

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Board Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2024

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 by roll call were:

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| Todd Arends | Jerry Milner | Steve Sheen |
| Lon Bohn | Barry Obermiller | Ed Stoltenberg |
| Tom Downey | Keith Ostermeier | Deb VanMatre |
| Brian Keiser | Doug Reeves | Kevin Werner |
| Ed Kyes | Mick Reynolds | Jerry Wiese |
| Dwayne Margritz | Jay Richeson | Mike Wilkens |
| Charles Maser | | |

Excused Absences: Ryan Kegley and Marvion Reichert

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

Others present: Joe Krolkowski – 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: Keith Ostermeier made the motion to approve the April board meeting minutes. Deb VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Tom Downey, Brian Keiser, Barry Obermiller, Doug Reeves, Steve Sheen and Mike Wilkens 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 Ryan Kegley and Marvion Reichert requested to be excused from the board meeting.

Deb VanMatre made the motion to approve the absences as requested. Barry Obermiller seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

NRCS REPORT: Joe Krolikowski, NRCS District Conservationist, reviewed the current applications for EQIP, CStP and the Pathways Internship Program (see attached).

EASTERN PROJECTS COMMITTEE: Jerry Milner, chairman, reported that the committee met last month and discussed Amendment #3 for the Platte Valley Industrial Park with Olsson Inc.

Jesse Mintken, Assistant Manager, said the PVIP Amendment #3 is to look at an alternative route. Amendment #3 will add an additional \$31,100 to the existing contract.

Jerry Milner made a motion to approve the Platte Valley Industrial Park Amendment #3 in the amount of \$31,100 with Olsson Inc. Tom Downey seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

LONGITUDE 103: Jesse Mintken, Assistant Manager, reported that we are working with Longitude 103 to migrate our current Transfer and Nitrogen Management Tool from gWorks. The original contract was \$50,000. Since approving the original contract, they've run into some issues, which is causing them to take longer to migrate the information. Amendment #1 is for an additional \$25,000, making the contract total \$75,000.

Tom Downey made a motion to approve the Longitude 103 Amendment #1 in the amount of \$25,000. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

BUILDING COMMITTEE: Mick Reynolds, chairman, reported that the building committee met earlier today and reviewed the bids received. The low bid came in from Rogge General Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$13,300,000.00. JEO Consulting Group has worked with Rogge on past projects and would recommend this contractor. After some discussion the committee is looking at the low bid with the following alternatives: Add Alternative 1, 5A and 5B, and remove Alternative 4, making the final cost \$13,473,000.00. All bids and alternatives are on Dropbox to review.

Staff will add Rogge General Contractors, Inc. subcontractors list and a floor plan to Dropbox as well to review. The bid is good until June 27, 2024, our next board meeting. The board will act on this bid at the June board meeting.

BUDGET COMMITTEE: Mick Reynolds, chairman, reported that the budget committee met earlier today and reviewed the budget. The major change is adding the new Educational/Office Building. The budget is on Dropbox for you to review.

VIOLATION REPORT: Tricia Dudley, Water Quality Specialist, reported that generally our Nitrogen Management Reports are due March 31, 2024. However, with the transition to the new software, forms are taking longer to complete, therefore the deadline was extended to April 30, 2024.

Dudley reported that 211 letters of intent for Cease & Desists were mailed out in April. As of today, we are down to 105 out of compliance. Cease & Desist requests for those still out of compliance will be brought to the board at the June board meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reported that the budget is on Dropbox for you to review.

Vogt reported that on Monday, May 20, 2024, the NARD benefits committee interviewed applicants for administrative services for our health insurance. Currently, NARD is with Mid-American Benefits and have been for the past 20 years. After the interviews, it was suggested that we change to Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Nebraska. The contract would be 5 years for health insurance and 3 years for prescription. If approved, this would go into effect January 1, 2025.

The NARD board will also consider an increase to our retirement by 1% for the employer and 1% for the employee. If approved, this would take effect January 1, 2025.

Vogt reported that Central Platte NRD was the only entity that ended up hiring a burn contractor. Central Platte NRD, Rainwater Basin Joint Venture and the Platte River Program will meet to discuss options for the next burn season.

Vogt reported that the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources is holding the public hearing on the Platte Republican Diversion today, May 23, 2024.

Vogt reported that Brandi Flyr, Hydrologist, is working on the Instream Flow Renewal which has been advertised.

Vogt reported that due to the conflict-of-interest statute changes, any director that has a financial benefit to a motion being voted on, must abstain, and complete a document as to why they abstained. The documents will be held with the recordkeeper. Central Platte NRD is working up a form and will have it available at the June board meeting.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Transfer & Applications - Kelly Cole, Administrative Assistant, requested a transfer of \$200 from Phragmites Control and increasing Well Decommissioning and reported that we have received cost share applications for the

following programs: Grazing Deferment, 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 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: Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reviewed the May financial report.

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

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICT: Deb VanMatre, NARD Board Member, reported that their next meeting is June 10th. VanMatre also reminded the board that the Republican River Basin Tour is June 10-11. See Kelly if you're interested in attending.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION: None

UPCOMING EVENTS: Chairman Reynolds reviewed the upcoming events.
Next Board Meeting – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, June 27. Details to follow.

OTHER BUSINESS: Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reminded the board that Dan Clement's retirement party is Friday, May 31, 2024.

Vogt also reported that Deb Jaryznka, District Secretary, has announced her retirement as well. She will retire on June 30, 2024.

ADJOURN: Chairman Reynolds adjourned the board meeting at 2:59 p.m.

May 20, 2024

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

May Report to CPNRD

Summary of activities and or current happenings at the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

- The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff in the Central Platte NRD (CPNRD) are nearing completion of the contract development and obligation process for the FY 2024 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds. In our local EQIP CPNRD fund pools approximately 120 applications were received by the November 17, 2023, deadline and met eligibility criteria for ranking. The NRCS has extended contract offers in accordance with available program funding and associated application ranking scores until all the funds are allocated. We have made a request for additional second round EQIP funds, but we have not received any additional funds yet for our local ranking pools. If by chance some additional funds become available will begin contacting applicants to extend contract offers and then develop those contracts as well.
- Conservation Stewardship Program, (CStP), FY2024 classic applications received by the November 17, 2023, cutoff, have been through the ranking process. The applications that have been preapproved for funding, will be field verified by NRCS staff and we will be working with the producers to gather any additional information needed. Once this review process is complete, the contracts will be developed. The obligation deadline for all FY2024 CStP classic applications is not set yet. The competition for these funds continues to be extremely high. We had approximately 436 applications across the state, we were only able to preapprove approximately 154 of those applications, total dollars obligated for those 154 contracts will be around \$18.5 million.
- Pathways Internship Program update, for the summer of 2024 we are planning for approximately 13 pathways interns across the state. Four of those interns will be placed in offices in the Central Area. There will be 1 student in our Grand Island Field office this summer, her name is Kylie Jerabek.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist



Transfer \$200 from Phragmites Control to Well Decommissioning

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Cost Share
Thursday, May 23, 2024

| | | | |
|--|----|----------|-----------------|
| GRAZING DEFERMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM | | \$ | 2,853.00 |
| Steven E Johnson – Buffalo | \$ | 2,853.00 | |
| WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM..... | | \$ | 750.00 |
| Meadowlark Lands OP I, LLC – Hall | \$ | 750.00 | |
| TOTAL | | \$ | 3,603.00 |
