CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Board Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2026

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:

Tom Downey	Keith Ostermeier	Ed Stoltenberg
Charles Maser	Doug Reeves	Deb VanMatre
Jerry Milner	Mick Reynolds	Kevin Werner
Barry Obermiller	Jay Richeson	

Excused Absences: Todd Arends, Lon Bohn, Ryan Kegley, Brian Keiser, Amy Kyes, Dwayne Margritz, Luke Ourada, Marvion Reichert, John Stoltenberg and Mike Wilkens.

Staff present: Lyndon Vogt – General Manager, Kelly Cole – Administrative Assistant, Marcia Lee – Information/Education Specialist, Luke Zakrzewski – GIS Image Analyst, Courtney Widup – Water Resources Technician, Collin Quandt – Agronomist, Jesse Mintken – Assistant Manager, Tricia Dudley – Water Quality Programs Assistant and Brandi Flyr - Hydrologist

Others present: Joe Krolikowski – District Conservationist and Jake Klabenes – Core CPA's Audit Director

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: Jay Richeson made a motion to approve the September board meeting minutes. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. 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: Chairman VanMatre reported that Todd Arends, Lon Bohn, Ryan Kegley, Brian Keiser, Amy Kyes, Dwayne Margritz, Luke Ourada, Marvion Reichert, John Stoltenberg and Mike Wilkens requested to be excused from the board

meeting.

Mick Reynolds made the motion to approve the absences as requested. Tom Downey seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

2025/2026 Audit Report: Jake Klabenes, Core CPA's Audit Director, reviewed the audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. He said the independent auditors' report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters was based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with government auditing standards and that no problems were encountered.

Following a brief discussion Kevin Werner made the motion to accept the fiscal year 2025/2026 audit. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

NRCS REPORTS: Joe Krolikowski, District Conservationist, gave some office updates for the Kearney Office as Janelle Taubenheim was unable to attend (see attached).

Joe Krolikowski, District Conservationist, reviewed the planning process and application preparations for EQIP and CSP Programs (see attached).

VARIANCE APPEAL COMMITTEE: Barry Obermiller, chairman, reported that the committee met earlier today for a request from David Hahn of Jordan, New York.

The request was to allow for the approval of a new house and domestic well (<50gpm) on a property he recently purchased west of Cozad. The property in question has a conservation easement in place due to groundwater rights the district purchased in 2009. The easement states that written approval is required prior to any use change from dryland agricultural production. Seeing that there is no increase in consumptive use as a result of the request, the committee makes the recommendation to provide written approval for the landowner to build one house and one domestic well (<50gpm) on the property.

Barry Obermiller made a motion to approve the variance request from David Hahn of Jordan, New York. The request will allow for the approval of a new house and domestic well (<50gpm) on a property he recently purchased west of Cozad. The property in question has a conservation easement in place due to groundwater rights the district purchased in 2009. The easement states that written approval is required prior to any use change from dryland agricultural production. There is no increase in consumptive use as a result of the request. Doug Reeves 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 committee met earlier today. He gave a brief update on the progress.

WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE: Jerry Milner, Chairman, reported that the committee met earlier today and discussed Nitrogen Management violations, no action was taken.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reported that the 116 hay bales the CPNRD is donating due to wildfires earlier this year will be donated to the Baxter family. They have agreed to share their story with local media.

The One Red Program will have another training at the CPNRD office on November 5, 2026. Darren Cudaback will transition from PCM to One Red on November 1, 2026.

CPNRD has not yet received a signed contract from the PRRIP for the 2027 exchange water and is actively negotiating with a third party to purchase the Exchange water stored in Lake McConaughy.

Dwayne Margritz has announced he will be moving out of District 2 and will be resigning from the Board at the November meeting. The board will advertise and form a search committee at that time.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Applications - Kelly Cole, Administrative Assistant, reported that we have received cost share applications for the following programs: Burn Preparation, Reverse Osmosis, Well Decommissioning and Cover Crop (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.

Doug Reeves made a motion to approve the cost share applications as reported. Mick Reynolds 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 October financial report.

Mick Reynolds made a motion to approve the September 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 their last meeting was in conjunction with the NARD Annual Conference. Three CPNRD staff members were recognized for their years of service: Lyndon Vogt 30 years, Kelly Cole 25 years and Angela Warner 20 years. The NARD Board adopted three legislative resolutions addressing bonding authority for flood control and water enhancement projects, administration of the NE Chemigation Program and payroll expenditure and salary publication requirements for the Natural Resources Districts. VanMatre also reported that the NARD Executive Director, Dean Edson, will

retire at the end of the year.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION: Doug Reeves, Middle Platte Basin Representative, reported that the combining of the NE Department of Natural Resources and the NE Department of Environmental and Energy should be 100% complete.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Chairman VanMatre reviewed the upcoming events.

NEXT BOARD MEETING – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, November 19. Details to follow.

OTHER BUSINESS: There was none.

ADJOURN: Chairman VanMatre adjourned the board meeting at 2:40 p.m.

