

**CENTRAL PLATTE NRD**  
Board Meeting Minutes  
November 17, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Ed Kyes called the meeting to order at 2:05 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 were:

LeRoy Arends	Dwayne Margritz	Jay Richeson
Jim Bendfeldt	Charles Maser	Steve Sheen
Charles Bicak	Jerry Milner	Keith Stafford
Alicia Haussler	Ladd Reeves	Ed Stoltenberg
Chris Henry	Marvion Reichert	Deborah VanMatre
Brian Keiser	Mick Reynolds	Jerry Wiese
Ed Kyes		

Excused Absences – Barry Obermiller and Bob Schanou.

Staff present: Lyndon Vogt – General Manager, Duane Woodward – District Hydrologist, Mark Czaplewski – District Biologist, Dianne Miller – Administrative Director, Jesse Mintken – Assistant Manager, Marcia Lee – Information Education Specialist, Kelly Cole – Programs Coordinator, Luke Zakrzewski – GIS Image Analyst, Tricia Dudley – Resources Conservationist.

Others present – Joe Krolkowski – NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, Grand Island, Allison Petr – Auditor, McDermott & Miller, P.C. Hastings, Doug Reeves – Central City, Keith Ostermeier – Grand Island, Andrew Pierson – Audubon, Gibbon, and Lori Potter – Kearney Hub.

**MEETING NOTICES:** Chairman Kyes reported that the notices of the meeting had been sent to the news media as required by law.

**MEETING MINUTES:** Charles Maser made the motion to approve the October board meeting minutes. Alicia Haussler seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Chris Henry, Dwayne Margritz, Jerry Milner, Ladd Reeves, Marvion Reichert, Mick Reynolds and Jerry Wiese who abstained. Motion carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:** Chairman Kyes asked if there were any announcements or suggestions for future meetings. He introduced Doug Reeves, Sub-district 9 director elect and Keith Ostermeier, At Large director elect. They will take office in January.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** Chairman Kyes asked if anyone wanted to address the board on any item not included on the agenda. No one requested time to speak.

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) REPORT:** Joe Krolikowski, NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, Grand Island, reported on the Fiscal Year 2017 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) initial allocations to each NRD (see enclosed report).

**EXCUSED ABSENCES:** Chairman Kyes reported that Barry Obermiller and Bob Schanou had requested to be excused from the board meeting.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the absences as requested. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**FISCAL 2015/2016 AUDITOR REPORT:** Allison Petr, McDermott & Miller P.C., Hastings reviewed the Fiscal Year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> audit, a copy of which had been forwarded to the directors prior to the meeting. She reviewed the fact that total assets are up over last year. She also reported that actual revenue was down somewhat over a year ago because several projects had been completed so reimbursements from the State for those projects was reduced; however, expenditures were also down because of the completion of those projects. She also reviewed the two notes receivable that were added to reflect the amounts due to Central Platte NRD from Southside Irrigation District and Cozad Ditch Co. for their share of the canals' rehab.

Following the report Alicia Haussler made the motion that the board accept the Fiscal Year 2015/2016 audit report. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**PROGRAMS COMMITTEE:** Deborah VanMatre reported on the committee's meeting held earlier that day.

**Nominations for CPNRD Conservation Awards** – She said the committee is recommending the following awards: Community Leadership – The Ken Seim Family of Chapman, Cropland – Mark Haskins of Doniphan. Deb said they are recommending two Grassland Awards be given, one to Adam Grabenstein of Farnam and one to Phil and Carlene Waldron, Tom Schroder and the late Lan Schroder. The awards will be given at the event sponsored by Great Western Bank on December 22<sup>nd</sup> at Balz Reception Hall from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Deborah VanMatre made the motion to approve the awards as recommended. Jim Bendfeldt seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

**WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE – REPORTS & ACTION:** Committee chairman Jay Richeson reported on their meeting held earlier that day.

**Conservation Easement Presentation from Westervelt Ecological Services & NE Board of Educational Lands & Funds** -- Jay said the committee had considerable discussion on the request from the NE Board of Educational Lands and Funds and Westervelt Ecological Services that Central Platte NRD hold a conservation easement on behalf of the NE Board of Educational Lands and Funds for a wetland in Buffalo County with Westervelt Ecological Services being responsible for implementing the conservation easement. Jay said the recommendation from the committee is that Central Platte NRD not hold the conservation easement.

