

## **CENTRAL PLATTE NRD**

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

October 28, 2021

**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.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ATTENDANCE:** Board members present were:

LeRoy Arends	Ed Kyes	Jay Richeson
Jim Bendfeldt	Charles Maser	Steve Sheen
Tom Downey	Jerry Milner	Ed Stoltenberg
Alicia Haussler	Barry Obermiller	Deb VanMatre
Ryan Kegley	Mick Reynolds	

Excused Absences: Lon Bohn, Brian Keiser, Dwayne Margritz, Keith Ostermeier, Doug Reeves, Marvion Reichert and Jerry Wiese

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

Others present: Joe Krolikowski – NRCS District Conservationist, Jason Scholz – NRCS Soil Conservationist – Kearney, NE, Jason Farnsworth – Headwaters Corporation Executive Director, Jake Klabenes, Lutz – CPA Audit Director, and Duane Woodward – Landowner

**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:** Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the September board meeting minutes. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except Jim Bendfeldt, Tom Downey, Ryan Kegley and Deb VanMatre who abstained. Motion carried.

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

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

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

**EXCUSED ABSENCES:** Chairman Reynolds reported that Lon Bohn, Brian Keiser, Dwayne Margritz, Keith Ostermeier, Doug Reeves, Marvion Reichert and Jerry Wiese requested to be excused from the board meeting.

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

**2020/2021 AUDIT:** Jake Klabenes, Lutz-CPA Audit Director, reviewed the audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. He said the independent auditors' report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters was based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with government auditing standards and that no problems were encountered.

Following a brief discussion Alicia Haussler made the motion to accept the fiscal year 2020/2021 audit. Jim Bendfeldt seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM:** Jason Farnsworth, Headwaters Corporation-Executive Director, gave an update to the board of directors on the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (PRRIP). PRRIP continues to work on its focus areas of land, water, science, and administration. The PRRIP is in the process of purchasing roughly 700 acres of land along the Platte River to help reach their land acquisition goals. The PRRIP has shifted their land strategy from buying and restoring habitat to a land management strategy. The PRRIP continues to focus on endangered species: pallid sturgeon, piping plover and whooping cranes, which rely on habitat along the Platte River.

**NRCS REPORT:** Jason Scholtz, Soil Conservationist-Kearney gave a brief background of himself. He has recently been promoted to the Resources Conservationist in Hall County.

Joe Krolikowski, NRCS District Conservationist, reported on the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) contracts (see enclosed).

**MANAGERS REPORT:** Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reviewed the managers' report.

Vogt reported that draft subdistrict maps were put on drop box for directors to view. Instructions on how to view the maps are located on drop box as well. Each subdistrict must be substantially equal in population. All directors except Keith Ostermeier, who is

our At Large candidate, stayed in their current subdistrict. New subdistrict maps will be considered for approval at the November board meeting.

**CANALS UPDATE:** Brandi Flyr, Hydrologist, gave an update on the irrigation canals that CPNRD rehabilitated to increase groundwater recharge to enhance surface water and groundwater supplies. Flyr reported on CPNRD's requirements of the PRRIP agreement and reported that the next steps are to take the initial pilot program and move it to a long term 30-year agreement and finalize the water accounting with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.

**BESSEY NURSERY AGREEMENT:** Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reviewed the Bessey Nursery Agreement. This agreement allows Nebraska Association of Resources District (NARD) to purchase the trees from Bessey Nursery and CPNRD to pay NARD for the trees we order.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement for obtaining seedling trees and shrubs between CPNRD and NARD. Deb VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**CONTRACT AMENDMENT:** Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reviewed Amendment #7 of the Upper Prairie Silver Moores Flood Control Project, which would allow CPNRD to move funding from the Resources Development Fund from land rights to an educational component.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve Amendment #7 of the Upper Prairie Silver Moores Flood Control Project, which allows CPNRD to move funding from the Resources Development Fund from land rights to an educational component. Tom Downey seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Applications** –Kelly Cole, Administrative Assistant, reported that we have received cost share applications for the following programs: Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation, Center Pivot, Flow Meter 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.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve the cost share applications as reported. Tom Downey seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except Deb VanMatre who abstained. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, briefly reviewed the October financial reports.

Alicia Haussler made a motion to approve the October financial report as presented. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICT:** No Report

**NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION:** Mick Reynolds reported that 14 projects have been approved through Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy, with scoring to take place on November 9. The commission's next meeting will be November 15.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Chairman Reynolds reviewed the upcoming events.  
**Next Board Meeting** – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, November 18. Details to follow.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Jesse Mintken, Assistant Manager, reported that letters on the Spring and Buffalo Creek WFPO have gone out. The letter is asking landowners permission to access their land to continue their surveying for a possible new project. A copy of the letter sent will be put on drop box.

Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reported that GMDA announced the Winter Conference that will be held January 18-20, 2022 in San Antonio, TX.

**ADJOURN:** Chairman Reynolds adjourned the board meeting at 3:40 p.m.



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>

October 27, 2021

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

October Report to CPNRD

The NRCS is currently working on finishing up the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) contract renewals. These are existing contracts held by producers throughout the CPNRD and state that have the option to renew their contract for another 5 years, or let it expire and then possibly reapply at a later date. The Conservation Stewardship Program helps you build on your existing conservation efforts while strengthening your operation. Whether you are looking to improve grazing conditions, increase crop yields, or develop wildlife habitat, we can work together to custom design a CSP plan to help you meet those goals.

We are also working on processing the CSP payments for current contracts already on file. This takes place when the producers turn in their completed enhancement worksheets in the fall. The worksheets document what was complete by the producer that fiscal year. NRCS staff will review this information, work with producer to make and needed adjustment or gather more information, and then process the annual payment in the calendar year of the producers choosing.

If you are interested in the CSP Program, and have never applied before, remember applications are accepted all throughout the year for this program. Each year specific deadlines are set for ranking and funding opportunities. The next application deadline for funding consideration is **November 19, 2021**. If you are interested, you should contact your local NRCS field office for more information.

Respectfully Submitted,

*/s/ Joe Krolikowski*

Joe Krolikowski  
District Conservationist

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CENTRAL PLATTE NRD  
Cost Share  
Thursday, October 28, 2021

NEBRASKA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COST SHARE PROGRAM....		<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
Ryan Happold – Hall – Underground Pipe to Pivot	\$ 5,000.00	
FLOW METER COST SHARE PROGRAM.....		<b>\$ 800.00</b>
Margie Syslo – Hall	\$ 800.00	
CENTER PIVOT INCENTIVE COST SHARE PROGRAM .....		<b>\$ 22,276.00</b>
Ben Jareske – Platte	\$ 7,500.00	
Ned Wemhoff – Merrick	7,500.00	
Gerald Dittmer – Merrick	7,276.00	
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM .....		<b>\$ 3,500.00</b>
Lee Carlson – Dawson	\$ 500.00	
City of Gibbon – Buffalo	750.00	
Pat Luther – Dawson	750.00	
Matt Luther – Dawson	750.00	
Kaboom LLC – Hall	750.00	
Total .....		<b>\$ 31,576.00</b>