

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Board Meeting Minutes

July 26, 2018

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
Alicia Haussler	Keith Ostermeier	Steve Sheen
Brian Keiser	Doug Reeves	Keith Stafford
Ed Kyes	Mick Reynolds	Deborah VanMatre
Dwayne Margritz		

Excused absences: Jim Bendfeldt, Chris Henry, Jerry Milner, Barry Obermiller, Marvion Reichert, Bob Schanou, Ed Stoltenberg and Jerry Wiese.

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

Others present: Joe Krolikowski – NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, Jim Stulken – Doniphan.

MEETING NOTICES: Vice-chairman Mick 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: Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the June board meeting minutes. Charles Maser 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.

USDA NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT: Joe Krolkowski, NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, thanked Central Platte NRD for the long-standing partnership with the NRCS (see enclosed report). He also recognized and stated his appreciation of Central Platte NRD employee Sara Carlson who is located in the NRCS Central City field office. Joe explained that two years ago the NRCS staff located in that office took other positions leaving Sara as the lone employee in that office. Joe also recognized Central Platte NRD employees located in the other three NRCS field offices. They are Marcy Johnson in Grand Island, Shelly Lippincott in Kearney and Samantha Keith in Lexington. He said they have all done an excellent job in their respective Field Offices through the years.

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Vice-chairman Reynolds reported that Jim Bendfeldt, Chris Henry, Jerry Milner, Barry Obermiller, Marvion Reichert, Bob Schanou, Ed Stoltenberg and Jerry Wiese 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.

VARIANCE/APPEALS SUBCOMMITTEE: Report & Recommendation – Ed Kyes reported the subcommittee had met earlier that day and discussed an appeal request from Richard Ristine in Dawson County in the North one-half of the Southwest quarter, Section 10, Township 11 North, Range 24 West. Mr. Ristine was asking for an appeal to our groundwater management rules and regulations concerning the certification of sub-irrigated alfalfa. Ed said Mr. Ristine recently purchased the north 80 acres which is certified with the District as surface water only. There is no well on that north 80 acres. Mr. Ristine's contention is that the land should be certified as both groundwater and surface water due to the sub-irrigation of the alfalfa. He owns the south 80 acres and has a well that he would like to use to run a pivot over the full quarter.

Ed Kyes said the Variance/Appeals Subcommittee is recommending, and he made the motion, that Mr. Ristine's appeal be denied because it goes against the District's Groundwater Management rules and regulations. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

FISCAL YEAR 2018/2019 BUDGET: Budget Committee Report – Vice-chairman Reynolds said the Budget Committee met earlier that day. He said it was the committee's recommendation to forward the amended budget to the board.

Action on Proposed or Amended Budget – Keith Ostermeier made the motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2018/2019 budget as amended due to approximately \$43,700.00 more in County Treasurer's balances as of June 30th, which would require a property tax request of \$4,527,757.60, a reduction of \$44,137.00 less than originally advertised. This would be an overall reduction of property tax from last year of \$1,111,374.49. Jay

Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Schedule For Special Hearing to Set Levy – Vice-chairman Reynolds reported that a public hearing is required to set the levy for Fiscal Year 2018/2019. Because we will not get the valuations from the 11 county assessors until August 20th it would not allow sufficient time to publish the notice that is required so it is being recommended that the August board meeting be held on the fifth Thursday.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to schedule the public hearing to set the Fiscal Year 2018/2019 levy on Thursday August 30th at 1:45 p.m. Keith Ostermeier seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

EASTERN PROJECTS – REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS: Upper Prairie/Silver/Moores Creek Flood Control Project – Doug Reeves reported the committee met earlier that afternoon. He asked Assistant Manager Jesse Mintken to report on the two change orders they discussed.

Van Kirk Brothers Contracting Change Order #3 – Jesse said Change Order #3 is for a decrease of \$81,250.70. This is due to the adjustment of fill measure quantities for final payment. He said this will complete the contract for Van Kirk Brothers Contracting.

Hooker Brothers Construction Change Order #1 – Jesse said Change Order #1 is an increase of \$76,682.42 due to two work change directives that were processed over the last couple of months. The first one was a reduction that included mulch and excavating materials and the second was an increase in the drop structure because the original design was found to be insufficient for the conditions it will experience. The headwall was increased from eight inches to twelve inches and the overall length of the headwall was extended.

Doug Reeves made the motion to approve Van Kirk Brothers Contracting Change Order #3 and Hooker Brothers Construction Change Order #1. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

WATER QUANTITY COMMITTEE – REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS: Jay Richeson, chairman of the committee, reported they had met earlier that day.

