 expenditures and said the preliminary recommendations will be put on drop box for the directors' review prior to the June board meeting.

CEASE & DESIST ORDER FOR A LANDOWNER IN HALL COUNTY: GIS

Image Analyst Luke Zakrezewsk said up until last Tuesday there was a landowner in southern Hall County who had failed to contact the office regarding a violation of irrigated acres. He said over the last several months he had attempted to contact the landowner through certified and regular mail. On Tuesday the tenant came in and it seemed a plan was agreed upon to correct the issue. A corner system had been installed on a center pivot that did not have certified acres on the corner. The tenants left the office with paper work that would resolve the issue in the form of a transfer document that needs to be signed by the landowner. Luke said he told the tenant that we need to have that paperwork back in the office by May 31. He asked the board to give authorization to issue a cease and desist order if we do not have the paperwork by June 1st.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to authorize the issuance of a cease and desist order to the landowner in southern Hall County if the required paperwork is not in the office by June 1st. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Dawson County Irrigated Acres Violation -- Luke also explained that there is a landowner in Dawson County who he would request authorization to issue a cease and desist order if they do not come into compliance by June 1st. He reviewed the details of the violation.

A motion was made by Alicia Haussler and seconded by Mick Reynolds to authorize a cease and desist order on the landowner in Dawson County.

Following a brief discussion concerning the fact that this item had not been included on the board agenda the motion was withdrawn. It was stated that this would be an item on the agenda at the June board meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT: General Manager Lyndon Vogt reported on a few items including the fact that we have submitted a request to NRCS for some Emergency Watershed Plan (EPA) funds on for the Prairie/Silver/Moores project drop structure that has quite a lot of damage from the recent flood. He also said we have signed a one year extension on the five year RCPP/Ogallala Aquifer Initiative Grant. He also asked that as many directors as possible attend the basin IMP public hearings in July. Details will be sent prior to those public hearings.

NE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION REPORT: Mick Reynolds, Middle Platte Basin Commission member, reported the Commission had met on May 22nd and reviewed the proposed state budget for the water sustainability fund. He said they also have an informal comment period that will be coming up for the proposed rule changes for titles 257, 259, 260, 262 and 263. He said their next meeting is scheduled for December 18th in Kearney.

NE ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS REPORT: Jim Bendfeldt, Central Platte's NARD board member, said the NARD board will meet in June and he will report after that meeting.

COST SHARE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS: Applications – Programs Coordinator Kelly Cole reported that we have received applications for the Capacitance Probes and Well Decommissioning cost share programs (see enclosed). She said the applicants are in compliance with the District's rules and regulations, funds are available, and she recommended they be approved.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the cost share applications as reported. Keith Ostermeier seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Alicia Haussler made the motion to accept the May financial report as presented. Deborah VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Next Meeting – Scheduled for June 27th at 2:00 p.m. Details to follow.

Children's Groundwater Festival –I&E Specialist Marcia Lee and Programs Coordinator Kelly Cole were complimented on the success of this year's Children's Groundwater Festival.

Upcoming Events – Included GMDA Summer Conference June 5 – 7, NRD Basin Tour June 10 & 11, CPNRD Flood Control Stroll, Downtown Grand Island June 21, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURN: Chairman Bendfeldt adjourned the board meeting at 2:38 p.m.

May 21, 2019

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

May Report to CPNRD

Summary of activities and or current happenings at the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff in the Central Platte NRD (CPNRD) are currently working through the contract development and obligation process for the FY 2019 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds. All the applications that were received before November 16, 2018 and met eligibility criteria were ranked. The NRCS has extending contract offers in accordance with available program funding and associated application ranking scores until all the fund were allocated. We have submitted a requested to our State Office and National Office for additional funds this year if they should become available. The contracting process can sometimes extend into August or September depending if or when the additional funds become available. This year's EQIP fund allocation for the local CPNRD fund codes was \$713,393.00.
- Conservation Stewardship Program, (CStP), FY2019 applications that were received by the May 10, 2019 cutoff, will begin the ranking process. NRCS staff will be working with the producers and gathering the information needed to complete that ranking. The projected ranking deadline for all FY2019 CStP applications is currently set for June 21, 2019. The new Farm Bill requires all 5 years of CStP program payments be obligated at the beginning of the contract. Unlike the past CStP programs where funds were added annually to the CStP contracts. The obligation of all 5 years' worth of funds will cause the total number of approved contracts to decrease going forward. This per our CStP program manager and a recent training he conducted.

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- Conservation Reserve Programs, (CRP), which is administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA), has recently announced a new signup period. The signup period will run this summer from June 3, 2019 through August 23, 2019. Once the signup is complete, if the CRP contract offers are accepted by the producers NRCS must complete the contract paperwork for FSA by September 13, 2019. In addition to the CRP contracting work, NRCS will also be completing the annual Mid Contract Management reviews for existing contracts. NRCS is responsible for conducting all field visits and then producing all conservation planning and contracting documents for FSAs CRP program. Every CRP contract has Mid Contract Management that must be completed to keep the contract in compliance. This is the responsibility of the producer along with technical support provided from NRCS.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

**WATER EXCHANGE
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE CENTRAL NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER AND IRRIGATION DISTRICT
AND
CENTRAL PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**

THIS MEMORANDUM made and entered into this _____ day of May, 2019, by and between The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District, a public corporation and political subdivision of the State of Nebraska, with its principal office located at 415 Lincoln Street, P.O. Box 740, Holdrege, NE 68949-0740, hereinafter referred to as "Central" and the Central Platte Natural Resources District, a political subdivision of the State of Nebraska, with its principal office located at 215 Kaufman Ave, Grand Island, NE 68803, hereinafter referred to as "CPNRD," (jointly referred to as "Parties" and individually as "Party").

WHEREAS, CPNRD's irrigation canals to which it holds an interest (Thirty Mile, Cozad, and Orchard Alfalfa, hereinafter referred to as "Affiliate Canals") deliver surface water to lands in south central Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, the Parties have expressed an interest in participating in a pilot program to exchange surface water for the purpose of providing water to the Environmental Account, Central's appropriation A-17695 established pursuant to Central's FERC license; and

WHEREAS, the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program is interested in increasing the water available to the Environmental Account in Lake McConaughy; and

WHEREAS the Central Platte Natural Resources District has the authority to enter into water agreements for the purposes of water management under Chapter 46, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, Article 7 of the Nebraska Ground Water Management and Protection Act (46-701 -- 46-756); and

WHEREAS, Central is willing to facilitate such a surface water exchange service;

1. SURFACE WATER EXCHANGE SERVICE.

- a. During the irrigation season of 2019, CPNRD agrees to not deliver water for irrigation on 12,035.8 acres under Thirty Mile, 13,135.2 acres under Cozad, and 3,020.4 under Orchard Alfalfa canals in exchange for Central crediting the Environmental Account with storage water from Lake McConaughy as calculated in paragraphs 1(b) and 1(c) below).
- b. The quantity of water exchanged for CPNRD prior to adjustment shall be: 6,018 acre feet for the Thirty Mile Canal (85.97 af/day), 6,568 acre feet for the Cozad Canal (93.83 af/day) and 1,510 acre feet for the Orchard Alfalfa Canal (21.57 af/day). The quantity of water exchanged for the Affiliate Canals shall be reduced on Non-Exchange Days. A Non-Exchange Day is defined as each day between June 25 and September 2 (70 days) in which one of the following occurs:
 - The average flow of the South Platte River at North Platte exceeds 2,500 cfs, or
 - Lake McConaughy is effectively at capacity, or
 - The canal is not diverting water, or
 - The canal has no storage water remaining and there is insufficient natural flow to fully supply the canal needs.
- c. Upon review of hydrologic data and any other data deemed relevant by the parties after September 2, 2019, Central and CPNRD jointly may make other adjustments as agreed to by the parties to this Memorandum.

- d. Central and CPNRD jointly will calculate the volume of water to be exchanged using the calculation in 1 (b) and 1 (c) above by October 31, 2019.
 - e. Upon request from Central, CPNRD will provide documentation that surface water was withheld from the acres referenced in (a).
- 2. CREDITING OF WATER TO ENVIRONMENTAL ACCOUNT. Central agrees to inform the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources regarding the amount of water to be credited to the Environmental Account to be effective on October 1, 2019 in the same manner that other credits of water to the Environmental Account are handled pursuant to paragraph 9 in Central's A-17695 application attachment.
 - 3. CPNRD USE OF EXCHANGED WATER FOR PLATTE PROGRAM OR IMP NEEDS. It is understood that CPNRD may contract with the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program for payment for the exchanged water associated with their respective canals, or that CPNRD may request recognition from the appropriate entities that the credited water count as offsets for depletions to US Fish and Wildlife Service target flows and/or instream flow appropriations in the Platte River pursuant to the Nebraska New Depletions Plan of the Platte River Program or an integrated management plan established pursuant to Nebraska law. Nothing in this Memorandum, including any contracting for payment or recognition as depletion offsets, gives CPNRD any control of, or interest in, the timing or amount of releases from the Environmental Account.
 - 4. TERM. The term of this Memorandum shall commence when this Memorandum is signed by the Parties (the "Commencement Date"), and all requirements shall expire on December 31, 2019.
 - 5. PRECEDENT. The Parties to this Memorandum agree that this water exchange is a pilot program and the conditions herein will not set any future precedents; no Party is making admissions; no Party is waiving any statutory requirements; and the Parties recognize that there may be details that are discovered in the pilot program that would need to be addressed in any future water exchange. The Parties agree that the terms in this Memorandum will not be used for future arbitration or litigation purposes.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

THIS INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT, hereafter referred to as AGREEMENT, is made and entered into by and between the Central Platte Natural Resources District, with headquarters offices located at 215 Kaufman Avenue Grand Island Nebraska, hereafter referred to as CPNRD, and the Lower Loup Natural Resources District, with headquarters offices located at 2620 Airport Drive, Ord, Nebraska, hereafter referred to as LLNRD. The CPNRD and LLNRD, political subdivisions of the State of Nebraska, organized and existing by virtue of Neb. Rev. Statutes, are hereafter referred to as PARTICIPANTS.

