

## **CENTRAL PLATTE NRD**

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

June 26, 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:

Todd Arends	Jerry Milner	Steve Sheen
Lon Bohn	Barry Obermiller	Ed Stoltenberg
Tom Downey	Keith Ostermeier	John Stoltenberg
Ryan Kegley	Doug Reeves	Deb VanMatre
Brian Keiser	Marvion Reichert	Kevin Werner
Amy Kyes	Mick Reynolds	Mike Wilkens
Dwayne Margtitz	Jay Richeson	

Excused Absences: Charles Maser

Staff present: Lyndon Vogt – General Manager, Kelly Cole – Administrative Assistant, Marcia Lee – Information/Education Specialist, Jesse Mintken – Assistant Manager, Luke Zakrzewski – GIS Image Analyst, Tricia Dudley – Water Quality Specialist, Courtney Widup – Water Resources Technician, Angie Warner – GIS Programs Coordinator, Brandi Flyr – Hydrologist, Brody Vorderstrasse – Communications Assistant, Dean Krull – UNL/CPNRD Demo Project Coordinator and Collin Quandt – Agronomist.

Others present: Kaitlin Stouffer, Central City NRCS

**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 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. 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 Charles Maser requested to be excused from the board meeting.

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

**NRCS REPORTS:** Joe Krolkowski, District Conservationist, was not able to attend. See attached for his report.

Kaitlin Stouffer, Central City NRCS, reported on the programs being funded at the Merrick County NRCS office (see attached).

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

**JULY BOARD MEETING:** Chairman Deb VanMatre requested that the July board meeting be moved from July 24, 2025, to July 31, 2025, due to the GMDA conference.

Marvion Reichert made a motion to change the July 24, 2025, board meeting to July 31, 2025, due to the GMDA conference. Keith Ostermier seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**BUDGET COMMITTEE:** Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reviewed the proposed budget.

Tom Downey made a motion to approve the proposed budget of expenditures for the purpose of holding the public budget hearing on July 31, 2025, at 1:45 p.m. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**OFFICE AND EDUCATION CENTER – LINE OF CREDIT:** Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reported that the Central Platte NRD would like to apply for a \$4,000,000 Line of Credit with Five Points Bank, with the anticipation of paying off our Line of Credit once current facility is sold.

Marvion Reichert made a motion to approve the \$4,000,000 Line of Credit with Five Points Bank for the purpose of paying for our new office building. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Kevin Werner who abstained. Motion carried.

**CLEAR CREEK DAM – AMENDMENT #1:** Jesse Mintken, Assistant Manager, reviewed Amendment #1 with JEO Consulting Group for the Clear Creek Dam Rehabilitation. The Amendment in the amount of \$4,000 is to help re-establish easements and prepare bidding documents. Central Platte NRD is planning to go out for

bids in July.

Mick Reynolds made a motion to approve Amendment #1 with JEO Consulting Group for the Clear Creek Dam Rehabilitation in the amount of \$4,000 for the additional re-establishment of easements and to prepare bidding documents. Doug Reeves seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**STATIC GROUNDWATER LEVEL REPORT:** Luke Zakrzewski, GIS Image Analyst, reported that Central Platte NRD district wide had an accumulated loss of -0.80 feet. No Groundwater Management Areas will open, No Groundwater Management Areas reached a 25% decline and Groundwater Management Area's 2, 18 and 24 were above 25% decline.

**TREE AND WEED BARRIER REPORT:** Kelly Cole, Administrative Assistant, reported that tree and weed barrier sales were down this year (see attached).

**MANAGER'S REPORT:** Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reported on the MRNRD Lawsuit. Two cases were decided by the Nebraska Supreme Court on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Both cases involve the same parties – the Middle Republican NRD vs. Mr. and Mrs. Hauxwell.

Vogt reported that Vanessa Silke has left Baird Holme Law Firm and is planning to be independent for now. CPNRD has hired Vanessa to assist with some of our legal concerns in the past. We have transferred our files with her.

**ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT:** Jesse Mintken, Assistant Manager, reported that Clear Creek Dam should go out for bid in July and is hoping to have bids to approve at the July board meeting.

Mintken also reported that the Elm/Turkey Creek WFPO will have an open house on July 15, 2025, at the Central Community College in Kearney. Currently waiting on the publication from the NRCS before anything is sent out.

**STAFF REPORTS:** Tricia Dudley, Groundwater Quality Specialist, Brandi Flyr, Hydrologist and Brody Vorderstrasse, Communications Assistant, presented to the board what their job duties are.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reviewed the June financial report.

Marvion Reichert made a motion to approve the June financial report as presented. Tom Downey 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, reported Dean Edson's contract has been extended for 6 months to December 31, 2026. The NRD's will have a 2% increase in dues. Premiums for employee health/dental will remain the same.

**NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION:** Doug Reeves, Middle Platte Basin Representative, reported that their next meeting will be July 8-9 in Kearney. However, he did indicate that the Water Sustainability Fund was funded.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Chairman VanMatre reviewed the upcoming events.

**Next Board Meeting** – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, July 31. Details to follow.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Chairman VanMatre reported that Steve Sheen has resigned from the Central Platte NRD Board effective today following the Board of Directors meeting. Sheen was congratulated on his years of service to the Central Platte NRD.

Chairman VanMatre appointed the following board members to serve on a search committee to replace Steve Sheen: Marvion Reichert, Tom Downey, Ryan Kegley and herself.

