

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Board Meeting Minutes
March 24, 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE: Board members present were:

LeRoy Arends	Dwayne Margritz	Mick Reynolds
Lon Bohn	Charles Maser	Jay Richeson
Tom Downey	Jerry Milner	Steve Sheen
Alicia Haussler	Barry Obermiller	Ed Stoltenberg
Ryan Kegley	Keith Ostermeier	Deb VanMatre
Brian Keiser	Doug Reeves	Jerry Wiese
Ed Kyes	Marvion Reichert	

Excused Absences: Jim Bendfeldt

Staff present: Lyndon Vogt – General Manager, Jesse Mintken – Assistant Manager, Kelly Cole – Administrative Assistant, Marcia Lee – Information/Education Specialist, Dan Clement – Water Resources Specialist, Dean Krull – UNL/CPNRD Demo Project Coordinator, Darren Cudaback – Precision Conservation Specialist, Brody Vorderstrasse – Communications Assistant, Brandi Flyr – Hydrologist and Luke Zakrzewski – GIS Image Analyst

Others present: Joe Krolikowski – NRCS District Conservationist, Robert Pore – Grand Island Independent and Jesse Bell, PhD and Director of the Claire M Hubbard Professor of Water, Climate and Health Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

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 February board meeting minutes. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except Lon Bohn, Tom Downey and Ed Kyes 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 Jim Bendfeldt requested to be excused from the board meeting.

Marvion Reichert 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.

HEALTH & WATER QUALITY RESEARCH: Jesse Bell, PhD and Director of the Claire M Hubbard Professor of Water, Climate and Health Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center presented to the board the Water Quality Impacts on Human Health. Bell reported that Nebraska has one of the highest rates of pediatric cancer in the nation.

NRCS REPORT: Joe Krolikowski, NRCS District Conservationist, reported on the applications that the Grand Island Field office is currently working on and provided information on the new State Conservationist (see attached).

EASTERN PROJECTS: Charles Maser, chairman, reported that the Eastern Projects Committee met earlier today and started to review the 2023 Fiscal Year Budget.

WESTERN PROJECTS: Ryan Kegley, chairman, reported that the Western Projects Committee met earlier today and started to review the 2023 Fiscal Year Budget.

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE: Deb VanMatre, chairman, reported that the Programs Committee met earlier today.

VanMatre reported that we received two Urban Conservation Applications. One was from the Lexington Patriot Park and Pond, however, on this one the committee is requesting more information before they bring it to the board. The second application was from the Cairo North Ball Field, this application would fund a new bathroom. The estimated cost was \$113,500 and they requested \$40,000. The committee is recommending providing them with \$20,000, as this falls under the priorities currently accepted for this program.

Deb VanMatre made a motion to approve the Urban Conservation application for the Cairo North Ball field in the amount of \$20,000. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor, except LeRoy Arends who voted no. Motion carried.

VanMatre indicated that the committee will review our current Urban Conservation Assistance Program and its priorities and may bring changes to the board to approve.

VanMatre also reported that the committee began reviewing the 2023 Cost Share Budget and the 2023 Information/Education Budget.

VIOLATIONS REPORT: Luke Zakrzewski, GIS Image Analyst, reported that on February 18, 2022, 50 violation letters were sent out. The landowners had until March 2, 2022, to contact him to resolve the issue. At this time landowners Richard Urban of Polk County and Chad Robinson of Dawson County have made no effort to contact Central Platte NRD. Luke is requesting Urban, and Robinson be issued Cease & Desist orders.

Doug Reeves made a motion to issue Cease & Desist orders to Richard Urban of Polk County and Chad Robinson of Dawson County due to irrigating acres that are not certified as irrigated. Jay Richeson 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 on the fire we had on the Prairie/Silver/Moores project. The fire burnt about 50 acres. There was minimal damage to some equipment we had out there.

Vogt reported on the upcoming GMDA conference that is being held June 20-22 in Colorado. Please contact Kelly if you're interested in attending.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Transfer & Applications –Kelly Cole, Administrative Assistant, requested a transfer of \$5,100 from Grazing Deferment to Trees and reported that we have received cost share applications for the following programs: Burn Preparation, Tree Planting, Grazing Deferment and Well Decommissioning (see attached). She said the applicants are in compliance with the district's rules and regulations, funds are available, and she recommended they be approved.