Review Proposed Changes to the Groundwater Management Rules & Regulations – Jay said the first item was a review of the proposed changes to the rules and regulations and asked Assistant Manager Jesse Mintken to report on them (see attached summary of proposed changes).

General Manager Vogt said it is recommended that the public hearing on the proposed

changes be held the day of the September board meeting. If approved the changes would go into effect 30 days after the hearing. He said there will also be new depletion numbers because of the COHYST modeling changes. Those numbers are being refined now and would take effect at the same time the new rules would go into effect and also said we do not have to change our rules to address the depletion numbers but while there is a stay on new wells and transfers of irrigated acres it was felt that would be a good time to address changes in the rules and regulations. General Manager Vogt addressed several questions from the board.

Recommend an Engineering Firm to Study the Best Options to Account for Water in the B-1 Reservoir – Jay said the committee also reviewed proposals from engineering firms to do the study to account for recharge water from the B-1 reservoir in Dawson County. Jay asked Assistant Manager Jesse Mintken to report. Jesse said requests for proposals were sent out the first week in April. Four proposals were received back on May 22nd. They were: EA Engineering for \$125,000.00 with an optional Task 7 to add additional data collection for a total proposal of \$185,000.00, HDR Engineering at \$149,959.00, JEO Consulting Group for \$148,588.00, and Olsson Associates for \$69,000.00 with an optional Task 7 which was for grant funding for a total proposal of \$79,000.00. He said staff interviewed EA Engineering and JEO Consulting Group because it was thought that those two accurately captured the details of the proposal. Staff recommended JEO Consulting Group to the Water Quantity Committee.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve the Water Quantity Committee's recommendation to award the contract for the study of the best options to account for water in the B-1 reservoir to JEO Consulting Group for \$148,588.00. Charles Maser seconded the motion.

Question was asked by Brian Keiser on whether we would get credit for the water if we can account for it with the study. General Manager Vogt said that we would get credit. He also said the study will show how much of the water is going to the Platte and the timing, also the study may show that the timing of putting water into B-1 needs to be changed. There are several questions that the study should be able to help answer concerning return flows to the Platte.

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

Set Public Hearing Date for Proposed Changes to the Groundwater Management Rules and Regulations – Vice-chairman Reynolds said the board needed to schedule the public hearing on the proposed changes to the Groundwater Management Plan rules and regulations.

Jay Richeson made the motion that the public hearing on the proposed changes to the Groundwater Management Plan rules and regulations be scheduled for September 27th at 1:00 p.m. Keith Ostermeier seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by

roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

NE ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS (NARD) REPORT: No NARD board report was given.

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

COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Applications – Programs Coordinator Kelly Cole reported that we have received applications for the following cost share programs: NE Soil & Water Conservation Program, Center Pivot Incentive, and Well Decommissioning Program (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 REPORT: Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the July financial report as presented. Charles Maser seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Discuss and Possible Action on Legal Issues – Vice-chairman Reynolds recommended the board go into executive session to discuss possible action on legal issues associated with a pending application before the NE Department of Natural Resources.

Ed Kyes made the motion that the board go into executive session at 2:33 p.m. to discuss legal issues associated with a pending application before the NE Department of Natural Resources. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Keith Ostermeier made the motion for the board to come out of executive session at 2:50 p.m. Charles Maser seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

The subject of the executive session was in regard to Application A-19594 before the NE Department of Natural Resources filed by Central NE Public Power & Irrigation District and the Platte Republican Diversion Interlocal Agreement Partners for a permit to appropriate water for an interbasin transfer to the Republican River Basin from the Platte River Basin .

Jay Richeson made the motion that Central Platte NRD adopt Option 2, which would be to file an objection and request for a hearing on application A-19594 before the NE Department of Natural Resources. Steve Sheen seconded the motion. All board

members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Next Board Meeting -- Scheduled for Thursday, August 30 at 2:00 p.m. Details to follow. Public Hearing to set levy scheduled at 1:45 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Upcoming events were briefly reviewed.

ADJOURN: Vice-chairman Reynolds 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 24, 2018

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

July Report to CPNRD



District Secretary, Merrick County Field Office

Sara is the Secretary for the NRCS/CPNRD in the Merrick County Field office. Her duties include incoming and outgoing telephone calls, ordering supplies, sending correspondence letters, keeping track of irrigation records, updating farm folders with new farms and transferring out farms to different counties. She also assists with many NRD and conservation programs. Sara has been employed with the CPNRD since 2007.