Jay Richeson then made the motion to deny the request from the NE Board of Educational Lands and Funds and Westervelt Ecological Services to hold the conservation easement for a wetland mitigation bank in Buffalo County on property owned by NE Board of Educational Lands and Funds. Ladd Reeves seconded the motion.

Discussion followed.

The motion was then voted on. Board members voting in favor of the motion were Charles Bicak, Chris Henry, Ed Kyes, Ladd Reeves, Marvion Reichert, Mick Reynolds, Steve Sheen, Keith Stafford, Ed Stoltenberg, Deborah VanMatre and Jerry Wiese. Board members voting in opposition were LeRoy Arends, Jim Bendfeldt, Alicia Haussler, Brian Keiser, Dwayne Margritz, Charles Maser, Jerry Milner, and Jay Richeson. Motion carried 11 in favor, 8 opposed.

Following some discussion Jim Bendfeldt made the motion that the representative from Westervelt Ecological Services be invited to come back to present additional information to the Water Resources Committee and also that Joe Krolikowski with the NRCS be included to provide additional information for review. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. Board members in favor of the motion were LeRoy Arends, Jim Bendfeldt, Alicia Haussler, Chris Henry, Brian Keiser, Ed Kyes, Dwayne Margritz, Charles Maser, Jerry Milner, Marvion Reichert, Mick Reynolds, Jay Richeson, Steve Sheen, Keith Stafford, Ed Stoltenberg, Deborah VanMatre and Jerry Wiese. Board members opposed were Charles Bicak and Ladd Reeves. Motion carried 17 in favor, 2 opposed.

**Central Platte NRD's Water Programs Conference** – I&E Specialist Marcia Lee reported that the NRD's Water Programs Conference has been scheduled for February 9<sup>th</sup> in Kearney at the Buffalo County Extension Building.

**ELECTION RESULTS:** The results of the general election had been sent to the directors on drop box prior to the meeting. In January there will be two new directors, Doug Reeves will replace Ladd Reeves in Subdistrict 9 and Keith Ostermeier will replace Charlie Bicak as the At-large director.

**ELECT THREE MEMBER BOARD OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOARD CHAIRMAN & VICE-CHAIRMAN:**

Chairman Kyes said the Bylaws require that a three-member board officer nominating sub-committee be elected to make recommendations for board officers. The subcommittee will report on their recommendations for board chairman and vice-chairman at the December board meeting and election of officers will be held at the January board meeting.

Alicia Haussler nominated Jay Richeson, Marvion Reichert nominated Jerry Wiese, and Jay Richeson nominated Alicia Haussler to serve on the subcommittee.

Ladd Reeves made the motion to elect Jay Richeson, Jerry Wiese and Alicia Haussler to serve on the Board Officer Nominating Subcommittee. Jim Bendfeldt seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Alicia Haussler, Jay Richeson and Jerry Wiese who abstained. Motion carried.

**PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM UPDATE:**

Mark Czaplewski, District Biologist, reported that the Programs Governance Committee had met on November 2<sup>nd</sup> in Denver. He said the Governance Committee approved an amendment to the Water Service Agreement for the J2 Reservoir Project. The Project has formally been placed on hold while the parties involved evaluate how best to proceed. This amendment does allow for the completion of certain routine tasks that were in progress. The Governance Committee approved summary language for a Program First Increment Extension, contingent on approval of a budget. The 13-year extension (post 2019) lays out what the Program would strive to accomplish, with a focus on pursuing water milestones. The “next steps” for moving forward with the extension proposal are to be worked out, particularly regarding possible revision of the Biological Opinion, NEPA documents and schedule. The extension proposal includes acquisition of an interest in an additional 1,500 acres of complex habitat, and continued pursuit of 130,000-150,000 acre-feet of water annually while acknowledging available funding may only be able to achieve 120,000 acre-feet. The Program would also fund scientific studies to re-examine U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service’s target flows to determine if such flows are justified. The Governance Committee reviewed details of a draft 2017 budget and annual work plan. The new budget funding focuses on aggressively moving forward on water projects (\$12.7 million out of a total budget of \$19.1 million) and includes some significant reductions in select monitoring and research components. Comments received on the draft budget will be incorporated and readied for a final vote in December. The next Governance Committee meeting is scheduled for December 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in Denver.

**NE ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS REPORT:** Jim Bendfeldt reported on the NARD board’s November meeting. He also reported that Nebraska will host the 2020 National Envirothon.

