

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Board Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Deb VanMatre called the meeting to order at 1:00 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	Mick Reynolds
Lon Bohn	Barry Obermiller @ 1:50 pm	Jay Richeson
Tom Downey	Keith Ostermeier	Ed Stoltenberg
Ryan Kegley	Luke Ourada	Deb VanMatre
Dwayne Margrtiz	Doug Reeves	Mike Wilkens
Charles Maser @ 1:45 pm	Marvion Reichert	

Excused Absences: Brian Keiser, Amy Kyes, John Stoltenberg and Kevin Werner

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

Others present: Joe Krolikowski – District Conservationist, Kaitlan Stouffer – Resources Conservationist Central City Office, Lynn Mayhew – Grand Island Utilities, John Peterseon – JEO Project Manager, Don Blankenau - Attorney with Woods Aitken LLP and Randy Zach – NPPD.

DIRECTOR EDUCATION: Don Blankenau, Attorney with Woods Aitken LLP, gave an educational session on the roles and responsibilities of members of the NRD Board of Directors.

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 December board meeting minutes. Keith Ostermeier 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 Brian Keiser, Amy Kyes, John Stoltenberg and Kevin Werner requested to be excused from the board meeting.

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

ELM/TURKEY CREEK WFPO: John Petersen, Project Manager with JEO Consulting Group, gave a presentation on the study that was done for the Elm/Turkey Creek WFPO that evaluated options to reduce flood risk. Adoption of the plan allows the Central Platte NRD to seek future funding for additional project phases.

Tom Downey made a motion to adopt the Elm/Turkey Creek WFPO plan as presented by JEO Consulting Group to allow Central Platte NRD to request funding for the design phase. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

NRCS REPORTS: Kaitlan Stouffer, Resource Conservationist, reviewed the FY26 applications for the Merrick County office (see attached).

Joe Krolkowski, District Conservationist, reviewed staffing within the NRCS offices (see attached).

BUILDING COMMITTEE: Mick Reynolds, chairman, reported that the committee met earlier today.

Jesse Mintken, Assistant Manager, presented a video to the board on the progress of the building.

The Building Committee reviewed change order #1 for the CPNRD Maintenance Building with Rogge General Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$2,850 to conduct a PERC test for the new shop.

Mick Reynolds made a motion to approve change order #1 for the CPNRD Maintenance Building with Rogge General Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$2,850 to conduct a PERC test for the new shop. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

The Building Committee reviewed change order #6 for the CPNRD Office and Education

Center with Rogge General Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$134,816.00. The change order includes adding a window to an office, changing the height of frame type F3, adding microphones to board room, utility connections between the maintenance building and office building, PERC testing for the office building, the Birch wall panels changing to Plain Slice and increasing the completion date by 80 days, making the completion date May 2, 2026.

Mick Reynolds made a motion to approve change order #6 with Rogge General Contractors in the amount of \$134,816.00 that includes: adding a window to an office, changing the height of frame type F3, adding microphones to board room, utility connections between the maintenance building and office building, PERC testing for the office building, the Birch wall panels changing to Plain Slice and increasing the completion date by 80 days, making the completion date May 2, 2026. Keith Ostermeier seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE: Jerry Milner, chairman, reported that the committee met earlier today and discussed a study, "Examining the Effects of Fertilizer Application Practices on Nitrate Movement and Leaching in the Lower Loup, Central Platte and Upper Big Blue NRDs. No action was needed.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reported that a fact sheet on Perkins Canal is on Drop Box for everyone to view.

Vogt reported that the legislative session has begun. Currently there are 240 carryover bills and approximately 550 new bills. This session is scheduled to end April 17th.

Vogt reported that the Schroeder Property in Dawson County that the Central Platte NRD owns is set to sell on February 18 at 1:00 p.m. via live auction and online bidding with Agri Affiliates. The pivot bridges are listed with Adam Marshalls Land & Auction and will be sold on February 10.

