

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Board Meeting Minutes

September 4, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Deb VanMatre called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. She 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. 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 by roll call were:

Lon Bohn	Barry Obermiller	Ed Stoltenberg
Tom Downey	Keith Ostermeier	John Stoltenberg
Brian Keiser	Doug Reeves	Deb VanMatre
Amy Kyes	Marvion Reichert	Kevin Werner
Charles Maser	Mick Reynolds	Mike Wilkens
Jerry Milner	Jay Richson	

Excused Absences: Todd Arends, Ryan Kegley and Dwayne Margritz

Staff present: Lyndon Vogt – General Manager, Kelly Cole – Administrative Assistant, Marcia Lee – Information/Education Specialist, Jesse Mintken – Assistant Manager, Tricia Dudley – Water Quality Specialist, Courtney Widup – Water Resources Technician, Brody Vorderstrasse – Communications Assistant, Collin Quandt – Agronomist and Brandi Flyr – Hydrologist.

Others present: Nolan Little – Tri-Basin NRD Assistant Manager

MEETING NOTICES: Chairman VanMatre 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 a motion to approve the July board meeting minutes. Tom Downey seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except Charles Maser and Marvion Reichert who abstained. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

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

PUBLIC FORUM: Chairman VanMatre asked if anyone wanted to address the board on any item not included on the agenda. There was none.

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Chairman VanMatre reported that Todd Arends, Ryan Kegley and Dwayne Margritz requested to be excused from the board meeting.

Marvion Reichert 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.

NRCS REPORTS: Joe Krolikowski, District Conservationist, was unable to attend, however his report was provided to the directors on Drop Box (see attached).

BUDGET: Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the “Resolution Setting the Property Tax Request – Fiscal Year 2025/2026” and to set the levy at 0.021738. Tom Downey seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

BUILDING COMMITTEE: Mick Reynolds, chairman, reported that the committee met earlier today. A video of the building progress was presented.

BOARD SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT: Deb VanMatre reported the committee is still looking for candidates to fill the vacancy for sub-district 3.

MANAGER’S REPORT: Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reported that Brandi Flyr will be sending out letters to potential landowners that may be interested in participating in our Flowmeter & Telemetry Program. The program will provide a free flowmeter and 10 years of telemetry service at no cost to the landowner. We would like to spread these meters across our groundwater management areas. If anyone is interested or knows of anyone interested, please have them contact Brandi.

Vogt reported on the Nebraska Supreme Court Decision – Lower Republican NRD In State ex rel. Seeman v Lower Republican NRD (2025). The NE Supreme Court ruled that the Lower Republican NRD’s 2017 order, the court applied Nebraska law which holds that a reduction of irrigated acres completed before a person acquires an interest is not affected by the acquisition of that interest. The court denied relief to Seeman, finding that the forfeiture was completed before he acquired his property, and therefore, he could not benefit from the restoration of water rights.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Applications - Kelly Cole, Administrative Assistant, reported that we have received cost share applications for the following programs: Burn Preparation, Flow Meter and Prescribed Burn (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. Keith Ostermeier seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reviewed the August

financial report.

Marvion Reichert made a motion to approve the August financial report as presented. Keith Ostermeier seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

VOTING DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE: Brian Keiser made a motion to elect Deb VanMatre as voting delegate and Jay Richeson as voting alternate for the NARD Annual Conference. Lon Bohn seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICT: Deb VanMatre, NARD Board Member, reminded anyone that is interested in attending the NARD Annual Conference September 29-30 to let Kelly know.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION: Doug Reeves, Middle Platte Basin Representative, reported that their next meeting will follow the NARD Annual Conference.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Chairman VanMatre reviewed the upcoming events.

Next Board Meeting – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, September 25. Details to follow.

OTHER BUSINESS: There was none.

ADJOURN: Chairman VanMatre adjourned the board meeting at 2:26 p.m.

United States Department Of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
Grand Island Field Office
703 S Webb Rd., Suite B
Grand Island, NE 68803
Phone (308) 395-8586 (Ext. 3)

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

August 28, 2025

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

August Report to CPNRD

Central Platte NRD Board and Staff, I'm sorry I will be unable to attend this month's meeting in person as I will be out of Nebraska at the time. During the August meeting we do not have a Resource Conservationist scheduled to present. We look forward to seeing you all again at the September board meeting. Until then, I have prepared an update for you all.

Please find attached an update we received earlier this month about the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Reorganization Plan and the 30-day comment period. The U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins announced in early August the opening of a public comment period for stakeholders to provide feedback. The goal of this reorganization is to relocate federal agencies beyond the national capital region, reduce bureaucracy, and strengthen USDA's presence in key agricultural regions across the country.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolkowski

Joe Krolkowski
District Conservationist

Attachment: USDA Reorganization Plan Comment Period



U.S. Department of Agriculture

PRESS RELEASE

USDA Opens Public Comment Period on Department Reorganization Plan

PUBLISHED: August 1, 2025

SHARE:



(Washington, D.C., August 1, 2025) – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins announced today the opening of a 30-day public comment period for stakeholders to provide feedback on the Department’s reorganization plan, as outlined in the Secretary’s [memorandum](#) (PDF, 2.6 MB) issued on July 24, 2025.

"As committed, we are continuing to hear stakeholder feedback on the USDA Reorganization. All stakeholders – including Capitol Hill offices, USDA employees, and members of the agricultural community – are encouraged to share their input during the open comment period. We value your perspective as we work to ensure that USDA is best positioned to serve America's farmers, ranchers, producers, and rural communities," said **Secretary Brooke Rollins**.

"President Trump made clear his second term would include relocating the sprawling federal bureaucracy to locations outside the National Capital Region," **Deputy Secretary Stephen Vaden said in his Capitol Hill testimony on July 30, 2025**. "The department's July 24 memorandum begins to deliver on this promise and does so in a way that right-sizes the USDA footprint, eliminates unnecessary management layers, consolidates redundant or duplicative functions, and, most importantly, allows USDA to deliver on its mission to the American people within the bounds of its available financial resources."

The reorganization proposal reflects President Trump's commitment to relocate federal agencies beyond the national capital region, reduce bureaucracy, and strengthen USDA's presence in key agricultural regions across the country. As part of the plan, USDA will consolidate operations, close the South Building, and relocate approximately 2,600 Washington-based positions to five regional hubs: Raleigh, NC; Kansas City, MO; Indianapolis, IN; Fort Collins, CO; and Salt Lake City, UT.

USDA is conducting the reorganization under its authority established in the Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1953 (5 U.S.C. app.; 7 U.S.C. 2201 note) and The Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-354). The secretarial memorandum delegates authority to the Deputy Secretary and underscores USDA's focus on efficiency, geographic diversity, and long-term sustainability.

How to Submit Comments

All stakeholders, including USDA employees, members of Congress, and agricultural and nutrition partners, are encouraged to provide feedback by emailing reorganization@usda.gov. The comment period is open through August 26, 2025.

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CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Cost Share
Thursday, September 4, 2025

BURN PREPARATION COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	21,775.00
Dove Pine, LLC – Buffalo	\$	10,000.00	
Lin-Kar Farms LLC – Custer		3,300.00	
Nic & Karlene Ostergard Family Rev Trust – Custer		1,875.00	
Shade Whalen & Kari Valentine – Hamilton		6,600.00	
FLOW METER COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	800.00
Mike Johannsen – Buffalo	\$	800.00	
PRESCRIBED BURN COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	2,500.00
Lin-Kar Farms LLC – Custer	\$	2,500.00	
TOTAL		\$	25,075.00