JANELLE TAUBENHEIM

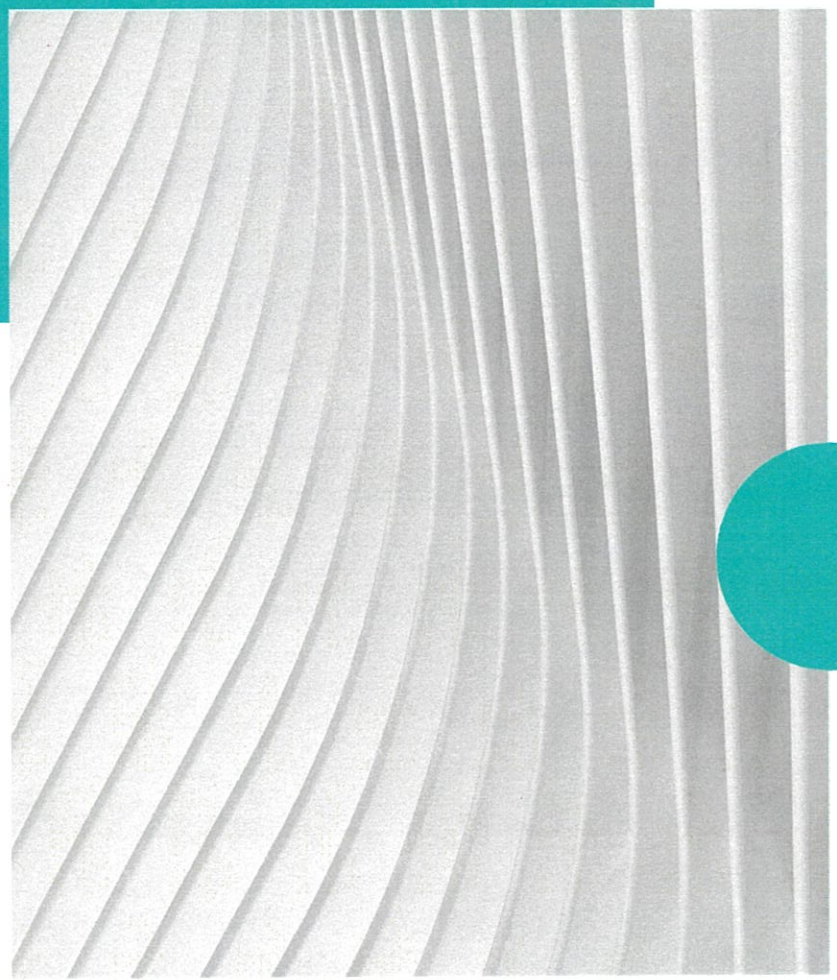
KEARNEY FO UPDATE





2026 PROGRAM APPROVAL UPDATE

- We had 38 newly obligated contracts in FY26 between EQIP, RPP, and CSP
    - Assessed 90 program applications.
- We had 11 NRD applications for all programs.
- We had 8 new CRP contracts
- Currently managing 100 active contracts



WETLAND RESTORATION PROJECT

Current EQIP project in Buffalo County.

Before













Spring Cover Crops in Buffalo County




THANK YOU

United States Department Of Agriculture

USDA NRCS
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

October 20, 2026

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

October Report to CPNRD

The NRCS is currently working on the planning process and application preparation for both the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). The Environmental Quality Incentive Program allows producers to create a customized plan to address resource concern on a field-by-field basis. Conservation Stewardship Program helps you build on your existing conservation efforts while strengthening your entire operation. Whether you are looking to improve grazing conditions, increase cropland efficiency, benefit soil health, or develop wildlife habitat, we can work together to custom design a plan to help you meet those goals.

We are also working on processing the EQIP and CSP payments for current contracts already on file. This takes place when the producers turn in their completed job sheets or enhancement worksheets in the fall. The job sheets and worksheets document the practices completed by the producer for that fiscal year. NRCS staff will review this information, review the practices in the field, and work with producers to make any needed adjustment or gather more information, and then process the payment.

If you are interested in the EQIP or CSP Program, and have never applied before, remember technical assistance requests and applications are accepted all throughout the year for these programs. Each year specific deadlines are set for processing the requests and funding opportunities. This year that deadline for funding consideration was **October 16, 2026**. If you are interested, you can contact your local NRCS field office anytime for more information.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Cost Share
Thursday, October 22, 2026

BURN PREPARATION COST SHARE PROGRAM			$ **27,350.00**
First Firefly LLC – Buffalo	$	7,350.00	
Brian & Ann Marie Bosshamer – Buffalo		10,000.00	
Daniel Pohl Estate		10,000.00	
REVERSE OSMOSIS SYSTEM COST SHARE PROGRAM			$ **750.00**
Tyler Janky – Hamilton	$	750.00	
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM			$ **1,750.00**
Country Partners Coop – Dawson	$	750.00	
City of Gothenburg – Dawson – 2 wells		1,000.00	
COVER CROP COST SHARE PROGRAM			$ **2,000.00**
Edward McNeff – Merrick	$	2,000.00	
TOTAL			$ **31,850.00**