

## CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

### Board Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER:** 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	Dwayne Margritz	Mick Reynolds
Jim Bendfeldt	Charles Maser	Jay Richeson
Lon Bohn	Jerry Milner	Steve Sheen
Tom Downey	Barry Obermiller	Ed Stoltenberg
Alicia Haussler	Keith Ostermeier	Deb VanMatre
Ryan Kegley	Doug Reeves	Jerry Wiese
Ed Kyes	Marvion Reichert	

Excused Absences: Brian Keiser

Staff present: Lyndon Vogt – General Manager, Jesse Mintken – Assistant Manager, Kelly Cole – Administrative Assistant, Marcia Lee – Information/Education Specialist, Luke Zakrzewski – GIS Image Analyst, Angie Warner – GIS Programs Coordinator, Dan Clement – Water Resources Specialist, Tricia Dudley – Water Quality Programs Specialist, Dean Krull – UNL/CPNRD Demo Project Coordinator and Brandi Flyr – Hydrologist

Others present: Joe Krolkowski – NRCS District Conservationist, Jacob Kendrick – NRCS Resource Conservationist – Merrick County, Laura Rubeck – NRCS Soil Conservationist – Merrick County, Matt McGuire – Landowner, Scott Sorensen – Hall County Commissioner and Mike Murphy – Middle Niobrara NRD Manager.

**MEETING NOTICES:** Chairman 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:** Marvion Reichert made the motion to approve the December board meeting minutes. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except Lon Bohn, Ed Kyes, Deb VanMatre, and Jerry Wiese who abstained. Motion carried.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:**

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

**PUBLIC FORUM:** Chairman Reynolds asked if anyone wanted to address the board on any item not included on the agenda.

Matt McGuire, 15346 W Barrows Rd, Kenesaw NE 68956. He was upset at the number of landowners taking out trees for habitat and voiced his concern about the potential new Educational/Office building for Central Platte NRD.

**EXCUSED ABSENCES:** Chairman Reynolds reported that Brian Keiser requested to be excused from the board meeting.

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

**NRCS REPORT:** Jacob Kendrick, NRCS Resource Conservationist, introduced Laura Rubeck, the new Soil Conservationist in Central City. Kendrick also reviewed the EQIP applications for Merrick County and the upcoming Eastern NE Soil Health Conference (see enclosed).

Joe Krolikowski, NRCS District Conservationist, reported on the EQIP applications across Nebraska (see enclosed).

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Reichert reviewed the subcommittee's recommendation that was reported at last month's board meeting to elect Mick Reynolds as chairman and Jerry Wiese as vice-chairman. Both would serve a second two-year term.

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

Marvion Reichert made a motion that nominations close and to elect Mick Reynolds as Chairman and Jerry Wiese as Vice-Chairman. Deb VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Mick Reynolds and Jerry Wiese who abstained. Motion carried.

**BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT:** Mick Reynolds, chairman, reported that the building information has been put on drop box for all the directors to review. This will be discussed at the next board meeting. If any questions in the meantime, contact Lyndon or Jesse.

**WATER UTILIZATION COMMITTEE:** Tom Downey, chairman, reported that the committee had met earlier today.

Downey said the committee reviewed Amendment #2 for the Groundwater Management Plan Update from Olsson Inc. The amendment adds \$5,000 to the initial cost due to staff

and directors asking for additional information.

Marvion Reichert made a motion to approve the Groundwater Management Plan Update Amendment #2 with Olsson Inc in the amount of \$5,000. Tom Downey seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Downey said the committee reviewed an amended deed of conservation easement. The original easements stated that no deep-rooted vegetation could be grown on dryland. After reviewing this with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, they agreed that they didn't have a preference on what was grown on dryland. After some discussion with the committee, it was recommended to allow the Central Platte NRD staff to sign an amendment to remove the no deep-rooted vegetation from current conservation easements and future conservation easements.

Currently the Central Platte NRD has signed 76 conservation easements. Forty-five of those conservation easements have the no sub-irrigated crops clause. Staff will explore the proper procedures for addressing this amendment with partners.

Tom Downey made a motion to approve the Central Platte NRD staff to sign an amendment to remove the no deep-rooted vegetation from the current conservation easements and remove the clause from any future conservation easements. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Downey reported that the Platte-Republican Interbasin Transfer, which several NRD's were involved in, the appeal in the decision of no standing. The committee is asking the board to ratify the action of the executive committee to appeal the standing decision that CPNRD doesn't have on the Platte-Republican Division application by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.