RECITALS

A. WHEREAS Art. XV, § 8, Neb. Const. and Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 13-801 to 13-827 (1991) authorize any two or more public agencies, including natural resources districts, to enter into Interlocal Agreements with one another for joint or cooperative action of any power or powers, privileges or authorities exercised or capable of being exercised individually by such public agencies, and to create a joint entity in furtherance of such joint or cooperative action with such powers as the Interlocal Agreement shall specify; and

B. WHEREAS the PARTICIPANTS have agreed to pursue a Cover Crop Groundwater Impact Study to study the effects of cover crop use on groundwater recharge, available soil moisture, and crop irrigation requirements.

C. WHEREAS the PARTICIPANTS jointly request a study to determine the advantages of cover crop use;

D. WHEREAS the PARTICIPANTS desire to cooperate for the purpose of understanding the impacts on groundwater due to cover crop management; and

E. WHEREAS the CPNRD agrees to reimburse the LLNRD for 50% of the costs associated with the Cover Crop Groundwater Impact Study; and

F. WHEREAS the PARTICIPANTS desire to use the Cover Crop Groundwater Impact Study to assist the LLNRD and CPNRD Board of Directors in making scientifically and statistically defensible management decisions regarding cover crop management; and

NOW, THEREFORE in consideration of the above recitals and mutual premises contained herein, the PARTICIPANTS agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES

Section I.0 I. The objectives and purposes of this AGREEMENT are to carry out those public powers, duties and obligations of the governing bodies of the PARTICIPANTS relating to the Cover Crop Groundwater Impact Study conducted for the CPNRD and the LLNRD.

ARTICLE II

TERM OF AGREEMENT

Section 2.01. This AGREEMENT shall become effective and binding upon its execution by both undersigned PARTICIPANTS.

Section 2.02. This AGREEMENT can be terminated by either PARTICIPANT upon 30 days written notice to the other PARTICIPANT.

ARTICLE III

DEFINITIONS

Section 3 .0 I. Cover Crop Groundwater Impact Study shall include: the installation of soil sensors within agricultural fields through three cropping seasons, continuous soil monitoring and sample collection, and data analysis and reporting.

ARTICLE IV

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LLNRD

Section 4.0 I. LLNRD will act as a sponsor for the project and will process payment of all invoices received that are related to the project.

Section 4.02. The LLNRD agrees to provide the CPNRD with all materials received from field data collection and analysis that is relevant to the Cover Crop Groundwater Impact Study.

ARTICLE V

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CPNRD

Section 5.01. CPNRD agrees to provide the LLNRD with funding and in-kind services over the life of the three-year project.

Section 5.02. Upon written request from the LLNRD to the CPNRD, including delivery of an invoice, the CPNRD agrees to reimburse the LLNRD, within 30 days, for 50% of the Sponsor's costs associated with the Cover Crop Groundwater Impact Study, not to exceed \$33,500.00 cash.

ARTICLE VI

POWERS

Section 6.01. The PARTICIPANTS understand and agree that this AGREEMENT is not intended to, nor does it, create a partnership, joint venture or any other type of similar relationship which may give rise to joint and several liability.

Section 6.02. The PARTICIPANTS shall have all the powers, including the power to make and execute contracts, and other instruments necessary or convenient to the exercise of their powers, to achieve the objectives and purposes stated in this AGREEMENT.

Section 6.03. The PARTICIPANTS shall be authorized to utilize their staffs and equipment to perform tasks necessary to carrying out their responsibilities.

Section 6.04. The PARTICIPANTS shall have such other powers as are permitted to them under the Interlocal Cooperation Act which are necessary and proper for the achievement of the stated objectives and purposes as set forth by this AGREEMENT.

ARTICLE VII

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Section 7.0 I. The PARTICIPANTS agree that each PARTICIPANT shall retain a copy of completed Cover Crop Groundwater Impact Study as deemed necessary by their respective Boards of Directors, without the consent of the other PARTICIPANT.

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENTS

Section 8.01. Either PARTICIPANT may propose an amendment to this AGREEMENT. Amendments will not become effective until approved by both PARTICIPANTS.

ARTICLE IX

EXECUTION

This AGREEMENT is hereby executed by the PARTICIPANTS in duplicate, each to be considered an original, with the understanding that this AGREEMENT becomes effective as and when both PARTICIPANTS have executed both originals. The PARTICIPANTS shall be bound to the same extent and purpose as if both PARTICIPANTS had simultaneously joined in the execution of a single master copy.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the PARTICIPANTS has caused this AGREEMENT to be executed by their duly authorized representatives as of the date and year shown below.

CENTRAL PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

General Manager

Dated _____

LOWER LOUP NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

General Manager

Dated _____

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Cost Share
May 23, 2019

CAPACITANCE PROBE COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	2,500.00
Quandt Farms Inc - Hall	\$	2,500.00
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	500.00
Eliot Linsenmeyer – Dawson	\$	500.00
Total	\$	3,000.00

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Board Meeting Agenda
June 27, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

This is an open meeting of the Central Platte Natural Resources District. The NRD abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is displayed on the south wall of this room as required by State law. 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.

MEETING NOTICES

The meeting notice was published in the Grand Island Independent and the news release was provided to other media outlets in the District.

MEETING MINUTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

PUBLIC FORUM

BUSINESS:

1. Joe Krolikowski, NRCS Liaison, District Conservationist Report
2. Excused Absences
3. Eastern Projects Committee – Contract with JEO Consulting to Rehabilitate Several of the NRDs Dams - Report & Take Action
4. Budget Committee
 - a. Committee Report
 - b. Action on Budget of Expenditures for Budget Hearing
 - c. Set Public Budget Hearing – Date & Time
5. Spring Water Levels Report – Luke Zakrzewski
6. Cease & Desist Orders – Luke Zakrzewski
7. Platte River Recovery Implementation Program Update – Mark Czaplewski
8. Tree & Weed Barrier Report – Kelly Cole
9. Manager's Report – Lyndon Vogt
10. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission Report – Mick Reynolds
11. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Report – Jim Bendfeldt
12. Cost Share Program Applications

13. Financial Report – June
14. Next Board Meeting – July 25, 2019; 2:00 p.m.
15. Upcoming Events
 - a. July 4, Independence Day Observed, Office Closed
 - b. July 15, Public Information Meeting at CPNRD Meeting Room, Basin-Wide/CPNRD Integrated Management Plans 2:30 p.m. & Public Hearings 3:00 p.m. & 3:30 p.m.
 - c. Aug. 23-Sept. 2, Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island
 - d. Sept. 10-12, Husker Harvest Days
 - e. Sept. 23-24, NARD Annual Conference, Kearney
16. Other Business

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Board Meeting Minutes

June 27, 2019

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	Charles Maser	Steve Sheen
Jim Bendfeldt	Barry Obermiller	Keith Stafford
Lon Bohn	Keith Ostermeier	Ed Stoltenberg
Alicia Haussler	Doug Reeves	Deborah VanMatre
Ed Kyes	Mick Reynolds	Jerry Wiese
Dwayne Margritz	Jay Richeson	

Excused absences – Chris Henry, Brian Keiser, Jerry Milner and Marvion Reichert.

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.

Others present – Joe Krolikowski – NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, Grand Island, Tom Hansen – Grand Island.

MEETING NOTICES: Chairman Jim 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 May board meeting minutes. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except Jim Bendfeldt and Charles Maser who abstained. Motion carried.

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: Joe Krolikowski, NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, reported on NRCS events and activities and provided information on the NRCS guidelines for the National Food Security Act Compliance Reviews for crop year 2019 (see enclosed report).

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Chairman Jim Bendfeldt reported that Chris Henry, Brian Keiser, Jerry Milner and Marvion Reichert had requested to be excused from the board meeting.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the absences as requested. Keith Ostermeier seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

EASTERN PROJECTS COMMITTEE: Committee chairman Ed Stoltenberg reported on their meeting held earlier that day.

Contract with JEO Consulting Group to Rehabilitate Several NRD Dams – Ed said the committee continued their discussion on the fact that Central Platte NRD has 40 dams that are in some need of repair. He said they specifically discussed three structures that are approaching 40 years old, two in Polk County and one in Buffalo County. He said JEO Consulting Group has submitted a bid, not to exceed \$47,150.00 to design and oversee construction to repair and/or remove the three dams.

Ed Stoltenberg made the motion to approve the Eastern Projects recommendation to enter into a contract with JEO Consulting Group for engineering design and oversight of the repair of the three dams (Box Elder, Clear Creek #5 and Jones Creek 1-1) as reported. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairman Bendfeldt said the Budget Committee met earlier that day to continue their review of the recommended expenditures for Fiscal Year 2019/2020. He said they are recommending a couple of changes from what had been put on drop box for the board's review prior to the board meeting. A copy of the updated work sheet, which included the recommended expenditure changes and updated liabilities, was handed out.

Action on Budget of Expenditures for Budget Hearing & Set Public Hearing – Jay Richeson made the motion to approve the proposed budget of expenditures for the purpose of holding the public budget hearing on July 25th at 1:45 p.m. Deborah VanMatre seconded the motion.

Prior to voting on the motion General Manager Vogt said the estimated property tax request will be approximately \$4.2 million which is down a little over \$306,000.00 from last year. He said the District's property tax request has decreased almost \$2 million over the past four years. This is because we have finished up a couple of large projects

and also we have been successful in securing outside sources of funds such as from State and Federal programs.