I would like to take this time to Recognize Sara Carlson and the Central Platte Natural Resources Distract for their outstanding partnership, support and dedication. I would like this to serve as a personal Thank You to Sara, Lyndon, the Board of Directors, and all the NRD staff, for their support through the years.

In August, two years ago, the other staff located in the Central City Field Office took other positions leaving Sara as the lone employee in the Central City Service Center. During this time Sara has done an outstanding job of continued high-quality customer service for both external and internal customers. I have received many positive comments over the last 2 years from customers praising Sara for her work and the customer service she has provided to them. She has excelled at organizing and prioritizing workload for her and other staff, all while maintaining great communication with the different people aiding and supporting the Field Office.

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

This circumstance has been challenging, but without Sara and the support of the Central Platte NRD and its Board of Directors for the District Secretary position, the NRD/NRCS conservation presence would not have been possible in Merrick County the last 2 years. I would also like to Thank the other 3 District Secretary's as well, Marcy Johnson in Grand Island, Shelly Lippincott in Kearney, and Samantha Keith in Lexington, they have all done an excellent job in their respective Field Offices through the years.

So, in conclusion, Thank You all again for your support to our long-standing partnership, I look forward to maintaining and where possible improving on this relationship between the Central Platte Natural Resources District Staff, and Board of Directors.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist

**Rules and Regulations
For The
Enforcement of the Nebraska
Groundwater Management and
Protection Act**

Includes:

**Groundwater Use in Fully and Over Appropriated
Areas**

**Groundwater Quality Management Controls
Groundwater Quantity Management Controls
And Chemigation**

PROPOSED CHANGES – 7-26-2018

**Central Platte
Natural Resources District**



Proposed Changes

Page 9

- A.2.36.3
 - Take out "New wells" add "A water well that is used to supplement surface water" and take out "irrigate land with surface water"
- A.2.36.4
 - Remove
- A.2.36.5
 - Becomes the new A.2.36.4

Page 10

- A.2.39
 - Add "blue"

Page 11

- B.1.5.5
 - Remove "New wells" add "A water well"

Page 16

- B.4.1
 - Add statement at the end "Transfer applications will be accepted between September 1st and March 1st for irrigated acre transfers. Exceptions will be considered for land purchased 90 days after March 1st."
- B.4.2
 - Remove statement (1), change "(2)" to "(1)" and change "(3)" to "(2)"
- B.4.2.5
 - Change "one hundred twenty (120)" to "sixty (60)"

Page 19

- B.4.4.1
 - Change "two" to "five"

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Cost Share

July 26, 2018

NEBRASKA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COST SHARE		\$	88,031.65
Michael Douglas – Merrick – Underground Pipe to Pivot	\$	5,000.00	
Windfield Farms LLC – Merrick – Underground Pipe to Pivot		5,000.00	
Jerry Lehman – Dawson – Planned Grazing		5,893.15	
Emily J Nelson Rev. Trust – Buffalo – Pasture Planting		1,801.16	
Mike McVay – Dawson – Brush Management		2,487.38	
Eldon Reiter – Buffalo – Planned Grazing		7,500.00	
John P Harnan – Dawson – Pasture Planting		3,169.78	
Kenny Boryca – Nance – Planned Grazing		3,631.24	
Matthew Woitaszewski – Hall – Underground Pipe to Pivot		5,000.00	
Richard Garrelts – Buffalo – Underground Pipe to Pivot		5,000.00	
Maynard Struempfer – Custer – Planned Grazing		7,500.00	
Triple K Properties Ltd. – Dawson – Brush Management		327.21	
KJ Hueftle Ltd. – Dawson – Brush Management		8,792.76	
Patricia Jean Hancock – Hall – Underground Pipe to Pivot		5,000.00	
Kermit Bosshamer – Buffalo – Planned Grazing		3,423.51	
Mark Williams – Buffalo – Planned Grazing		7,163.96	
Gerald English Trust – Dawson – Brush Management		8,637.40	
Aaron Blasé – Hamilton – Renozzle		1,742.30	
Murray Schmoker – Polk – Planned Grazing		961.80	
CENTER PIVOT INCENTIVE COST SHARE PROGRAM.....		\$	20,683.45
Michael Douglas – Merrick	\$	7,500.00	
Schuett Farms Inc. – Merrick		5,683.45	
Matthew Woitaszewski – Hall		7,500.00	
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	750.00
Hinkson Bros. – Hall	\$	750.00	
Total		\$	109,465.10