

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Board Meeting Minutes

December 18, 2025

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:

Todd Arends	Charles Maser	Mick Reynolds
Lon Bohn	Jerry Milner	Jay Richeson
Tom Downey	Barry Obermiller	Ed Stoltenberg
Ryan Kegley	Keith Ostermeier	John Stoltenberg
Brian Keiser	Luke Ourada	Deb VanMatre
Amy Kyes	Doug Reeves	Kevin Werner
Dwayne Margritz	Marvion Reichert	Mike Wilkens

Excused Absences: None

Staff present: Lyndon Vogt – General Manager, Kelly Cole – Administrative Assistant, Marcia Lee – Information/Education Specialist, Brody Vorderstrasse – Communications Assistant, Collin Quandt – Agronomist, Luke Zakrzewski – GIS Image Analyst, Jesse Mintken – Assistant Manager, Dean Krull – UNL/CPNRD Demo Project Coordinator and Tricia Dudley – Water Quality Specialist

Others present: Joe Krolikowski – District Conservationist and Nolan Little – Tri-Basin NRD Assistant Manager

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 November board meeting minutes. Keith Ostermeier seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Barry Obermiller, Marvion Reichert and John Stoltenberg 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. There was none.

EXCUSED ABSENCES: There was none.

NRCS REPORTS: Joe Krolikowski, District Conservationist, reported on RCPP Agreements (see attached).

BUILDING COMMITTEE: Keith Ostermeier, chairman, reported that the committee met earlier today.

Ostermeier reported that the committee received multiple auction options to sell the Schroeder Property that Central Platte NRD owns in Dawson County. After some discussion the committee recommended going with Agri Affiliates with a 1.75% commission.

Keith Ostermeier made a motion to approve the proposal from Agri Affiliates with a 1.75% commission to sell the Schroeder Property that Central Platte NRD owns in Dawson County. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Ostermeier reported that the committee discussed the sale of the Pivot Bridges and Pump located on the Schroeder Property. After some discussion they recommended listing the items with Adam Marshall.

Keith Ostermeier made a motion to list the Pivot Bridges and Pump located on the Schroeder Property for sale with Adam Marshall. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Ostermeier reported that the committee discussed decommissioning the well located on the Shroeder property before the land is listed since it's dryland irrigated. The committee reviewed a proposal from Downey Drilling and recommended moving forward with the proposal.

Keith Ostermeier made a motion to approve the proposal with Downey Drilling to decommission the well on the Shroeder property in the amount of \$3,976.00. Lon Bohn seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Tom Downey who abstained. Motion carried.

VIOLATION REPORT ON IRRIGATED ACRES: Luke Zakrzewski, GIS Image Analyst, reported that after reviewing the 2025 imagery there were 21 violations found. The violations totaled 163.49 acres, with the smallest being 1.18 acres and the largest being 52.62 acres. Letters will be sent out after the first of the year.

ELECT VOTING DELEGATES FOR NARD LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE IN JANUARY: Mick Reynolds made a motion to elect Deb VanMatre as our voting delegate and Jay Richeson as our voting alternate for the NARD Legislative Conference

in January. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Deb VanMatre who abstained. Motion carried.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT: Jesse Mintken, Assistant Manager, reported that the Elm/Turkey Creek WFPO plan is done and is waiting for the Central Platte NRD to adopt. At the January board meeting a presentation on the plan will be made and action will be considered.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reported that the Incumbent deadline to file is February 17, 2026.

Vogt reported that all gates are in at TMID, Cozad Ditch and SSID. The Central Platte NRD was awarded a WaterSmart Grant to help pay for the gates, along with additional funding from the State of Nebraska.

Vogt reported that Shane Max is training to take over Jim Harris' position as TMID Manager once he retires. TMID will begin paying 25% of Shane's salary beginning January 1, 2026.

Vogt reported that Don Blankenau with BWJ Law Group, attorney for CPNRD, is merging with Wood/Aitken LLP effective January 1, 2026. On Drop Box is an engagement letter for the merger. There will be no changes to costs.

Vogt reported that the current State Conservationist, Rob Lawson, has taken a 4-month detail to Washington D.C. James Huntwork will step in as Acting State Conservationist in his absence.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Transfer & Applications - Kelly Cole, Administrative Assistant, requested a transfer of \$1,500 from Grazing Deferment, to increase Well Decommissioning by \$1,500, and reported that we have received cost share applications for the following programs: Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation 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. Doug Reeves seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. 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.

Marvion Reichert made a motion to approve the November financial report as presented. Ryan Kegley 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: No Report

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION: No Report

WATER TASK FORCE: Tom Downey, Nitrate Legacy & Drinking Water Representative reported that the four committees of the Water Quality and Quantity Task Force have met and submitted draft reports. The Task Force will review a final report at its next meeting on March 25, 2026.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Chairman VanMatre reviewed the upcoming events.