In answer to a question General Manager Vogt said the major change recommended by the Budget Committee was to add funds to future IMP offsets. He said we know going into the future that we are going to have to offset additional water to the Platte River and that we will have an expense for that instead of receiving funds from the Platte River Recovery and Implementation Program as we do now. He said the Budget Committee believes it is important that we start planning for that now.

The motion was then voted on. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

SPRING WATER LEVELS REPORT: GIS Image Analyst Luke Zakrzewski reported on the Spring 2019 groundwater levels compared to 1982 as well as 2018. He handed out information on the comparisons (see enclosed) taken from the reading of approximately 437 wells across the district. Luke said all 24 GWMA's (groundwater management areas) saw increases because of timely rains during the 2018 irrigation season that continued throughout the fall, and above normal precipitation this spring. Maps include the 1982 – 2019 Accumulated Change in Groundwater Levels by GWMA and a comparison of spring 2018 to spring 2019.

Luke explained that four of the 24 GWMA's are currently in the 25 percent decline suspension that does not allow transfers of irrigated acres into the areas or supplemental wells. The NRD's rules and regulations require the areas to stay in suspension for five years. Two of the four areas are above the 25 percent decline for the second consecutive year, while the remaining two areas are showing an increase for their first year.

CEASE & DESIST ORDER FOR A LANDOWNER IN HALL COUNTY: GIS Image Analyst Luke Zakrezewsk requested approval to issue a cease and desist order against Harriet Discroll, for the irrigation of non-certified acres on a tract in Dawson County. He said she was on the list of landowners who received letters in January concerning violations for last year. Luke said he had multiple contacts with the tenant up until May concerning this violation. The tenant called him earlier this week and the compliance requirement has been worked out but the required transfer of acres is not done. That is necessary in order for the pivot to continue irrigating.

Luke said he would request the board approve issuing a cease and desist order so that it is in place in case the landowner does not get the transfer done within the next week.

Alicia Haussler made the motion that the board approve filing the cease and desist order against Harriet Driscoll on the tract of land in Dawson County as reported. Barry Obermiller seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM UPDATE: Mark Czaplewski, District Biologist, reported that the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program's Governance Committee met on June 11th in Cheyenne. He said they were briefed on Congressional work to extend the Program's First Increment to 2032. Senate bill 990 and House bill 3237 have been introduced and a hearing was held June 26th on the Senate bill. He said there is broad regional support for the bills including co-sponsorship of the Senate bill by Nebraska Sen. Deb Fischer. All three Nebraska Representatives have signed on as co-sponsors. On June 6th, the Governors of the three Platte Basin states sent a joint letter to the chairs and ranking members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the House Committee on Natural Resources. They described the Program as "a marquee example of a proactive, collaborative approach to providing benefits for endangered species and their habitats while allowing for the beneficial use of our states' waters." Central Platte NRD submitted a letter of support for the extension. The language in Central Platte's letter of support for the extension tracks with formal action taken by the Board in March of 2018. Mark said another item of interest was the approval of a NE Public Power District surface water exchange agreement patterned after the agreement Central Platte NRD worked out with Central NE Public Power & Irrigation District.

TREE & WEED BARRIER REPORT: Programs Coordinator Kelly Cole reported there were 23,224 trees sold to be planted by landowners and 6,551 sold to be planted by the district. She also said 41,407 feet of weed barrier was sold, either to be laid by the district hired contractor or by the landowners themselves. (See enclosed cumulative report).

MANAGER'S REPORT: General Manager Lyndon Vogt reported on a few items including the schedule for the July 15th information meetings and public hearings for the CPNRD/NeDNR Integrated Management Plan and the Upper Platte River Basin-Wide Integrated Management Plan. He reported on a tour hosted by the NE Association of Resources District's for the National Association of Conservation Districts. He stated that proposals for the Groundwater Management Plan update would be reviewed at the July board meeting. A brief report was given on the successful Central Platte NRD's Flood Control Stroll in Grand Island. General Manager Vogt also said there would be a hearing on the proposed Platte/Republican diversion on June 28 in Lincoln.

NE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION REPORT: Mick Reynolds, Middle Platte Basin Commission member, said he did not have a report that month.

NE ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS REPORT: Jim Bendfeldt, Central Platte's NARD board member, said he did not have a report for June.

COST SHARE PROGRAM: Request for Fund Transfer – Programs Coordinator Kelly Cole said we have received more requests for the Well Decommissioning cost share program than funds are available. She requested that \$1,000.00 be transferred from the Soil Moisture Sensor program to the Well Decommissioning program.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to transfer \$1,000.00 from the Soil Moisture Sensor program to the Well Decommissioning program. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Applications – Kelly reported that we have received applications for the following cost share programs: Grassland Conservation, Grazing Deferment, and Well Decommissioning (see enclosed). She said the applicants are in compliance with the District's rules and regulations, funds are available, and she recommended they be approved.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve the cost share applications as reported. Barry Obermiller seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except Jim Bendfeldt who abstained. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Alicia Haussler made the motion to accept the June financial report as presented. Charles Maser seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Next Meeting – Scheduled for July 25th at 2:00 p.m. Details to follow.

Questionnaire – Chairman Bendfeldt said the Executive Committee is requesting the directors complete a brief questionnaire that was handed out and asked that they be returned to the office before the July board meeting.

Upcoming Events – Reminder of the public information meetings on July 15th at the Central Platte NRD office for the Basin-wide and the Central Platte NRD Integrated Management Plans beginning at 2:30 p.m. and the public hearings on the plans at 3:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

ADJOURN: Chairman Bendfeldt adjourned the board meeting.

June 26, 2019

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

June Report to CPNRD

Please find attached a summary of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) guidelines for the National Food Security Act Compliance Reviews for crop year 2019. As a reminder, the National Food Security Act was passed into law in 1985. The purpose of this Act is intended to discourage the conversion of wetlands and to reduce soil erosion on Highly Erodible Land (HEL). This was done by linking the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) benefits to conservation compliance, meaning if a producer was deemed out of compliance, they would not be eligible to receive any USDA benefits on any fields.

Examples of the USDA benefits producers could receive, or lose, are the direct payments made by the Farm Service Agency (FSA), Farm Bill conservation program participation and possible payments for conservation practices through NRCS, and Federal Crop Insurance subsidies through the Risk Management Agency (RMA). So, every spring out of the data base in Kansas City random names and tracts are drawn which contain highly erodible land and or wetlands that are to be reviewed for conservation compliance. The NRCS staff across the United States are tasked with completing these field reviews each year, and then work with producers to update their conservation plans if it's needed.

This year due to the March 2019 storms and severe flooding events, Nebraska NRCS requested a national waiver on completing compliance reviews in disaster affected counties. That request was granted on April 10, 2019 for all counties within the FEMA Disaster Declaration areas designated on the attached map. Waivers for the disaster-affected counties will allow USDA participants the time needed to recover from the impact of the unusual weather events and allow field office staff more time to assist them.

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

For tracts in the counties that received a variance in 2018, NRCS did not conduct a follow-up review in 2019. We entered the same variance code for the tract in the database for 2019 and notified the producers that the tract would be reviewed in 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

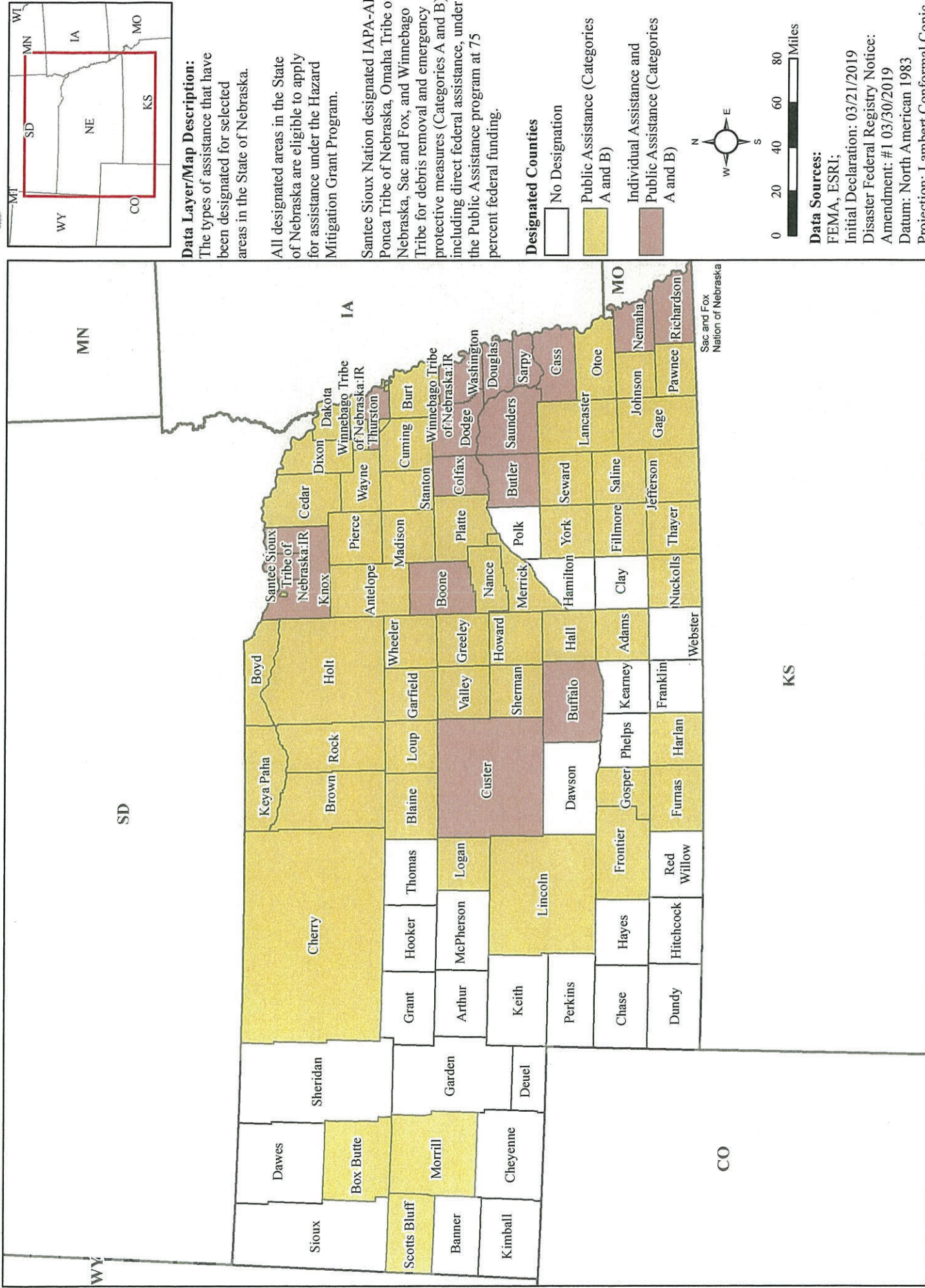
Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist

Attachments: FEMA Nebraska Disaster Declaration Map 3-2019
FEMA Nebraska Disaster Declaration Map 6-2019

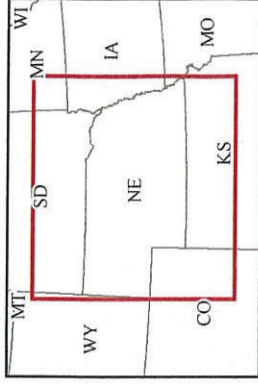
FEMA-4420-DR, Nebraska Disaster Declaration as of 03/30/2019



FEMA



FEMA-4420-DR, Nebraska Disaster Declaration as of 06/04/2019



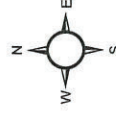
Data Layer/Map Description:

The types of assistance that have been designated for selected areas in the State of Nebraska.

All designated areas in the State of Nebraska are eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

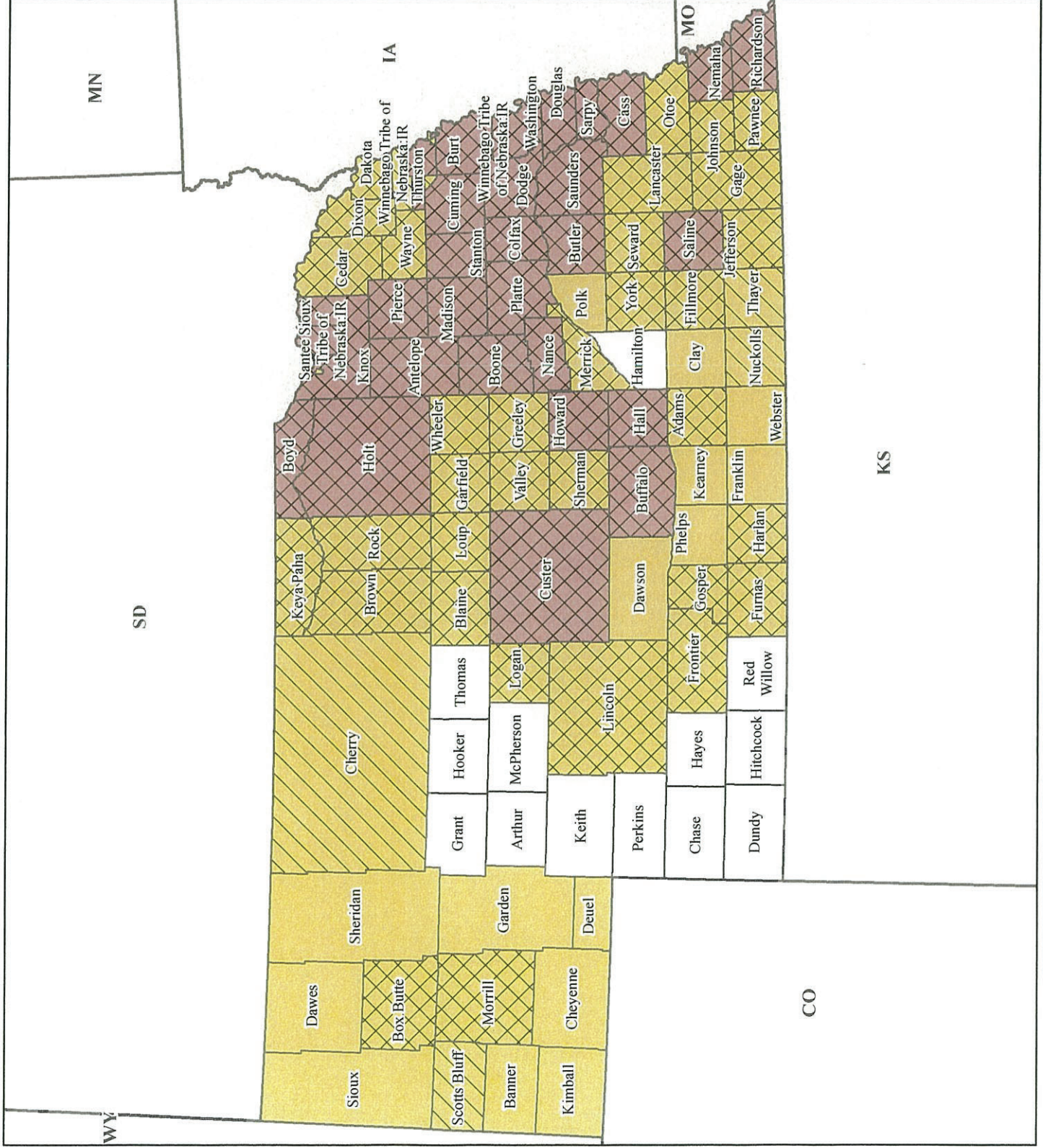
Designated Counties

- No Designation
- Public Assistance
- Public Assistance (Categories A and B)
- Individual Assistance and Public Assistance (Categories A and B)
- Individual Assistance and Public Assistance (Categories A - G)
- Public Assistance (Categories A - G)

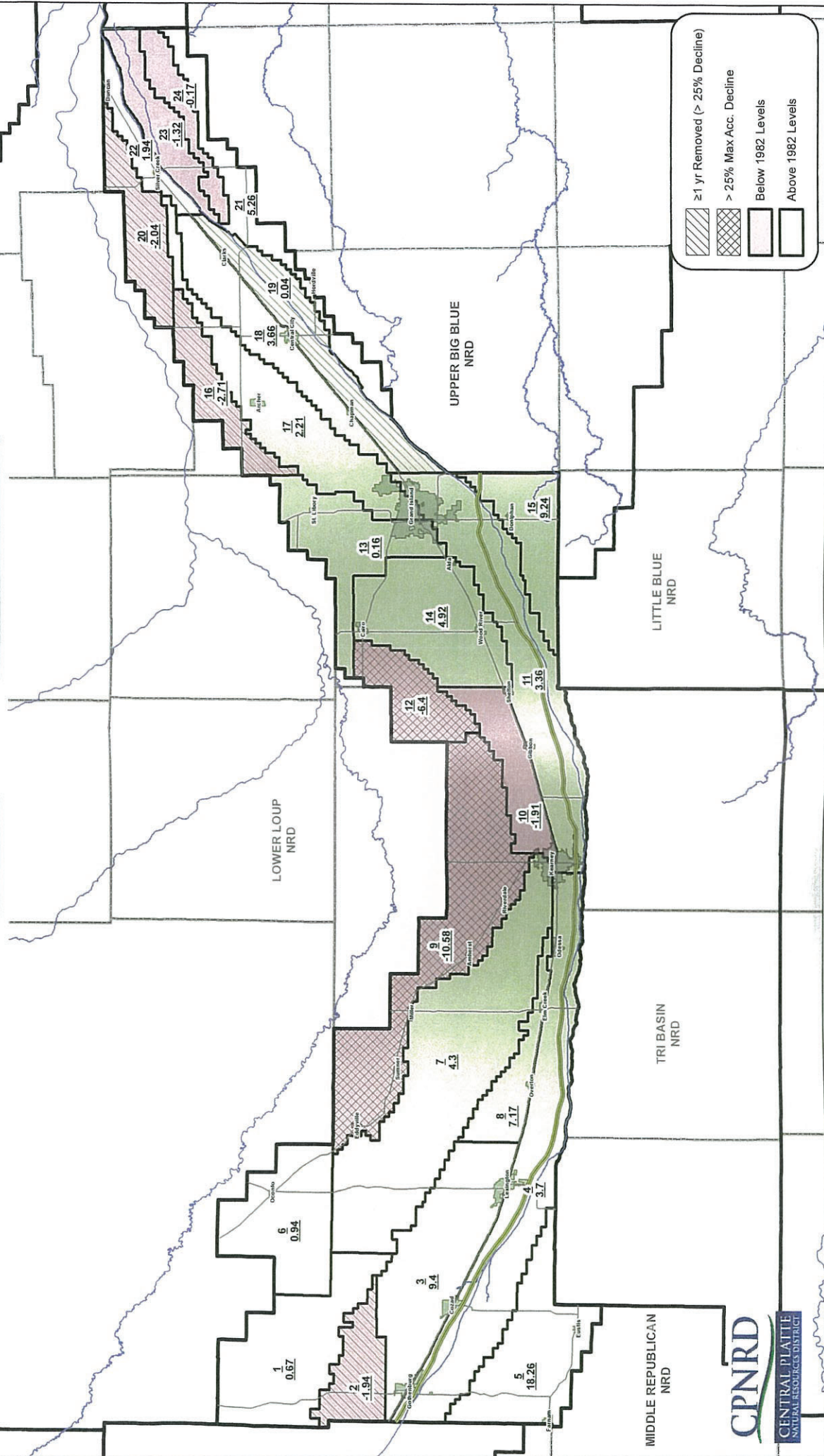


Data Sources:

