

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Board Meeting Minutes

February 26, 2026

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	Jerry Milner	Mick Reynolds
Ryan Kegley	Barry Obermiller	Jay Richeson
Brian Keiser	Keith Ostermeier	Ed Stoltenberg
Amy Kyes	Luke Ourada	John Stoltenberg
Dwayne Margrtiz	Doug Reeves	Deb VanMatre
Charles Maser @ 2:36 pm	Marvion Reichert	Kevin Werner
		Mike Wilkens

Excused Absences: Todd Arends and Tom Downey

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

Others present: Joe Krolikowski – District Conservationist, Carrie Thompson – Resources Conservationist Lexington Office, Clyde Lueking – Landowner and Matt McGuire – Landowner.

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: Keith Ostermeier made a motion to approve the January board meeting minutes. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Brian Keiser, Amy Kyes, John Stoltenberg and Kevin Werner 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.

Matt McGuire, PO Box 114, Ashton NE. Mr. McGuire inquired as to when the new office building would be completed and when we would be selling our current building.

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Chairman VanMatre reported that Todd Arends and Tom Downey requested to be excused from the board meeting.

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

BOARD OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Mike Wilkens reviewed the subcommittee's recommendation to elect Keith Ostermeier as Secretary and Marvion Reichert as Treasurer.

Chairman VanMatre asked whether there were any nominations from the floor. There were none.

Mike Wilkens made a motion that nominations close and elect Keith Ostermeier as Secretary and Marvion Reichert as Treasurer. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Keith Ostermeier and Marvion Reichert who abstained. Motion carried.

NRCS REPORTS: Carrie Thompson, Resource Conservationist, reviewed the Nutrient Management Program (see attached).

Joe Krolkowski, District Conservationist, reviewed current happenings with 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.

VARIANCE APPEALS COMMITTEE: Barry Obermiller, chairman, reported that the committee met earlier today.

The committee reviewed a variance request from Clyde Lueking of Holdrege, NE. The request was to allow for the extraction of gravel on a property in Dawson County that has a conservation easement in place. The Committee is recommending that the request be denied because it would violate the condition of the conservation easement in place, which specifically restricts the development of sand and gravel operations.

Barry Obermiller made a motion to deny the variance request from Clyde Lueking of Holdrege, NE. The request was to allow the extraction of gravel on a property in Dawson

County that has a conservation easement in place. It would violate the condition of the conservation easement in place, which specifically restricts the development of sand and gravel operations. Doug Reeves seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Marvion Reichert who abstained. Motion carried.

WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE: Jerry Milner, chairman, reported that the committee met earlier today and reviewed bids for geotechnical services for the proposed study, "Examining the Effects of Fertilizer Application Practices on Nitrate Movement and Leaching in the Lower Loup, Central Platte and Upper Big Blue NRDs. Four bids were received, with the lowest being \$253,977.96 from EA Engineering.

Jerry Milner made a motion to approve the bid from EA Engineering in the amount of \$253,977.96 for geotechnical services for the proposed study, "Examining the Effects of Fertilizer Application Practices on Nitrate Movement and Leaching in the Lower Loup NRD, Central Platte and Upper Big Blue NRDs. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Milner reported that the committee reviewed the Sensor Based Management of Fertigation Cost Share Program. The committee discussed raising the payment from \$11/acre to \$13.50/acre which would keep the cost share at 75%.

Jerry Milner made a motion to update the Sensor Based Management of Fertigation Cost Share Program from \$11/acre to \$13.50/acre effective immediately. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

WESTERN PROJECTS COMMITTEE: Lon Bohn, chairman, reported that the committee met earlier today.

Bohn reported that the committee reviewed moving forward with the design phase of the Elm/Turkey Creek WFPO. This would allow the Central Platte NRD to pursue future funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Lon Bohn made a motion to move forward with the design phase of the Elm/Turkey Creek WFPO, which would allow the Central Platte NRD to pursue future funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Bohn reported that the committee discussed the Spring Creek WFPO. The committee agrees to approve the plan; however, Central Platte NRD will not move forward with the design phase due to low benefit cost ratio and the lack of public support.

Lon Bohn made a motion to approve the Spring Creek WFPO; however, the Central Platte NRD will not move forward with the design phase due to a low benefit cost ratio

and the lack of public support. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

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 Kent Miller, General Manager of the Twin Platte NRD retired February 27, 2026, with 53 years of service with the NRD.

Vogt reported that our Schroeder property located in Dawson County sold at auction for \$716,170 and the Pivot Bridges were sold for \$21,500.

Vogt reported the CPNRD's annual Water Programs Update meeting that was held in Lexington, NE was well attended with approximately 60 in attendance.

IRRIGATION VIOLATION REPORT: Luke Zakrzewski, GIS Image Analyst, reported that 17 violation letters were mailed on January 13, 2026. Contact has been made with all 17 landowners. Of the 17: 4 are completed, 3 are waiting on paperwork and 10 are in various stages but working to complete.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Transfer & Applications - Kelly Cole, Administrative Assistant, requested a transfer of \$2,400 from Grazing Deferment, to increase Prescribed Fire by \$2,400, and reported that we have received cost share applications for the following programs: Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation, Burn Preparation, Cover Crop, Flow Meter, 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 Brian Keiser who abstained. Motion carried.