**NE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION REPORT:** Middle Platte Basin Commission member Mick Reynolds reported that the Commission will finalize scoring on applications for the Water Sustainability Fund by December 2<sup>nd</sup> and selections will be announced on the 12<sup>th</sup> in Kearney.

Commission Election – It was reported that the Natural Resources Commission will hold a caucus to elect the Middle Platte Basin representative, shared by the Twin Platte NRD, on January 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the Central Platte NRD. All directors elected at the general election will have to be sworn in before the caucus in order to vote on the basin representative.

**COST SHARE PROGRAM: Applications** – Programs Coordinator Kelly Cole reported that we have received applications for the following cost share programs: NE Soil and Water Conservation Program and Well Decommissioning (see enclosed). She said the applicants are in compliance with the District's rules and regulations, funds are available, and recommended they be approved.

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

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Because the November board meeting was a week early the accounts payable had not yet been processed. The report will be provided prior to the December board meeting.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Chairman Kyes briefly reviewed the upcoming events.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Next meeting -- Scheduled for December 22nd at 2:00 p.m. Details to follow.

**ADJOURN:** Chairman Kyes adjourned the board meeting at 3:12 p.m.

United States Department Of Agriculture

  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Grand Island Field Office  
2550 N. Diers Ave., Suite L  
Grand Island, NE 68803  
Phone (308) 395-8586 (Ext. 3)

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

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November 17, 2016

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

November Report to CPNRD

Attached is a summary FY 2017 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) initial allocations to each Natural Resources District in Nebraska. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will begin ranking the applications received prior to October 21, 2016. It is anticipated that ranking of these applications will be completed shortly after the start of the new calendar year. Following ranking, contract offers will be extended immediately to the highest ranked applications so that fund obligation can be completed as early as possible in 2017.

Respectfully Submitted,

*/s/ Joe Krolikowski*

Joe Krolikowski  
District Conservationist

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FY 2017 Environmental Quality Incentives Program NRD Allocations  
11/17/2016

NRD	2016 General FA	Estimated 2017 General FA	Ogallala FA	Local Matching Funds	2017 (Includes NWQI, Ogallala & Local Matching Funds)
CP	\$ 349,763	\$ 510,939	\$ 700,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 1,510,939
LB	\$ 256,737	\$ 382,435	\$ 550,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 1,182,435
LBB	\$ 247,495	\$ 308,887			\$ 308,887
LC	\$ 468,063	\$ 584,168			\$ 792,168
LE	\$ 700,822	\$ 874,664			\$ 1,082,664
LL	\$ 1,299,742	\$1,622,148			\$ 1,622,148
LN	\$ 200,000	\$ 84,662			\$ 200,000
LPN	\$ 675,103	\$ 842,566			\$ 1,466,566
LPS	\$ 203,353	\$ 253,796			\$ 253,796
LR	\$ 396,045	\$ 494,285			\$ 494,285
MN	\$ 392,019	\$ 489,261			\$ 489,261
MR	\$ 276,259	\$ 344,786	\$ 600,000	\$ 204,934	\$ 1,149,720
N	\$ 364,131	\$ 454,455			\$ 454,455
NP	\$ 660,747	\$ 824,647			\$ 824,647
PMR	\$ 315,118	\$ 393,284			\$ 393,284
SP	\$ 303,536	\$ 378,829			\$ 378,829
TB	\$ 299,557	\$ 373,864			\$ 373,864
TP	\$ 711,786	\$ 888,348			\$ 888,348
UBB	\$ 328,154	\$ 459,165	\$ 550,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 1,209,165
UE	\$ 804,073	\$1,003,527			\$ 1,211,527
UL	\$ 398,044	\$ 496,780			\$ 496,780
UNW	\$ 642,775	\$ 802,218			\$ 802,218
UR	\$ 439,966	\$ 549,102			\$ 549,102
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 10,733,290</b>	<b>\$ 13,416,816</b>	<b>\$ 2,400,000</b>	<b>\$954,934</b>	<b>\$ 18,135,088</b>

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD  
Cost Share  
November 17, 2016

NEBRASKA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COST SHARE PROGRAM...	\$	4,490.75
David Rowe – Dawson – Brush Management	\$	4,490.75
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM .....	\$	750.00
Vesterra LLC – Buffalo	\$	750.00
Total .....	\$	5,240.75