FEMA, ESRI;
Initial Declaration: 03/21/2019
Disaster Federal Registry Notice: 06/04/2019
Datum: North American 1983
Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic

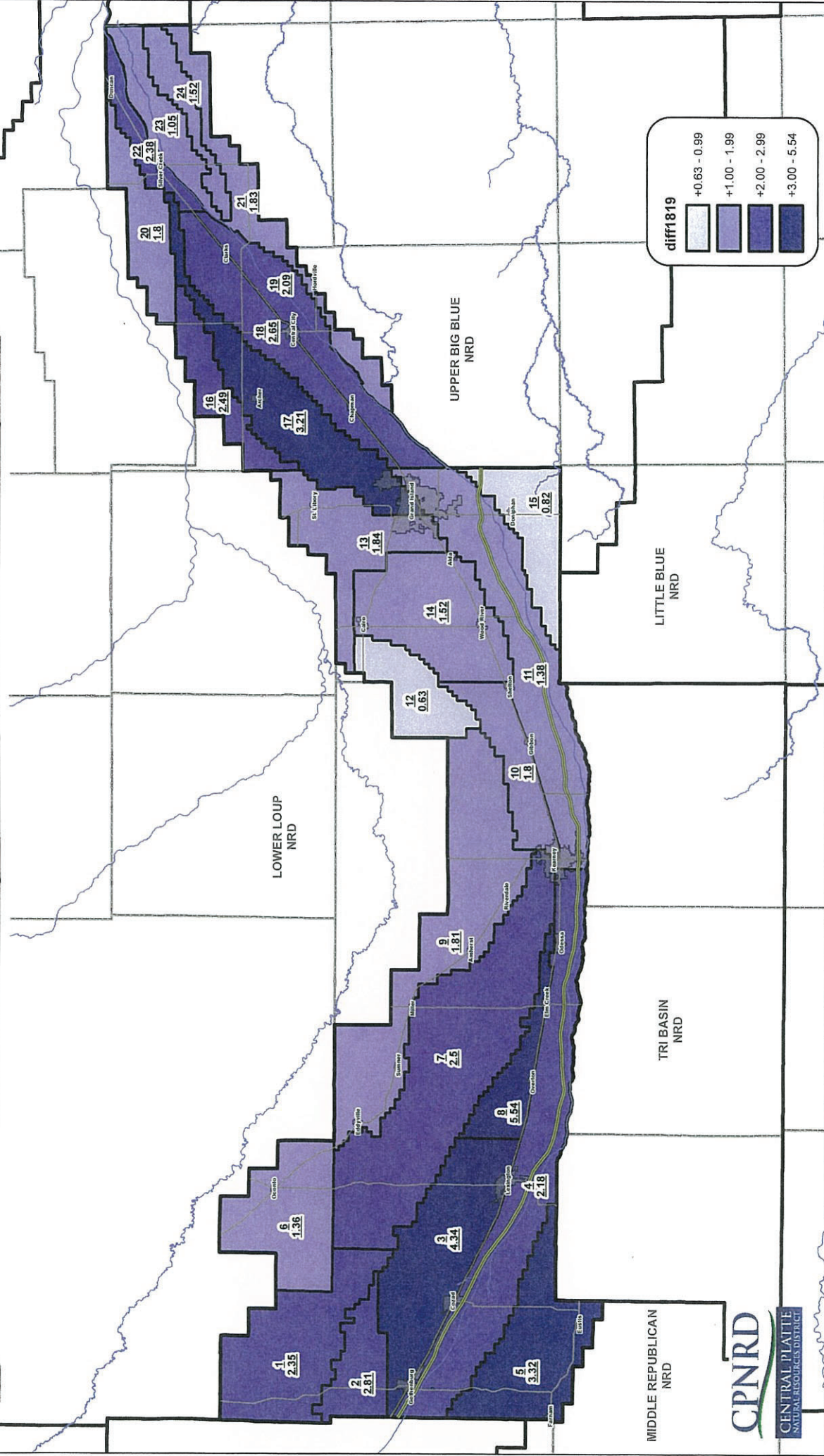


Central Platte NRD **1982 - 2019 Accumulated Change in Groundwater Levels by GWMA**



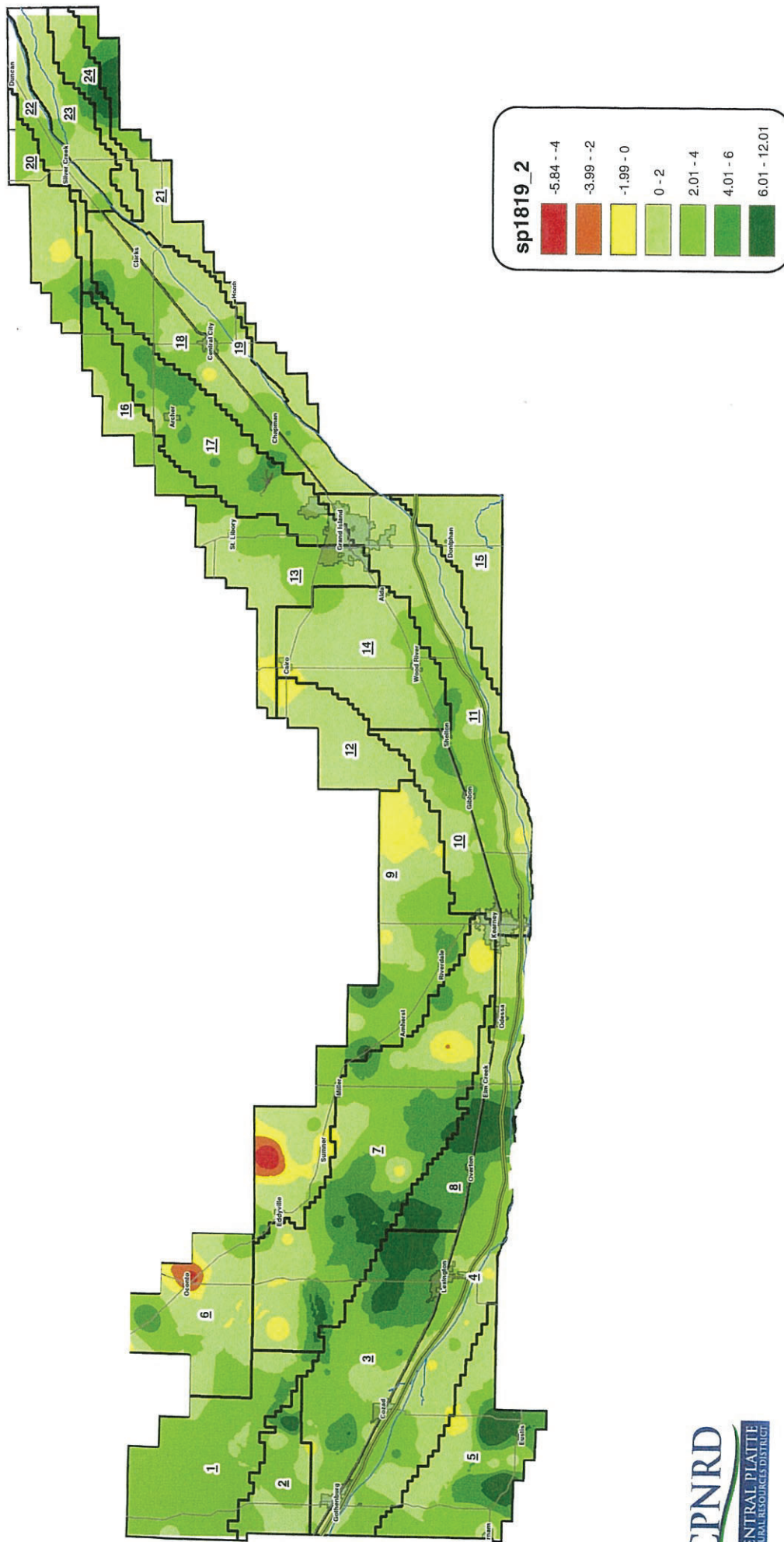
Central Platte NRD

Spring 2018 to Spring 2019 Change in Groundwater Levels by GWMA





Central Platte NRD
IDW Interpolation - 2018 to 2019 GW level change



CENTRAL PLATTE NRD WEED BARRIER PROGRAM

Year	Total by Feet	Total in miles	By District	By Landowner
1991	105,000	19.89	77,158	27,842
1992	130,200	24.66	99,600	30,600
1993	133,875	25.36	125,400	8,475
1994	124,300	23.54	90,740	33,560
1995	108,950	20.63	92,477	16,473
1996	47,366	8.97	42,527	4,839
1997	77,321	14.64	70,310	7,011
1998	89,681	16.99	83,254	6,427
1999	91,321	17.30	84,076	7,245
2000	124,227	23.53	100,010	24,217
2001	98,755	18.70	85,520	13,235
2002	195,598	37.05	175,923	19,675
2003	194,300	36.80	178,455	15,845
2004	163,542	30.97	143,692	19,850
2005	200,463	37.97	188,577	11,886
2006	143,790	27.23	104,950	38,840
2007	70,484	13.35	58,928	11,556
2008	138,560	26.24	111,500	27,060
2009	104,050	19.71	97,585	6,465
2010	86,660	16.41	75,251	11,409
2011	149,141	28.25	106,254	42,887
2012	78,718	14.91	63,170	15,548
2013	99,590	18.86	40,690	58,900
2014	91,781	17.38	80,937	10,844
2015	74,297	14.07	53,832	24,118
2016	62,164	11.77	42,541	19,623
2017	52,497	9.94	26,624	25,873
2018	44,481	8.42	38,143	6,338
2019	41,407	7.84	37,992	3,415
TOTALS	3,122,519	591.39	2,576,116	550,056