Tom Downey made the motion to approve the cost share transfer and applications as reported. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

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

Marvion Reichert made a motion to approve the March financial report as presented. Deb VanMatre 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: No report.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Chairman Reynolds reviewed the upcoming events.

Next Board Meeting – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, April 28. Details to follow.

OTHER BUSINESS: Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reported that due to the GMDA conference being the week of the June board meeting, we may end up moving the meeting a week later.

ADJOURN: Chairman Reynolds adjourned the board meeting at 3:16 p.m.



Natural Resources Conservation Service
Grand Island Field Office
703 S. Webb Road
Grand Island, NE 68803
308-395-8586 Ext. 3

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

March 18, 2022

Central Platte NRD
215 N. Kaufman Ave.
Grand Island, NE 68803

March Report to CPNRD

To the Central Platte NRD board and staff, please accept this report from the Grand Island Field Office for the March board meeting.

EQIP

- Working through ranking scores for first round preapprovals.
- Possibility will receive additional funds to get through more applications.
- GI Field Office 6 applications for possible preapproval:
 - 3 IWM only applications total 254.2 irrigated acres.
 - 2 gravity to pivot, 1 gravity to SDI system. Total 2 through state fund pools (SWP) total 242.2 Ac. converted to pivot/SDI.
 - Possibly one more gravity to pivot conversion application to be preapproved if receive additional funds.

CSP

- Working through submitted applications ranking deadline is May 6th.
- Deadline to apply for renewal April 15th.

CRP

- Deadline to submit a general signup offer was March 11th.
- Offers will be ranked and approved by ranking score.
- Will be a sign up for Grassland CRP deadline is currently set for May 13th.

Upcoming

- Annual NFSAM status reviews for HEL/Wetlands. 11 status reviews for Hall County.
- Contracting for EQIP and CSP programs.
- Cutoff to apply for EQIP and CSP is usually in the fall but take applications year-round.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Jason Scholz

Jason Scholz
Resource Conservationist
Grand Island Field Office





Natural Resources Conservation Service
Grand Island Field Office
703 South Webb Rd., Suite B
Grand Island, NE 68803
Phone (308) 395-8586 (Ext. 3)

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March 18, 2022

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

March Report to CPNRD

For my report this month, once again I would like to update the Central Platte NRD Staff and the Board of Directors on where things stand with our State Conservationist position here in Nebraska. Last month we were informed a permanent selection had been made.

Nebraska Welcomes Robert Lawson as State Conservationist



The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is pleased to announce Robert Lawson as the Nebraska State Conservationist. He will begin serving in this position on February 13, 2022.

Lawson follows Craig Derickson, who served as Nebraska State Conservationist for 10 years. Derickson retired on December 31, 2020, after 35 years of federal service.

Upon Derickson's retirement, Jeff Vander Wilt, Britt Weiser, John Wilson, and Stacy Riley acted as Nebraska's State Conservationist over the past 13 months. Lawson has worked with NRCS for 18 years. He has served in several NRCS field offices in Iowa and Illinois, and in leadership positions with NRCS in Indiana and Wisconsin.

Lawson grew up on a family farm in southeast Iowa. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Public Service and Administration at Iowa State University.

Lawson said, "I have a life-long passion for land conservation. It has been a pleasure to serve farmers and ranchers throughout the Midwest. I look forward to helping Nebraska NRCS continue its mission of "Helping People Help the Land."

NRCS provides farmers and ranchers with financial and technical assistance to voluntarily put conservation on the ground, helping improve agricultural operations and the environment. For more information about NRCS and the programs and services It provides, visit

www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



Transfer \$5,100 from Grazing Deferment to Trees.

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Cost Share
Thursday, March 24, 2022

BURN PREPARATION COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	2,025.00
Robert Rieken – Polk	\$	2,025.00	
TREE PLANTING COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	5,353.75
Chad Nabity – Hall	\$	2,186.80	
Artie Moeller – Howard		1,663.20	
Garth Ostergard – Custer		1,503.75	
GRAZING DEFERMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	645.00
Albert Sass - Hall	\$	645.00	
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	750.00
Donald Miller – Merrick	\$	750.00	
Total		\$	8,773.75