ELECT BOARD OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Tom Downey made a motion to nominate Mick Reynolds, Lon Bohn, Mike Wilkens and Deb VanMatre to sit on the nominating committee for secretary and treasurer. Doug Reeves seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Lon Bohn, Mick Reynolds, Deb VanMatre and Mike Wilkens who abstained. Motion carried.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Transfer & Applications - Kelly Cole, Administrative Assistant, requested a transfer of \$700 from Grazing Deferment, to increase Well Decommissioning by \$700, and reported that we have received cost share applications for the following programs: Tree Planting 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 transfer and applications as reported. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Mick Reynolds who abstained. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reviewed the December and January financial reports.

Marvion Reichert made a motion to approve the December and January financial reports as presented. Tom Downey seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

PRECISION CONSERVATION REPORT: Darren Cudaback, Precision Conservation Specialist, presented his annual report.

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICT: No Report

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION: No Report

UPCOMING EVENTS: Chairman VanMatre reviewed the upcoming events.

Next Board Meeting – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, February 26. Details to follow.

OTHER BUSINESS: There was none.

ADJOURN: Chairman VanMatre adjourned the board meeting at 3:26 p.m.

NRD BOARD MEETING

01/22/2026

Central City Field Office – Kaitlin Stouffer

FY26 Applications

- Application Deadline 1/15/2026
- 37 EQIP/RCPP applications on file
 - 21 - Pivot/SDI conversions
 - 7 - Temporary Dryland
 - 3 - Cover Crop
 - 6 - Brush Management/Wildlife/High Tunnel
- 1 CSP application

- February 20th – Ranking Deadline for EQIP/RCPP
- May 1st – Ranking Deadline for CSP

January 21, 2026

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

January Report to CPNRD

In my report this month I would like to take this time to update you all on where things stand currently in Nebraska with our leadership and what staffing looks like today in our 4 Natural Resources Conservation Service Field Offices. Staffing continues to fluctuate in our agency, state, and in our local NRCS offices, and I feel it is important as partners for the NRD Board and Staff to stay updated with these changes.

Last month State Conservationist Rob Lawson accepted a four-month detail opportunity with the National NRCS headquarters staff. Rob will serve as Acting Associate Deputy Chief for Management & Strategy effective January 4, 2026, through May 2, 2026. During Robs absence James Huntwork, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations for the Central Area will be serving as Acting State Conservationist of Nebraska from January 4, 2026, through May 2, 2026.

Jerry Kovarik who is the District Conservationist in Alma and the Lower Republican NRD will serve as Acting Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations for the Central Area effective January 4, 2026, through March 7, 2026. Camilla (Cammie) Kerner who is the District Conservationist in Holdrege and the Tri-Basin NRD will serve as Acting Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations for the Central Area effective March 8, 2026, through May 2, 2026.

Current staffing in our 4 NRCS offices located across the Central Platte NRD.

Grand Island Field Office

- **Joe Krolkowski** – District Conservationist,
- **Jason Scholz** – Resource Conservationist,
- **Jacoba Nowak** – Soil Conservationist,
- **Alexandra Zubia** – District Secretary,
- **Angie Lau** – Program Assistant for our 4 offices and Central Area,



Central City Field Office

- **Kaitlin Stouffer** – Resource Conservationist,
- **Laura Rubeck** – Soil Conservationist,
- **Kyla Friedrichsen** – District Secretary,

Kearney Field Office

- **Janelle Taubenheim** – Resource Conservationist,
- **Ethan Gibbens** – Soil Conservationist,
- **Agustin Ruvalcaba** – Soil Conservation Technician,
- **Shelly Lippincott** – District Secretary,

Lexington Field Office

- **Carrie Thompson** – Resource Conservationist,
- **Kevin Gill** – Soil Conservation Technician,
- **Lisa Kennicutt** – District Secretary,

Thanks again for your continued support to our partnership, and we look forward to maintaining this relationship into the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist



Transfer \$700 from Grazing Deferment and put towards Well Decommissioning

**CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Cost Share
Thursday, January 22, 2026**

TREE PLANTING COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	2,602.50
Allan Urkoski – Nance	\$	300.00
Randy Kegley – Buffalo		2,302.50
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	750.00
Michael Reynolds – Hall	\$	750.00
TOTAL	\$	3,352.50