37,992 FT Installed at 19 sites

Central Platte NRD Tree Program

Handplant

23,224

Dawson: 4,697

Buffalo: 6,127

Polk: 200

Hall: 11,200

Merrick: 975

Howard: 25

District Plant

6,551

Dawson : 2,603

Buffalo: 3,223

Hall: 475

Howard: 250

Sold 35 small acreage packages (5 species with 10 of each included in packages)

TREES**MILES OF WEED BARRIER**

1973	106,355	
1974	93,660	
1975	79,690	
1976	66,250	
1977	86,548	
1978	104,675	
1979	122,925	
1980	148,700	
1981	170,075	
1982	135,150	
1983	111,050	
1984	85,200	
1985	89,300	
1986	65,850	
1987	73,150	
1988	91,550	
1989	83,700	
1990	125,000	
1991	104,900	19.89
1992	117,100	24.66
1993	94,250	25.36
1994	101,100	23.54
1995	78,300	20.63
1996	102,000	8.97
1997	72,450	14.64
1998	75,300	16.98
1999	58,825	17.30
2000	60,050	23.53
2001	58,600	18.70
2002	86,675	37.05
2003	77,975	36.80
2004	70,775	30.97
2005	80,775	37.97
2006	61,125	27.23
2007	44,950	13.35
2008	57,225	26.24
2009	68,703	19.71
2010	57,175	16.41
2011	54,275	28.25
2012	48,025	14.91
2013	37,716	18.86
2014	54,175	17.38
2015	46,575	14.07
2016	45,796	11.77
2017	35,350	9.94
2018	41,225	8.42

2019	29,775	7.84
TOTAL	3,759,993	591.37

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Cost Share

June 27, 2019

GRASSLAND CONSERVATION COST SHARE PROGRAM.....	\$	5,046.61
Neomi D Hascall – Buffalo	\$	5,046.61
GRAZING DEFERMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM.....	\$	5,562.00
Rick Jones – Polk	\$	453.00
Garwood Family Limited Partnership – Dawson		5,109.00
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	2,250.00
Mark Gloe – Hall	\$	750.00
Bendfeldt Land Co. – Buffalo		750.00
Frances G Greene Trust – Dawson		750.00
Total	\$	12,858.61

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Board Meeting Agenda
July 25, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

This is an open meeting of the Central Platte Natural Resources District. The NRD abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is displayed on the south wall of this room as required by State law. 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.

MEETING NOTICES

The meeting notice was published in the Grand Island Independent and the news release was provided to other media outlets in the District.

MEETING MINUTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

PUBLIC FORUM

BUSINESS:

1. Joe Krolikowski, NRCS Liaison, District Conservationist Report
2. Excused Absences
3. Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Budget
 - a. Budget Committee Report
 - b. Proposed or Amended Budget – Action Required
 - c. Special Hearing to Set Levy – August Schedule
4. Water Quantity Committee – Recommendation on Engineering Firm to Update NRD's Groundwater Management Plan – Report & Take Action
5. Basin-Wide Management Plan 2nd Increment – Report & Take Action
6. Integrated Management Plan CPNRD's 2nd Increment – Report & Take Action
7. Joint Legal Defense & Common Interest Agreement with the Lower Loup NRD & Loup Public Power District – Review & Take Action
8. Contract with Hooker Bros. Construction for the Emergency Installation of Rip Rap at the Silver Creek Drop Structure – Review & Take Action

9. Administrative Interlocal Agreement with Upper Big Blue NRD – Report & Possible Action
10. Manager's Report – Lyndon Vogt
11. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission Report – Mick Reynolds
12. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Report – Jim Bendfeldt
13. Cost Share Program Applications
14. Financial Report
15. Next Board Meeting – August 29, 2019; 2:00 p.m.?
16. Upcoming Events
 - a. Aug. 23-Sept. 2, Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island
 - b. Sept. 2, Labor Day Observed, Office Closed
 - c. Sept. 10-12, Husker Harvest Days
 - d. Sept. 23-24, NARD Annual Conference, Kearney
 - e. Sept. 26, Sandy Noecker's Open-House Retirement Celebration
3:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m.
17. Other Business

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Board Meeting Minutes

July 25, 2019

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	Charles Maser	Jay Richeson
Jim Bendfeldt	Jerry Milner	Steve Sheen
Lon Bohn	Keith Ostermeier	Keith Stafford
Alicia Haussler	Doug Reeves	Ed Stoltenberg
Chris Henry	Marvion Reichert	Deborah VanMatre
Ed Kyes	Mick Reynolds	Jerry Wiese
Dwayne Margritz		

Excused absences – Brian Keiser and Barry Obermiller.

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

Others present – Joe Krolikowski – NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, Grand Island, Nicole Olsen – NRCS Resources Conservationist Merrick County, Lora Schenck – NRCS Resources Conservationist Hall County, Jessie Winter, Sarah Nevison and Caitlin Smith - NE Dept. of Natural Resources, Lincoln, Mike Gaghagen – Grand Island, Myron Kouba and Dennis Reiter - Buffalo County Commissioners.

MEETING NOTICES: Chairman Jim 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: Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the June board meeting minutes. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except Jerry Milner and Marvion Reichert who abstained. Motion carried.

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.

Izaak Walton League Awards -- Mike Gaghagen, Izaak Walton League of America member, presented the Grand Island Izaak Walton League of America award to the Central Platte NRD for outstanding contributions to the conservation of our nation's natural resources through the Nebraska Children's Groundwater Festival.

He also said this was the second award presented this month to the Central Platte NRD for the Nebraska Children's Groundwater Festival. On July 17 the Izaak Walton League presented their National Honor Roll Award to Kelly Cole and Marcia Lee, festival coordinators, at a ceremony in Des Moines, Iowa for efforts to educate youth about natural resources through the Groundwater Festival.

NRCS REPORT: Joe Krolikowski, NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, introduced two new NRCS staff members, Nicole Olsen Merrick County Resources Conservationist and Lara Schenck Hall County Resources Conservationist (see enclosed report).

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Chairman Jim Bendfeldt reported that Brian Keiser and Barry Obermiller had requested to be excused from the board meeting.

Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the absences as requested. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

FISCAL YEAR 2019/2020 BUDGET: Chairman Bendfeldt said there were no recommendations for amendments or changes from the Budget Committee.

General Manager Vogt briefly reviewed the proposed budget and said if it is adopted as proposed the property tax request would be \$4,204,344.77, which is a decrease of \$323,412.83 from last year. He said it is anticipated that valuations will have only a small increase and that our estimate for the levy is approximately 0.02392, compared to last year's levy of 0.02576.

Action on Proposed or Amended Budget -- Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 budget as proposed. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Special Hearing to Set Levy, August Schedule -- Chairman Bendfeldt said a public hearing is required to set the levy for Fiscal Year 2019/2020. Final valuations from the

county assessors will not be available until August 20, which would not allow enough time to publish the hearing if the board meeting is held on the 22nd. It is proposed that the August board meeting be moved to the 29th.

Jay Richeson made the motion to schedule the public hearing to set the Fiscal Year 2019 2020 levy on August 29th at 1:45 p.m. with the board meeting scheduled that day at 2:00 p.m. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

WATER QUANTITY COMMITTEE – RECOMMENDATION ON ENGINEERING FIRM TO UPDATE NRD’S GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN: Jay Richeson reported that at their meeting held earlier that day the committee discussed proposals for contracts to update the District’s Groundwater Management Plan. He said two proposals were received, one from Olsson Associates for \$102,000.00 and one from JEO Consulting Group for \$149,000.00.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve the recommendation from the Water Quantity Committee to award the contract to Olsson Associates in the amount of \$102,000.00 to update Central Platte NRD’s Groundwater Management Plan. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

BASIN-WIDE INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT PLAN SECOND INCREMENT: Chairman Bendfeldt said the board needs to take action on the proposed Basin-wide Integrated Management Plan Second Increment. General Manager Vogt said the plan is between the five NRDs in the Platte Basin and the NE Dept. of Natural Resources. The public hearing on the proposed plan was held July 15th. Testimony was received from Central NE Public Power & Irrigation District and Nebraska Public Power District. After reviewing the testimony with the NE Department of Natural Resources it was decided that no changes to the proposed plan were necessary based on the information received during the hearing.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the Basin-wide Integrated Management Plan Second Increment as presented at the hearing. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD’S INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT PLAN SECOND INCREMENT: General Manager Vogt said the Joint Integrated Management Plan (IMP) is between Central Platte NRD and the NE Dept. of Natural Resources and has to follow the basin-wide IMP.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve Central Platte NRD’s Integrated Management Plan Second Increment as presented at the public hearing. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

JOINT LEGAL DEFENSE & COMMON INTEREST AGREEMENT WITH LOWER LOUP NRD & LOUP PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT: General Manager Vogt said Central Platte NRD, Lower Loup NRD and the Loup Public Power District are all using Venessa Silk, attorney at Baird Holm LLP, to provide legal counsel for the purpose of opposing the proposed Platte Basin to the Republican Basin diversion filing before the NE Department of Natural Resources. He said they have visited with Venessa and she has agreed to a joint legal defense. General Manager Vogt said we should be able to save money on legal costs by entering into the proposed agreement and sharing the costs with the Lower Loup NRD and Loup Public Power District and would recommend that Central Platte NRD enter into the proposed agreement.

Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the Joint Defense & Common Interest Agreement between Central Platte NRD, Lower Loup NRD and the Loup Public Power District relating to sharing legal defense costs associated with opposing the proposed Platte Basin to Republican Basin diversion. Deborah VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

CONTRACT WITH HOOKER BROS. CONSTRUCTION FOR THE EMERGENCY INSTALLATION OF RIPRAP AT THE SILVER CREEK DROP STRUCTURE: Chairman Bendfeldt said the board needs to consider and take action on a proposed agreement with Hooker Brothers Construction for the installation of rock riprap to repair the Silver Creek drop structure which was damaged in the March flood event. The cost would be \$36,000.00. Assistant Manager Jesse Mintken said the cost includes installing 300 tons of riprap. He said we also had an estimate from Van Kirk Brothers Construction at a cost of \$48,490.00. He said the original damage occurred in March and since then there have been other rains that have compounded the problem.

Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the agreement with Hooker Brothers Construction for the installation of rock riprap to repair the Silver Creek drop structure at a cost of \$36,000.00. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH UPPER BIG BLUE NRD: General Manager Vogt said we have received a proposed Interlocal Cooperative Agreement from the Upper Big Blue relative to shared personnel services. He said we currently have an interlocal agreement with that NRD that includes providing secretarial and technical assistance to the U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service offices within the boundaries of the respective districts and have shared costs for those employees shared between the two NRDs. The proposed interlocal agreement would only remove the wording "technical" assistance but would keep in place the secretarial assistance provision. General Manager Vogt said for many years we have actually only had secretarial positions that have been shared so this agreement would not affect current operations. He said he would recommend the board approve the amended agreement.

Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the revised Interlocal Cooperative Agreement between the Upper Big Blue NRD and Central Platte NRD concerning the shared cost of providing secretarial assistance to the U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service offices within the boundaries of the Upper Big Blue NRD and Central Platte NRD. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT: General Manager Lyndon Vogt reported on the hearing before the NE Dept. of Natural Resources on the Platte/Republican proposed diversion. Everyone that had filed were asked to attend and state their case. He said he has not heard any movement on the application since then.

He also reported that we have received a grant from the Water Sustainability Fund to write a drought plan for Central Platte NRD. The first meeting was held last week with 26 individuals attending. The meeting was the beginning step to write the mitigation plan for the District. When the Water Sustainability Fund grant was written and we started on the process we did not know that our basin-wide integrated management plan would require us to write a drought mitigation plan for Central Platte NRD. He said the plan that is being developed at this time will probably be approved in the next year but in five or six years we will probably be required to update the plan to make sure it falls within our Basin-wide IMP.

He also reported that we have received a few proposals to identify and evaluate alternatives on the best use of the property that the District purchased in Dawson County (Schroeder land). He said the proposals will be put on drop box in a few days so the directors have an opportunity to review them before the next board meeting. We should have a recommendation for the board's consideration at the August board meeting.

NE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION REPORT: Mick Reynolds, Middle Platte Basin Commission member, reported that the meeting in Kearney on August 5th was cancelled. He said applications for Water Sustainability Funds can be submitted until July 31st.

NE ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS REPORT: Jim Bendfeldt, Central Platte's NARD board member, briefly reported on the NARD Benefits Committee and Risk Pool Committee that had met at our office earlier that week. He said he did not have anything major to report.

COST SHARE PROGRAM: Applications – Programs Coordinator Kelly Cole reported that we have received applications for the following cost share programs: NE Soil & Water Conservation Program, Grazing Deferment, Center Pivot Incentive, Flow Meter and Well Decommissioning (see enclosed). She said the applicants are in compliance with the District's rules and regulations, funds are available, and she recommended they be approved.

Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the cost share applications as reported. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Marvion Reichert made the motion to accept the July financial report as presented. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Next Meeting – Scheduled for August 29th at 2:00 p.m. Details to follow.

Public Hearing to Set FY 2019/2020 Levy -- Scheduled for August 29th at 1:45 p.m.

Upcoming Events – A review of upcoming events was briefly covered including the September 23 & 24 NARD Annual Conference in Kearney and Sandy Noecker's open house retirement celebration from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. following the board meeting on September 26th.

Executive Committee's Questionnaire – Chairman Bendfeldt reminded the directors to complete the questionnaire from the Executive Committee and return them to the office before the August board meeting.

ADJOURN: Chairman Bendfeldt adjourned the board meeting.



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>

July 22, 2019

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

July Report to CPNRD

I would like to take this time to update the Central Platte NRD Staff and Board of Directors on the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staffing changes in two of our offices. I am pleased to announce we have 2 new Resource Conservationists, Nicole Olsen and Lara Schenck.

Nicole was previously with NRCS in north central Iowa, where she worked as a Soil Conservationist. Nicole has been with the Agency for approximately 5 years now. Lara was also previously with the NRCS in Iowa as a Soil Conservationist but left the Agency for a while before recently returning. Nicole started with us in Nebraska back in February and will be in the Central City Field Office. Lara started with us in Nebraska back in January and will be in the Grand Island Field Office.

We have been waiting for some time to refill these open positions, and for the last 3 years the only option to do this was to convert Pathway Student Interns. Around the first of the year, the Natural Resources Conservation Service was given the go ahead by the new administration to start advertising vacancies again. These vacancies are going to be grouped and then they will be advertised in phases going forward for the next few years. This is being done so that Human Resources can handle the large number of vacancies that will need to be advertised for NRCS nationwide going forward.

We are very happy and excited to have Nicole Olsen and Lara Schenck onboard, and after working in Nebraska for a while now we hope they feel the same.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist

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CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Cost Share
July 25, 2019

NEBRASKA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COST SHARE PROGRAM....\$ **70,718.53**

JK Land LLC – Dawson – Planned Grazing	\$ 6,035.11
Andrew McHargue – Merrick – Underground Pipe to Pivot	5,000.00
Keith Boyd Zeilinger – Polk – Range Seeding	221.15
Dana English – Dawson – Planned Grazing	7,500.00
Sheldon Bartruff – Frontier – Underground Pipe to Pivot	5,000.00
Codner JT4 Partnership – Buffalo – Planned Grazing	7,500.00
Boshart Family Trust – Hall – Underground Pipe to Pivot	5,000.00
Joel Leo – Howard – Planned Grazing	7,457.00
K-J Hueftle Ltd. – Dawson – Brush Management	968.45
Triple K Properties Ltd – Dawson – Brush Management	6,663.41
Kurt Kugler – Dawson – Brush Management	4,272.57
Wade Rathman – Hall – Windbreak Renovation	416.50
Viola Leimser – Polk – Brush Management	4,152.15
Bernice G Nitsch – Polk – Brush Management	5,070.89
Robert Rieken – Polk – Brush Management	5,461.30

GRAZING DEFERMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM.....\$ **1,512.00**

Dirkon, Inc. – Polk	\$ 1,512.00
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CENTER PIVOT INCENTIVE COST SHARE PROGRAM.....\$ **15,000.00**

Andrew McHargue – Merrick	\$ 7,500.00
Dibbern Family Farms Inc. – Hall	7,500.00

FLOW METER COST SHARE PROGRAM.....\$ **800.00**

Merna Rae Boshart – Hall	\$ 800.00
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WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM\$ **2,750.00**

Robyn D & John L Dvoracek – Hall	\$ 750.00
KKES, Inc. – Hall	500.00
David Miller – Merrick	750.00
Mark C Alberts – Dawson	750.00

Total\$ **90,780.53**

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Board Meeting Agenda
August 29, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

This is an open meeting of the Central Platte Natural Resources District. The NRD abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is displayed on the south wall of this room as required by State law. 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.

MEETING NOTICES

The meeting notice was published in the Grand Island Independent and the news release was provided to other media outlets in the District.

MEETING MINUTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

PUBLIC FORUM

BUSINESS:

1. Joe Krolkowski, NRCS Liaison, District Conservationist Report
2. Excused Absences
3. Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Budget – Action Required, Resolution & Set Levy
4. Water Quantity Committee – Report & Take Action
 - a. Proposals on Schroeder Property-Identification & Evaluation of Alternatives
 - b. Recharge Agreement for the Platte River Recovery Program
5. Eastern Projects Committee – Report & Possible Action
 - a. Olsson Presentation – Platte Valley Industrial Park Drainage
 - b. Future Program Discussion
6. Richard Plautz Crane Viewing Site Trail Project Near Gibbon - Recreational Trails Program Grant Resolution – Report & Take Action
7. Manager's Report – Lyndon Vogt
8. NARD Annual Conference – Select a Voting Delegate & Alternate for the September Conference
9. Nebraska Natural Resources Commission Report – Mick Reynolds
10. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Report – Jim Bendfeldt
11. Cost Share Program Applications

12. Financial Report
13. Next Board Meeting – September 26, 2019; 2:00 p.m.?
14. Upcoming Events
 - a. Aug. 23-Sept. 2, Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island
 - b. Sept. 2, Labor Day Observed, Office Closed
 - c. Sept. 10-12, Husker Harvest Days
 - d. Sept. 22-24, NARD Annual Conference, Kearney
 - e. Sept. 26, Sandy Noecker's Open-House Retirement Celebration
3:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m.
 - f. CPNRD/NRCS host Land Judging Contest, Hall County
15. Other Business

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Board Meeting Minutes

August 29, 2019

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	Mick Reynolds
Jim Bendfeldt	Charles Maser	Jay Richeson
Lon Bohn	Jerry Milner	Steve Sheen
Alicia Haussler	Barry Obermiller	Keith Stafford
Chris Henry	Keith Ostermeier	Ed Stoltenberg
Brian Keiser	Doug Reeves	Deborah VanMatre
Ed Kyes	Marvion Reichert	Jerry Wiese

Staff present: Lyndon Vogt – General Manager, Jesse Mintken – Assistant Manager, Dianne Miller – Administrative Director, Brandi Flyr – District Hydrologist, Mark Czaplewski – District Biologist, Marcia Lee – Information/Education Specialist, Kelly Cole – Programs Coordinator, Luke Zakrzewski – GIS Image Analyst, Tricia Dudley – Resources Conservationist.