Tom Downey made a motion to ratify the action of the executive committee to appeal the no standing determination by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources regarding the Platte-Republican Diversion Project. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**MANAGERS REPORT:** Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reported that the Perkins County Canal is being fully funded in the upcoming budget.

The Groundwater Management Plan is currently being reviewed by DNR and we are hoping to get it back in the next couple of weeks.

Reminder of the board retreat on February 9, 2023.

**NEBRASKA CLASS PARTICIPATION RESOLUTION:** Lyndon Vogt, General

Manager, reviewed a resolution that would allow the Central Platte NRD to become a participant of the Nebraska Class Trust to invest money with other public agencies.

Jim Bendfeldt made a motion to approve the Nebraska Class Participation Resolution. Tom Downey seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Jerry Milner who voted no. Motion carried.

**COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Transfer & Applications** - Kelly Cole, Administrative Assistant, requested a transfer of \$9,500 from Phragmites Control and putting \$2,500 to Center Pivots and \$7,000 to Trees and reported that we have received cost share applications for the following programs: Center Pivot, Burn Preparation, 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. Keith Ostermeier seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** The December financial report was not available at last month's board meeting because the meeting was held a week early. 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. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICT:** Jim Bendfeldt reported that the Legislative Conference held earlier this week in Lincoln had over 350 attendees. There was a total of 44 bills that were reviewed, however, none of those bills were of any great concern to the NRD's.

Bendfeldt reported that the Risk Pool fund is over \$1,000,000.00 in the black on the first 6 months of this fiscal year.

Bendfeldt also reported that due to personal reasons he has stepped down from the NARD Board as of January 25, 2023.

Bendfeldt announced his resignation from the Central Platte NRD Board of Directors due to personal reasons effective at the close of today's meeting. As a result of Bendfeldt stepping down it was suggested that Deb VanMatre be appointed to take his spot on the NARD Board of Directors.

Jim Bendfeldt made a motion to appoint Deb VanMatre as the next Central Platte NRD NARD Representative. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members

present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Deb VanMatre who abstained.  
Motion carried.

**NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION:** No Report

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Chairman Reynolds reviewed the upcoming events.  
**Next Board Meeting** – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, February 23. Details to follow.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** There was none.

**ADJOURN:** Chairman Reynolds adjourned the board meeting at 2:52 p.m.



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Central City Field Office  
1708 31<sup>st</sup> St Suite 2  
Central City, NE 68826  
308-946-3035 Ext. 3

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

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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

## **January Report to CPNRD**

Central City Field Office Updates for 2023

### **EQIP Applications**

Merrick County has a good number of applications targeting Irrigation Water Use, Soil Health, and Grazing Systems. We have 54 applications total.

27 Center Pivot Conversions  
13 Subsurface Drip Conversions  
4 Cover Crop  
5 Livestock System Developments

### **Central City Staff**

Laura Rubeck is our new team member as a Soil Conservationist, she's been with NRCS for several years. She has her Masters in Agronomy specializing in Range and Forage Science from UNL and is the incoming President for the Society of Range Management NE Section. She brings in a depth of knowledge to the team and we're excited to work alongside her.

### **Eastern Nebraska Soil Health Conference**

Feb 9<sup>th</sup> at the Eastern Nebraska Research, Extension and Education Center in Ithaca, NE.  
RSVP by Feb 4th @ <https://enrec.unl.edu/nebraska-cover-crop-conference/>  
Presentations by Green Cover, UNL, ISU, Local Growers  
Topics: Interseeding Cover Crops, Grazing Cover Crops, Biochar as a soil amendment

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J-K', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jacob Kendrick  
Resource Conservationist  
USDA-NRCS





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>

January 23, 2023

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

January Report to CPNRD

Attached is a summary of the FY 2023 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) initial allocations to each Natural Resources District in Nebraska. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has begun preparing the applications for assessment and ranking that were received by the November 18<sup>th</sup> application cutoff date. The ranking deadline for all eligible applications in the state and special initiative ranking pools is set for January 31<sup>st</sup>, the ranking deadline for local ranking pools is set for February 21<sup>st</sup>. Following the ranking of these applications, contract offers will be extended immediately to the highest ranked applications so that fund obligation can be completed as early as possible in FY 2023. Currently the obligation deadline for all approved applications is set for April 1<sup>st</sup>. Like we have discussed in the past, the actual contracting period can extend until the end of the Governments Fiscal Year, which is September 30<sup>th</sup>. We always try to do our best to complete this work as early as possible each year, but this depends on funds availability.

