

## CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

### Board Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2022

**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	Brian Keiser	Mick Reynolds
Jim Bendfeldt	Dwayne Margritz	Jay Richeson
Tom Downey	Jerry Milner	Steve Sheen
Alicia Haussler	Barry Obermiller	
Ryan Kegley	Doug Reeves	

Excused Absences: Lon Bohn, Ed Kyes, Charles Maser, Keith Ostermeier, Marvion Reichert, Ed Stoltenberg, and Deb VanMatre

Unexcused Absences: Jerry Wiese

Staff present: Lyndon Vogt – General Manager, Jesse Mintken – Assistant Manager, Kelly Cole – Administrative Assistant, Marcia Lee – Information/Education Specialist, Courtney Widup – Water Resources Technician, Luke Zakrzewski – GIS Image Analyst, Brody Vorderstrasse – Communications Assistant, Shane Max – Resources Conservationist and Angie Warner – GIS Programs Coordinator

Others present: Joe Krolikowski – NRCS District Conservationist

**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:** Chairman Reynolds noted a correction to the meeting minutes. Under the Public Forum report, change the word made to passed.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the November board meeting minutes with the word correction. Tom Downey seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except LeRoy Arends and Barry Obermiller 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. There was none.

**EXCUSED ABSENCES:** Chairman Reynolds reported that Lon Bohn, Ed Kyes, Charles Maser, Keith Ostermeier, Marvion Reichert, Ed Stoltenberg, and Deb VanMatre requested to be excused from the board meeting.

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

**NRCS REPORT:** Joe Krolkowski, NRCS District Conservationist, reported on the current staff at the NRCS Offices located in the Central Platte NRD (see enclosed).

**BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT:** Mick Reynolds, chairman, reported that the building committee had met the day before with JEO Consulting Group. More details will be available at the January board meeting.

Reynolds did report that it was suggested that CPNRD drill a well on the potential new building site to check the water quality. CPNRD would work with JEO on where to drill with the best benefits. The well will be used regardless if an office building will be built or not as CPNRD is planning to put a shop out there either way.

Jim Bendfeldt made a motion to give CPNRD authority to go ahead and drill a well on the potential new building site to test for water quality. Brian Keiser seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

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

Downey reported that USGS would like to partner with Central Platte NRD to install a camera near the stream gage located on Hwy 34 bridge along the Platte River in Grand Island. Total cost would be \$14,985; however, the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (PRRIP) will reimburse the Central Platte NRD for 50% of the maintenance costs over 3 years, totaling \$4,700.

Tom Downey made a motion to approve the contract with USGS to install a camera near the stream gage located on Hwy 34 bridge along the Platte River in Grand Island totaling \$14,985, with PRRIP reimbursing CPNRD for 50% of the maintenance costs over 3 years, totaling \$4,700. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Downey reported that the committee discussed the lease agreement for the 151-acre Schroeder property CPNRD owns in Dawson County. After some discussion, the

committee was in favor of a dryland lease agreement in the amount of \$18,875 for 2023, which breaks down to \$125/acre.

Tom Downey made a motion to approve a dryland lease agreement for the Schroeder property CPNRD owns in Dawson County for the amount of \$18,875 for 2023. Dwayne Margritz seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Downey reported that the committee reviewed an Amended Service Water Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR), Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District and Tri-Basin NRD that would pay CNPPID \$19,100,000.00 in advance to divert water for 15 years. Central Platte NRD will receive credit for 25% of the excess flows. Central Platte NRD would contribute \$1.2 million, which will be funded with CPNRD funds located at the Nebraska Community Foundation that was originally held for the J-2 project. No additional money would be taken out of our annual budget.

Tom Downey made a motion to approve the Amended Service Water Agreement with NeDNR, CNPPID and Tri-Basin NRD for excess flows for the next 15 years. Barry Obermiller seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**BOARD OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Brian Keiser reported for the Board Nominating Committee (Brian Keiser, Marvion Reichert, and Ed Kyes). He said they are recommending Mick Reynolds for chairman and Jerry Wiese for vice-chairman. It was stated that board officers are elected at the January board meeting.