**ADJOURN:** Chairman VanMatre adjourned the board meeting at 3:18 p.m.

# NRD Board Meeting 6/26/2025

Central City Field Office – Kaitlin Stouffer

## Central City Workload

- NRD
  - 3 cover crop
  - 2 NSWCP pipelines
  - 1 pivot conversion
- EQIP (Including RCPP)
  - 6 new contracts selected in FY25
    - 120.9 ac. converted from gravity irrigation to pivots
    - 922.1 ac. cover crops
    - 377.1 ac. implementing nutrient management
    - 42.0 ac. temporary dryland
  - 52 total contracts
- CSP
  - 13 total contracts
  - 4 expiring, 2 of those signed applications to renew
- Compliance Reviews
  - 14 – Hall County

## What's Next

- Start planning with our two CSP renewal applicants
  - November 7<sup>th</sup> ranking deadline
- Work on creating cover crop seeding plans for this fall
- Dryland checks
- IWM certification
- CSP practice/enhancement certification
  - End of September
- Planning and prep for assessing/ranking FY26 EQIP/RCPP
  - 25 applications on file right now
  - Anticipating mid November application sign up deadline



United States Department Of Agriculture

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

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

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June 20, 2025

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

June Report to CPNRD

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is finishing up processing the fifth and final year of applications received for the 1966 Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) agreement. As a reminder, this agreement is with The Nature Conservancy, they are known as the “Lead Partner” in this project. Their Nebraska Soil Carbon Project is a collaboration with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Central Platte NRD, Upper Big Blue NRD, The Nature Conservancy, Ecosystem Services Market Consortium (ESMC), Cargill, Target, and McDonald's.

The project goal was to team up with producers to install soil health practices on central Nebraska cropland fields over the agreement life, which was 5 years. We have completed the 5-year agreement. Farmers that chose to enroll in this program received cost share for adopting practices such as cover crops, no till, and/or diversified crop rotations. Their soils have been or will be evaluated by The Nature Conservancy and Ecosystem Services Market Consortium for both carbon and water quality benefits and then quantified showing the results before and after implementing any of these conservation practices.

NRCS is also finishing up processing applications for another RCPP agreement as well, it is the third year of applications received for the renewed 2271 Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) agreement. This agreement like in the past is with The Central Platte NRD, they are known as the “Lead Partner” in this project. This Ogallala Aquifer and Platte River Recovery Project is a collaboration with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Central Platte NRD, and Twin Platte NRD.



The objective of this agreement is to reduce water consumption by converting irrigated land to non-irrigated on a permanent or temporary basis with a focus in the over-appropriated area of the District from Gothenburg to Elm Creek and Groundwater Management Areas that are in declining status. Surface and groundwater quality and quantity concerns will also be addressed with the implementation of improved irrigation systems and management technologies to increase irrigation efficiencies, reducing impacts to the Platte River and the local groundwater supply. Phases II/III areas of the CPNRD's Groundwater Quality Management Program will also be targeted since nitrate levels in these areas are above the recommended 10 ppm drinking water standard.

The application process includes completion of applicant and land eligibility determinations, conservation planning with the applicant, cost estimates, application assessments, and then ranking. All the applications that we received on or before the November signup deadline, have been considered for fund allocation. Contract obligation is complete or on track to be completed shortly for the highest ranked applications preapproved for funding. The National Team continues their process of developing the Conservation Desktop contracting software. So, over the last 5 years and going forward each RCPP18 contract must be manually constructed, and then manually managed, for the entire life of that contract.

For FY 2025, below is the preapproved application summary for each RCPP Agreement:

RCPP 1966 Agreement

Field Office	Preapproved Applications	\$ Requested
Kearney	0	\$0.00
Lexington	0	\$0.00
Central City	2	\$172,600.00
Grand Island	1	\$30,576.00
Osceola	3	\$158,859.00
Central Platte NRD Apps	6	\$362,035.00
Aurora	0	\$0.00
Seward	0	\$0.00
York	1	\$24,273.00
Geneva	0	\$0.00
Osceola	1	\$107,784.00
Hastings	0	\$0.00
David City	0	\$0.00
Upper Big Blue NRD Apps	2	\$132,057.00
Totals	8	\$494,092.00

RCPP 2271 Agreement

Field Office	Preapproved Applications	\$ Requested
Kearney	1	\$95,624.00
Lexington	2	\$160,639.06
Central City	1	\$68,676.00
Grand Island	1	\$31,989.00
Central Platte NRD Apps	5	\$356,928.06
Ogallala	0	\$0.00
North Platte	5	\$173,100.00
Twin Platte NRD Apps	5	\$173,100.00
Totals	10	\$530,028.06

Respectfully Submitted,

*/s/ Joe Krolikowski*

Joe Krolikowski  
District Conservationist

**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
2020	20,475	2.03
2021	30,825	6.46
2022	40,866	13.14
2023	32,203	9.93
2024	37,900	6.26

<b>2025</b>	<b>28,350</b>	<b>4.78</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,950,612</b>	<b>633.97</b>

# 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
2020	10,722	2.03	9,048	1,674
2021	34,113	6.46	25,213	8,900
2022	69,369	13.14	67,495	1,874
2023	52,429	9.93	49,514	2,915
2024	33,043	6.26	17,820	15,223
<b>2025</b>	<b>25,240</b>	<b>4.78</b>	<b>18,850</b>	<b>6,390</b>
TOTALS	3,347,435	633.99	2,764,056	587,032

**18,850 FT Installed at 7 sites**

## Central Platte NRD Tree Program

### Handplant

23,850

Dawson: 2,775

Buffalo: 7,050

Polk: 575

Hall: 12,150

Merrick: 1,300

### District Plant (13 planting jobs)

4,335

Buffalo: 2,225

Dawson: 450

Merrick: 300

Hall: 725

Nance: 800

*Sold 31 small acreage packages (5 species with 10 of each included in packages)*