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

Marvion Reichert made a motion to approve the February financial report as presented. Mike Wilkens 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 that the NARD Board of Directors approved the Legislative Package and that NARD Insurance Risk Pool rates are not expected to increase this year. VanMatre reminded board members that the NARD Washington DC Conference is March 28 – April 1 and the Basin Tour, which more than likely will be of the Perkins Canal, will be June 8-9.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION: Doug Reeves, Middle Platte Basin Representative, reported that they met yesterday, February 25, 2026. At this time all funding is gone, with the hopes some will be available in April. The Commission will continue to take applications which are due in March.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Chairman VanMatre reviewed the upcoming events.

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

OTHER BUSINESS: There was none.

ADJOURN: Chairman VanMatre adjourned the board meeting at 2:49 p.m.

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

CPNRD PRESENTATION

FEB 2026



Nutrient Management and NRCS Cost Share

Is cost shareable with EQIP or CSP

3 Different levels of Nutrient Management available for cost share

- Nutrient Management Basic
- Precision Nutrient Application
- Prescription Nutrient Efficiency



Nutrient Management Basic

Use of synthetic fertilizer as well as manure and/or compost

Soil testing- 1 sample/ 40 acres minimum taken using UNL procedures

Testing of manure and compost is also required

NRCS works with the producer on leaching risk, nutrient budget and application rates



Precision Nutrient Application

Soil testing N-P-K, pH and OM using either the grid sampling or zone sampling

Nutrients are applied with GIS and GPS technology with variable rate application

NRCS works with producer on Nutrient budget and application rates



Prescription Nutrient Efficiency

Soil sampling 1 sample/40 acres using UNL procedures

Implementing practices like split applications with supplemental testing or evaluation of the crop and/or soil during the growing season

Use of nitrification or urease inhibitors or controlled or slow-release fertilizers



Nutrient Management

Talk with your local NRCS field office to learn more about nutrient management and how you can implement it on your operation





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>

February 23, 2026

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

February Report to CPNRD

Attached is a summary of activities and current happenings at the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) field offices throughout the Central Platte and the state. We are now only a month away from the halfway point in the Federal Governments 2026 Fiscal Year.

- FY 2026 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) status, NRCS staff are working through the assessing and ranking process for all the FY26 applications on file. The application deadline was last November 21, 2025, but due to the government shutdown the date was moved by national headquarters to January 15, 2026, to be considered for FY26 funding. Once ranking is completed, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will begin extending contract offers to the highest ranked applications until all funds are allocated. This process can sometimes extend into August or September.
- FY 2026 Conservation Stewardship Program (CStP) status, NRCS staff are working on preparing the 2026 CSP applications. The application cutoff was November 21, 2026, to be considered for funding in FY26, but due to the government shutdown the date was moved by national headquarters to January 15, 2026, to be considered for FY26 funding. Staff will continue to work with our producers and gather the information needed to work through this process. The obligation deadline for these new CStP Classic contracts is not set currently. We will no longer be completing CSP contract renewals, they will have the option to combine acres into another existing contract if they have one or they can compete against others for a new contract.
- FY 2026 Conservation Reserve Programs (CRP) which is administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA), NRCS is responsible for conducting all contract status reviews, field visits and then producing all the conservation planning and contracting documents for their program. We are currently working on this workload as well.



- FY 2026 National Food Security Act Compliance Review preparation is also getting started across the State. Anyone who owns land and receives United State Department Agriculture (USDA) benefits is subject to the compliance spot checks. These tract numbers are randomly selected each year out of the database in Kansas City. If a tract of land in the Farm Service Agency's (FSA) database is carried as Highly Erodible Land or has Wetlands identified on it, the tract is subject to a random compliance spot check. Tracts reported to a USDA Service Center by a Whistleblower, if valid, are also subject to compliance spot checks.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist



Transfer \$2,400 from Grazing Deferment and put towards Prescribed Fire

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Cost Share
Thursday, February 26, 2026

NEBRASKA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COST SHARE PROGRAM.....		\$	5,516.75
JLC Farm – Hall – Underground Pipe to Pivot	\$	5,000.00	
Robert D Ridenour – Buffalo – Brush Management		516.75	
BURN PREPARATION COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	10,000.00
Gorden Peden – Dawson	\$	10,000.00	
COVER CROP COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	2,000.00
Peregrine Ranch Inc – Nance	\$	2,000.00	
FLOW METER COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	800.00
JLC Farm – Hall	\$	800.00	
TREE PLANTING COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	3,952.50
Larry Greenwalt – Buffalo	\$	375.00	
Robert Bendfeldt – Buffalo		1,247.50	
Thomas Hartman – Hall		1,100.00	
Trent Schlake – Dawson		1,230.00	
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	1,000.00
Carl Vern Samuels – Polk	\$	500.00	
Shane Terrell – Dawson		500.00	
TOTAL		\$	23,269.25