**MANAGERS REPORT:** Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reported that the current governor and upcoming governor are very supportive of the Perkins County Canal Feasibility Study. The study has an estimated cost of \$600 million.

Vogt reported that NPAIT has a college scholarship available. The application will be located on Dropbox for anyone that has a student that would be interested.

A third Water Quality Article has come out and is located on Dropbox for everyone to read.

Vogt reported that Andrew Blessin, Rick Collins, Michael Kelliher and William Soll have all received letters from CPNRD's legal counsel giving them one last opportunity to come into compliance prior to legal action.

**STAFF REPORT:** Shane Max, Resources Conservationist, gave an updated on the happenings in the western part of our district.

**COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Applications -** Kelly Cole, Administrative Assistant,

reported that we have received cost share applications for the following programs: Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation, Center Pivot, Tree Planting, 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. Motion carried.

**ELECTION FOR VOTING DELEGATE & ALTERNATE FOR NARD**

**LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE:** Chairman Reynolds said the board needed to select a voting delegate and alternate for the NARD Legislative Conference that will be held in Lincoln in January.

Barry Obermiller made the motion that Jim Bendfeldt be selected as the voting delegate and Jay Richeson be the alternate for the NARD Legislative Conference. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Jim Bendfeldt and Jay Richeson who abstained. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** The November 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 November financial reports.

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

It was stated that the December financial report will be acted on at the January board meeting.

**NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICT:** Jim Bendfeldt reported that he met with the Nebraska Farm Bureau regarding nitrate issues in groundwater and how they wanted to work with the NRDs on the issue.

**NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION:** No Report

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

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

**OTHER BUSINESS:** There was none.

**ADJOURN:** Chairman Reynolds adjourned the board meeting at 2:51 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>

December 14, 2022

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

### December Report to CPNRD

I would like to take this time to update you all again on where things stand in our 4 Natural Resources Conservation Service Field Offices regarding staffing. It has been several months from when I provided my last update on this topic, and we have had some more changes recently. Staffing continues to fluctuate in our local NRCS offices, and across the NRCS offices in Nebraska, and I feel it is important as partners for the NRD Board and Staff to stay updated with these changes.

This way as a NRD Board member if you are asked questions while back in your home counties about this topic, you are up to date and can discuss it with your constituents. I feel this is important for Lyndon and the NRD staff also, again as partners who communicate regularly and work on projects jointly, staying current with the staffing changes is essential to provide good service to each other and our customers.

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,
- **Colleen Buettner** – District Secretary,
- **Angie Lau** – Program Assistant for our 4 offices and Central Area,

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### **Central City Field Office**

- **Jacob Kendrick** – Resource Conservationist,
- **Jaden Russell** – Soil 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,
- **Vacant** – Soil Conservationist,
- **John Gibbens** – Range Management Specialist,
- **Kevin Gill** – Soil Conservation Technician,
- **Samantha Keith** – 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

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD  
Cost Share  
Thursday, December 15, 2022

NEBRASKA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COST SHARE PROGRAM.....	\$	<b>5,006.09</b>
Travis Kuhn – Merrick – Brush Management	\$	5,006.09
CENTER PIVOT INCENTIVE COST SHARE PROGRAM.....	\$	<b>22,500.00</b>
Don Daberkow – Merrick	\$	7,500.00
T-4 Farms LLC – Buffalo		7,500.00
R Triangle LLC – Merrick		7,500.00
TREE PLANTING COST SHARE PROGRAM .....	\$	<b>878.70</b>
Kerry Allen – Buffalo	\$	714.45
Vance Siedenbug – Buffalo		164.25
FLOW METER COST SHARE PROGRAM .....	\$	<b>800.00</b>
Roger Hanousek – Hall	\$	800.00
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM .....	\$	<b>1,500.00</b>
Donald C Miller – Merrick	\$	750.00
Innate Development – Hall		750.00
Total .....	\$	<b>30,684.79</b>