Others present – Joe Krolilowski – NRCS Liaison District Conservationist,

MEETING NOTICES: Chairman Jim 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 July board meeting minutes. Keith Ostermeier seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except Brian Keiser and Barry Obermiller who abstained. Motion carried.

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: Joe Krolkowski, NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, reported on three programs which included the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP), the Livestock Mortality Program, and the Cover Crops for Disaster Assistance Initiative (see enclosed report).

EXCUSED ABSENCES: All board members present.

FISCAL YEAR 2019/2020 BUDGET: Chairman Bendfeldt reported on the special hearing to set the final tax request that was held just prior to the board meeting and briefly reviewed the resolution. He said no testimony was presented at the hearing. The property tax request of \$4,204,344.77 would require a levy of 0.023799 based on the District's valuation of \$17,666,288,850.00.

Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the "Resolution Setting the Property Tax Request – Fiscal Year 2019/2020" and to set the levy at 0.023799. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

WATER QUANTITY COMMITTEE – REPORTS & ACTION: Committee chairman Jay Richeson reported on their meeting held earlier that day.

Proposals on Schroeder Property – Identification & Evaluation of Alternatives – Jay said proposals were received from JEO Consulting Group, Olsson Associates, EA Engineering and the Flatwater Group to do a study to evaluate management alternatives for the property purchased in Dawson County referred to as the Schroeder property.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve the Water Quantity Committee's recommendation to enter into a contract with JEO Consulting Group at a cost of \$109,620.00 to do a study to evaluate management alternatives for the District's property in Dawson County. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Recharge Agreement for the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program – Jay said the committee reviewed the agreement that would change the way Central Platte NRD is paid for groundwater recharge from seepage from the Six Mile, Cozad Ditch, Thirty Mile and Orchard Alfalfa irrigation canals in the non-irrigation season.

General Manager Vogt said that currently we get credit for recharge when it returns to the river, which is tracked over a 50 year time frame. This agreement would recognize 100 percent of the recharge the year it happened and would not require Central Platte NRD to track the return flows for 50 years.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve the Water Quantity Committee's recommendation to approve and sign the water service agreement between Central Platte NRD and the NE Community Foundation, acting as contracting agent of the Governance

Committee for the Platte River Recovery and Implementation Program. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

EASTERN PROJECTS COMMITTEE – REPORTS & POSSIBLE ACTION: Ed Stoltenberg, committee chairman, reported on their meeting held earlier that day and said they discussed several items. He said projects that will probably be presented to the board for consideration in the next months would include a drainage project in the Grand Island Industrial Park and surrounding area. He said they will also be revisiting the snagging and clearing program and considering other programs that could assist with future flooding concerns.

RICHARD PLAUTZ CRANE VIEWING SITE TRAIL PROJECT NEAR GIBBON – RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT RESOLUTION – REPORT & ACTION: General Manager Vogt said Central Platte NRD is applying for a Recreational Trails Program grant through the Game and Parks Commission to redo the trail and parking lot south of Gibbon. He explained that we applied for the grant last year and funds were included in the budget but we did not get the grant because the required Corps of Engineers 404 permit was received after the announcements had been made of the grant recipients. General Manager Vogt said he is fairly confident that we will be approved this year. The total project cost is \$315,822.00. The grant would pay 80 percent with Central Platte NRD paying the remainder. Funds were again included in this year's budget. A board approved resolution is required to be submitted with the grant application, which is due at the end of August.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve the resolution required for the grant application for the Recreational Trails Program funds to be used for the Richard Plautz Crane Viewing site trail and parking lot paving near Gibbon. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT: General Manager Lyndon Vogt reviewed the fact that Westervelt approached us about having Central Platte NRD holding a conservation easement on a wetland they were wanting to develop for a wetland bank. He said they notified us about two weeks ago they are no longer pursuing the original location proposed. He said if they find a new location in the Central Platte NRD they will have to present the new information and proposal to the board.

General Manager Vogt also briefly reported on the flooding this year and the District's projects. He said the detention cell on the Prairie/Silver/Moores Creek project is full right now and said the Wood River bypass has quite a lot of water in it but is down about a foot. According to the Weather Service there were some areas of the District in July that had 12 inches of rain in six hours which is considered over a 1000-year event. Based on runoff, not rainfall, our March event was likely over a 500-year event. He said the hearing before the NE Department of Natural Resources was held a few

weeks ago on the proposed Platte/Republican diversion and said there is an August 30th deadline for filing briefs. He said we will be working with our legal council and a couple of other entities to file a brief in support of dismissing the application.

Also included in his report was the fact that the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture has received a grant in conjunction with the U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service and Central Platte NRD for the purpose of sharing an education coordinator. He said if the grant goes forward the individual would be located in our office and said Central Platte NRD's cost would be approximately \$16,000.00 a year. He said this is an area we have been trying to become more involved in but currently do not have the staff nor time to cover all of the requests we get from schools and other entities for educational assistance.

In answer to a question concerning the flooding that has occurred this spring and summer and what financial assistance is available General Manager Vogt said we have applied for two grants through the NRCS Watershed Rehabilitation Program, one for Wood River and one for Spring Creek and Buffalo Creek. He also said Buffalo County has hired an engineering firm to look at the flooding problems on Turkey Creek.

NARD ANNUAL CONFERENCE – SELECT VOTING DELEGATE & ALTERNATE FOR THE SEPTEMBER CONFERENCE: Chairman Bendfeldt said the board would need to select a voting delegate and alternate for the conference. He encouraged the directors to attend the conference if possible and said it is a great opportunity to become more informed on issues and to meet directors from other NRDs.

Alicia Haussler made the motion that Deborah VanMatre be selected as the voting delegate and Jay Richeson be selected as alternate. Barry Obermiller seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Deborah VanMatre and Jay Richeson who both abstained. Motion carried.

NE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION REPORT: Mick Reynolds, Middle Platte Basin Commission member, reported on the applications submitted for the Water Sustainability Fund. He said 19 applications had been received and should be ready for the commission to review by the first of October. He said requests submitted totaled \$28,651,602.00.

NE ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS REPORT: Jim Bendfeldt, CPNRD's NARD representative, said he did not have a report that month but would report after their September meeting.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Request for Transfer of Funds – Kelly Cole, Programs Coordinator, said we have received more requests for the Cover Crop Program than funds are available. She requested a transfer of \$500.00 from the Grazing Deferral Program to the Cover Crop Program.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to transfer \$500.00 from the Grazing Deferment Program to the Cover Crop Program. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Applications – Kelly reported that we have received applications for the following cost share programs: NE Soil & Water Conservation Program, Center Pivot Incentive, Flow Meters, Phragmites Control, Cover Crop, and Well Decommissioning (see enclosed). She said the applicants are in compliance with the District's rules and regulations, funds are available, and she recommended they be approved.

Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the cost share applications as reported. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Marvion Reichert made the motion to accept the August financial report as presented. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Review of upcoming events included the State Fair August 23 – September 2, Husker Harvest Days September 10 – 12, NARD Annual Conference in Kearney September 22 – 24 and the open house following the board meeting on September 26 for Sandy Noecker's retirement celebration.

OTHER BUSINESS: Next Board Meeting – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, September 26th. Details to follow.

ADJOURN: Chairman Bendfeldt adjourned the board meeting at 2:45 p.m.

August 22, 2019

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

August Report to CPNRD

The Federal Governments 2019 Fiscal Year will be ending soon, on September 30th actually. So naturally with the end of any Fiscal Year there is a lot to complete and wrap up before the last day arrives. So, with that said our offices in the Central Platte and across the State are staying very busy trying to complete the contracting process for many applications received. As you all know, this year was one for the books, and it is still not over yet. If you recall last spring, we talked about several disaster initiatives or disaster programs that were available to producers or sponsors. These programs were in addition to the normal Farm Bill programs we administer every year.

We talked about the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP), that the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) administers. Each EWP project required a local sponsor to apply for this assistance. We also talked about the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) which most of you are familiar with, but there were 2 new initiatives available after the storms this year.

The first was the Livestock Mortality Program, this was available for producers who had suffered livestock losses due to the extreme weather events from the spring. This program was intended to help farmers and ranchers to properly dispose of their dead livestock carcasses in a safe manner. The second was the Cover Crops for Disaster Assistance Initiative. This program and the funds were available to producer to plant their severe weather impacted acres to cover crops in 2019, if they were not able to plant this year's cash crop. This funding was available statewide to assist producers.

This Cover Crops for Disaster Assistance Initiative is being used at a very large scale in the State and in the Central Platte, with the bulk of our applications and obligated contracts in the Central Platte coming from Merrick County. On August 21st we had 241 contracts obligated statewide, treating 45,864 acres, totaling over 1 million dollars. When we are all said and done with this initiative, we are estimating 518 contracts and over 2.2 million dollars, for Nebraska.

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Here is a closer look at our local numbers for the Cover Crops for Disaster Assistance Initiative in the Central Platte. On August 21st we had 74 contracts obligated, treating 14,107 acres, totaling \$364,240 dollars. When we are all said and done with this initiative in the Central Platte, we are estimating 144 contracts and \$708,025. The deadline for our field offices statewide to have all the contracting work done for obligation review is September 13th. The deadline to have all the contracts obligated in the state is September 27th.

Listed below is the estimated breakdown by NRCS Field Office, through the Central Platte NRD.

Field Office	Number of Contracts	Obligated Funds
Central City	107	\$529,286.00
Grand Island	15	\$68,468.00
Kearney	3	\$12,440.00
Lexington	19	\$97,831.00
Totals	144	\$708,025.00

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist

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