

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Board Meeting Minutes

May 27, 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. The board room will be available for public participation in the meeting.

ATTENDANCE: Board members present were:

LeRoy Arends	Charles Maser	Jay Richeson
Lohn Bohn	Jerry Milner	Steve Sheen
Ryan Kegley	Barry Obermiller	Ed Stoltenberg
Brian Keiser	Keith Ostermier	Deb VanMatre
Ed Kyes	Marvion Reichert	Jerry Wiese
Dwayne Margritz	Mick Reynolds	

Excused Absences: Jim Bendfeldt, Tom Downey, Alicia Haussler, Doug Reeves

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

Others present: Joe Krolikowski – NRCS District Conservationist, Scott Sorensen – Hall County Board, John Petersen – JEO Consulting Group, Dan Fricke – JEO Consulting Group, Elaina McHargue – Central City High School Student, Chelle Gillan – Central City High School Educator.

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 Ostermier 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 Lon Bohn 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, Tom Downey, Alicia Haussler and Doug Reeves requested to be excused from the board meeting.

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

EDUCATION PRESENTATION: Elaina McHargue, Central City High School Student, presented her research project titled “An Analysis of the Effects of Wetland Area on Algal Growth in Nearby Lakes in Eastern Nebraska”.

FLOOD ALERT SYSTEM PRESENTATION: Dan Fricke and John Peterson, JEO Consulting Group, presented information on the Flood Alert and Monitoring System for the Upper Prairie/Silver/Moores Flood Risk Reduction Project. The new Flood Alert and Monitoring System measures real-world conditions and variability that will support the NRD’s flood risk awareness and preparedness efforts.

NRCS REPORT: Joe Krolikowski, NRCS District Conservationist, reported that the NRCS offices are currently working with EQIP and CStP contracts and talked about the Pathways Internship Program (see enclosed).

STAFF PRESENTATIONS: Angela Warner, GIS Coordinator and Luke Zakrzewski, GIS Image Analyst presented to the board on their job duties at the Central Platte NRD.

NRCS EWP DROP STRUCTURE PROJECT CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR KOKES CONSTRUCTION LLC: Jesse Mintken, Assistant Manager, reported that Change Order #1 is needed for the EWP Drop Structure Project. This is the one and only change order needed as Kokes Construction has completed the EWP Drop Structure. The change order came in as a reduction of \$665.40. A change in the rip rap that was used allowed for the reduction.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve the NRCS EWP Drop Structure Project Change Order #1 for Kokes Construction LLC, which was a reduction of \$665.40. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

BUILDING COMMITTEE: Chairman Mick Reynolds reported that the committee received some preliminary drawings from JEO Consulting Group. The committee will bring more details back to the board in June.

BUDGET COMMITTEE: Chairman Mick Reynolds reported that the committee reviewed the proposed 2021/2022 fiscal year budget. An updated budget will be put on

Drop Box for the board. The board will review and approve the budget in June for the budget hearing in July.

WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE: Chairman Jerry Milner reported that the Illinois Corn Growers Association provided the committee with an agreement to add a Precision Conservation Specialist to the NRD staff. This position would be 100% funded through the Illinois Corn Growers Association. The program is designed to help farmers understand and manage risks associated with adopting new conservation practices with the objective of helping farmers make sound financial decisions.

Jerry Milner made a motion to approve the agreement with the Illinois Corn Growers Association as presented. Lon Bohn seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

2020 IRRIGATION VIOLATIONS: Luke Zakrzewski, GIS Image Analyst, reported that out of the original 47 violations, 7 are still out of compliance. Of the 7 out of compliance, 5 of them are nearly completed. The remaining two may require further action.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Transfer & Applications – Kelly Cole, Administrative Assistant, reported that we have received cost share applications for the following programs: 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. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

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

Marvion Reichert made a motion to approve the May financial report as presented. Deb VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

MANAGERS REPORT: Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reported that Tricia Dudley, Water Quality Programs Assistant, is currently working with 18 producers that need to get into compliance with the Nitrogen Groundwater Management Program. The list of those individuals has been added to Drop Box.

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, June 24. Details to follow.

OTHER BUSINESS: Chairman Reynolds requested that we change the Water Quantity Committee to the Water Utilization Committee.

Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reported on LB83 that has been signed. This allows Central Platte NRD to hold half of our meetings electronically. After some discussion with the board, the board voted to not hold electronic meetings unless necessary due to weather.

ADJOURN: Chairman Reynolds adjourned the board meeting 3:26 p.m.



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

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

May 25, 2021

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 2021 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds. In our local EQIP CPNRD fund pools approximately 100 applications were received before the November 20, 2020 deadline and met eligibility criteria for ranking. The NRCS will be extending contract offers in accordance with available program funding and associated application ranking scores until all the funds are allocated. Last week we did receive some additional second round EQIP funds, around \$298,000 and will begin contacting applicants to extend contract offers and then develop those contracts as well.
- Conservation Stewardship Program, (CStP), FY2021 classic applications that were received by the November 20, 2020 cutoff, have been through the ranking process. The applications that have been preapproved for funding at this point will be field verified by NRCS staff and we will be working with the producers to gather any other information. Once this review process is complete the contracts will be developed. The obligation deadline for all FY2021 CStP classic applications is August 20, 2021. The competition for these funds continues to be very high. This year we had approximately 1,248 applications across the state, we were only able to preapprove approximately 86 of those applications, total dollars obligated for those 86 contracts will be around \$10,310,000.
- Pathways Internship Program update, for the summer of 2021 we will not have any interns returning to our offices in the Central Platte. One of the students from last summer has graduated and is in the process of being converted to as fulltime Soil Conservationist within Nebraska. The other student from last year chose not to return to the NRCS Pathways Internship Program. The other newly selected interns for this summer were placed in NRCS offices outside the CPNRD.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Cost Share
Thursday, May 27, 2021

WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM.....		\$	1,500.00
Randy Schnase – Buffalo	\$	750.00	
Grand Island Utilities Department – Hall		750.00	
Total		\$	1,500.00