Next Board Meeting – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, January 22. Details to follow.

OTHER BUSINESS: There was none.

ADJOURN: Chairman VanMatre adjourned the board meeting at 2:50 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 15, 2025

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

December Report to CPNRD

Please find attached a News Release by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service for one of the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCP) agreements in the Central Platte. The Ogallala Aquifer and Platte River Recovery Project. The other is the Nebraska Soil Carbon Project, of which all funds have been allocated for this agreement. The signup for the program is ongoing, but applicants who wish to be considered for FY26 funds have until January 15, 2026, to complete an application. These are competitive programs, so applications will be funded by using a ranking system.

This project provides financial incentives to producers who utilize key conservation practices in the Central Platte and Twin Platte boundaries. Farmers can adopt practices that help reduce water consumption and improve soil health, by converting irrigated land to non-irrigated land. Surface and groundwater quality and quantity concerns will also be addressed with the implementation of improved irrigation system and management technologies to increase irrigation efficiencies, reducing impacts to the Platte River and the local groundwater supply.

After reading the News Release, if producers are interested and want to find out more about this program and how it could be applied to their operation. They should call their local NRCS office to discuss this program in more detail and possibly complete an application.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist

Attachments: Ogallala Aquifer and Platte River Recovery Project Signup 2026 News Release





News Release

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

NRCS Nebraska Announces Signup for State Regional Conservation Partnership Program Project

LINCOLN, Neb. – December 2, 2025 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced that financial assistance is available for conservation projects within the Central Platte Natural Resources District (CPNRD) and Twin Platte Natural Resources Districts (TPNRD). These funds are available through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). The project “RCPP 2271 - Ogallala Aquifer & Platte River Recovery” is funded through a partnership with the CPNRD, with further support from the TPNRD, Thirty Mile Irrigation District, Cozad Ditch Company, and Southside Canal Company. The project is in its 5th and final year.

The purpose of this project is to reduce water consumption and related depletions to surface water flows and groundwater withdrawals within the boundaries of the CPNRD & TPNRD by converting irrigated land to non-irrigated land uses on a permanent or temporary basis. This partnership project provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to adopt practices contributing to this goal. Producers within the Central Platte and Twin Platte NRD boundary are eligible to receive financial assistance (Figure 1). Interested landowners and agricultural producers are encouraged to contact their local USDA service center for more information and to apply. The final date to apply for project funding is Thursday, January 15, 2026.

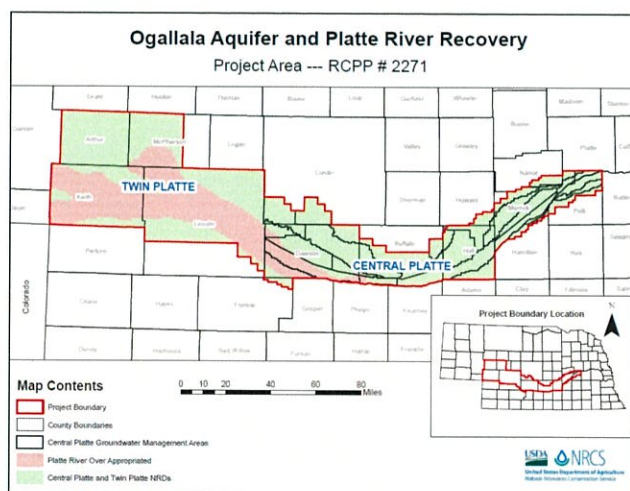


Figure 1. Project area map

The RCPP promotes coordination between NRCS and its partners to deliver conservation assistance to producers and landowners. The NRCS aids producers through partnership agreements and through program contracts or easement agreements. Assistance is delivered in accordance with the rules of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program. To learn more about NRCS programs, producers can contact their local USDA Service Center. Producers can also apply for NRCS programs, manage conservation plans and contracts, and view and print conservation maps by logging into their Farmers.gov account. If you don't already have an account, visit Farmers.gov and sign up today.

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USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

Transfer \$1500 from Grazing Deferment and put towards Well Decommissioning

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Cost Share
Thursday, December 18, 2025

NEBRASKA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COST SHARE PROGRAM ...	\$	10,000.00
Carolyn Retzlaff – Merrick – Brush Management	\$	10,000.00
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	6,000.00
Daniel Harders – Hall	\$	750.00
Jerry Wilgocki – Platte		750.00
Brent Konwinski – Nance – 6 wells		4,500.00
TOTAL	\$	16,000.00