Respectfully Submitted,

*/s/ Joe Krolkowski*

Joe Krolkowski  
District Conservationist

Attachments: Attachment A



FY 2023 Environmental Quality Incentives Program NRD Allocations

1/26/2023

NRD	2022 Initial General FA	Estimated FY2023 Initial General FA	NWQI/Joint Chiefs/Water Smart FA	Manual Adjustment	Total Initial FA for FY2023 (Includes NWQI, Joint Chiefs, Water Smart & Manual Adjustment Funds)
CP	\$ 609,070	\$ 579,385			\$ 579,385
LB	\$ 475,001	\$ 482,517	\$ 200,000		\$ 682,517
LBB	\$ 231,995	\$ 235,502	\$ 200,000		\$ 435,502
LC	\$ 438,750	\$ 443,958	\$ 266,667		\$ 710,625
LE	\$ 656,932	\$ 659,458	\$ 266,667		\$ 926,124
LL	\$ 1,218,343	\$1,087,034			\$ 1,087,034
LN	\$ 200,000	\$ 81,348		\$ 118,652	\$ 200,000
LPN	\$ 632,824	\$ 656,620			\$ 656,620
LPS	\$ 200,000	\$ 180,164		\$ 19,836	\$ 200,000
LR	\$ 371,242	\$ 362,930			\$ 362,930
MN	\$ 367,468	\$ 330,478			\$ 330,478
MR	\$ 412,877	\$ 383,322			\$ 383,322
N	\$ 341,326	\$ 329,895			\$ 329,895
NP	\$ 619,366	\$ 526,971			\$ 526,971
PMR	\$ 295,383	\$ 277,526			\$ 277,526
SP	\$ 284,526	\$ 252,188			\$ 252,188
TB	\$ 280,797	\$ 268,331			\$ 268,331
TP	\$ 667,209	\$ 567,999			\$ 567,999
UBB	\$ 495,078	\$ 484,024			\$ 484,024
UE	\$ 753,716	\$ 635,306	\$ 266,667		\$ 901,972
UL	\$ 373,115	\$ 290,296			\$ 290,296
UNW	\$ 602,520	\$ 511,683			\$ 511,683
UR	\$ 412,412	\$ 367,065	\$ 250,000		\$ 617,065
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 10,939,949</b>	<b>\$ 9,994,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,450,000</b>	<b>\$ 138,488</b>	<b>\$ 11,582,488</b>



Requesting Transfer of Funds:

\$9,500 from Phragmites Control to \$2,500 Center Pivot/\$7,000 to Trees

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD  
Cost Share  
Thursday, January 26, 2023

CENTER PIVOT INCENTIVE COST SHARE PROGRAM.....		\$	<b>21,202.75</b>
Bret Mader Ag, LLC – Hall	\$	6,202.75	
Diamond J Farms, Inc. – Hall		7,500.00	
Everett Turek – Hall		7,500.00	
BURN PREPARATION COST SHARE PROGRAM .....		\$	<b>28,475.00</b>
J & H Cool Inc. – Custer	\$	10,000.00	
Mark & Alan Ballmer – Custer		6,225.00	
William R Bates – Custer		2,250.00	
Brent Dittmar – Custer		10,000.00	
TREE PLANTING COST SHARE PROGRAM .....		\$	<b>19,297.18</b>
Morgan Mohr – Hall	\$	154.03	
Jeb Boston – Buffalo		2,462.12	
Amy Reis – Merrick		1,621.06	
Justin Oseka – Hall		2,338.07	
Karlie Mamot – Howard		154.03	
Gregg Ferris – Merrick		1,434.25	
Kevin Petross – Buffalo		565.75	
Rod Reynolds – Dawson		2,322.28	
Dustin Bermood – Buffalo		1,244.07	
Chad Eickhoff – Buffalo		1,135.94	
Cory Gearhart – Hall		2,364.83	
Charles & Glenda Kreutzer Living Trust – Buffalo		778.10	
Mitch Ebner – Buffalo		940.60	
Allen Perkins, Greg Richey & Grant Flamig – Buffalo		1,782.05	
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM .....		\$	<b>750.00</b>
Hinkson Brothers – Hall	\$	750.00	
Total .....		\$	<b>69,724.93</b>