

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Board Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Ed Kyes 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 were:

LeRoy Arends	Charles Maser	Bob Schanou
Jim Bendfeldt	Jerry Milner	Steve Sheen
Charles Bicak	Barry Obermiller	Keith Stafford
Chris Henry	Ladd Reeves	Ed Stoltenberg
Brian Keiser	Mick Reynolds	Deb VanMatre
Ed Kyes	Jay Richeson	Jerry Wiese
Dwayne Margritz		

Excused Absences – Alicia Haussler and Marvion Reichert.

Staff present: Lyndon Vogt – General Manager, Duane Woodward – District Hydrologist, Mark Czaplewski – District Biologist, Dianne Miller – Administrative Director, Kelly Cole – Programs Coordinator, Marcia Lee – Information/Education Specialist, Sandy Noecker – Data & Compliance Officer, Dan Clement – Water Resources Specialist; Jesse Mintken – Projects Director, Luke Zakrzewski – GIS Image Analyst, Angie Warner – GIS Program Coordinator, Shane Max – Resources Conservationist.

Others present – James Huntwork – NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, Grand Island, Tricia Dudley – Rainwater Basin Joint Venture/CPNRD GIS Assistant, William Kuehner – Doniphan, Jim Stulken – Doniphan, Mark Haskins – Doniphan, Randy Zach – NE Public Power District Columbus, 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: Jim Bendfeldt made the motion to approve the December board meeting minutes. Deb VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except LeRoy Arends who abstained. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

Chairman Kyes asked if there were any announcements or suggestions for future meetings. There were none.

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 (NRCS) REPORT: James Huntwork, Liaison District Conservationist, reported on a preliminary summary of Fiscal Year 2016 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) applications (see enclosed).

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Chairman Kyes reported that Alicia Haussler and Marvion Reichert had requested to be excused from the board meeting.

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

COMMITTEES – SIGNUP: Chairman Kyes said a sign-up sheet would be passed around for the directors to indicate what committees they want to serve on for the coming year (Water Resources, Eastern Projects, Western Projects, and Programs) and said each director is requested to serve on at least two. He asked the committees to meet after the board meeting to select a chairman.

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

Groundwater Exchange Proposed Rules & Regulations – Jay said the committee reviewed the proposed Groundwater Exchange rules and regulations and said the committee is recommending they be approved for the purpose of holding a public hearing.

Public Hearing on Adding Proposed Groundwater Exchange Rules & Regulations to Current Groundwater Management Plan Rules & Regulations -- Jay Richeson made the motion to hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 25, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. for the purpose of adding the proposed Groundwater Exchange rules and regulations to Central Platte NRD's current Groundwater Management Plan Rules & Regulations. Charlie Bicak seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Consider Moving Parts of Southern Hall & Northern Hamilton Counties from Phase 1 to Phase 2 Water Quality Area – Jay said the committee discussed the testimony presented at the December 17, 2015 public hearing which had been held on the proposal to move parts of southern Hall County and northern Hamilton County into a Phase 2 water quality area. He said they addressed the concerns expressed at the hearing and also instructed staff to send the results of the committee's findings to those who had testified.

Jay Richeson then made the motion to approve moving parts of southern Hall County south of the Platte River, except for 16 sections in the southeast corner, and northern Hamilton County from a Phase 1 to a Phase 2 water quality area. Ladd Reeves seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

BOARD SECRETARY & TREASURER ELECTION: Bob Schanou reviewed last month's report from the Board Officer Nominating Subcommittee (Alicia Haussler, Charles Maser and Bob Schanou). He then nominated Barry Obermiller for board secretary and Charles Maser for board treasurer. Chairman Kyes asked if there were any other nominations.

Mick Reynolds made the motion that nominations cease. Steve Sheen seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Charles Maser and Barry Obermiller who abstained. Motion carried.

Jim Bendfeldt made the motion to approve the nominations and that Barry Obermiller be elected as board secretary and Charles Maser be elected as board treasurer. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Charles Maser and Barry Obermiller who abstained. Motion carried.

2016 ELECTION FILING DEADLINES: General Manager Lyndon Vogt gave a reminder that the candidate filing deadlines are February 16 for incumbents and March 1 for non-incumbents.

PRAIRIE/SILVER/MOORES CREEK FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT UPDATE: Projects Director Jesse Mintken reported that the public hearing for land rights acquisition was held January 7th here at the office on the Silver Creek levy portion of the project. William Blake, the attorney assisting us with land rights acquisition, and staff from JEO Engineering were at the hearing, in addition to the landowners involved. Jesse said the hearing is a formality that must be followed prior to proceeding with appraisals, etc. In answer to a question Jesse said there are two landowners involved and they are pretty positive about the project.

WESTERN PROJECTS REPORT & POSSIBLE ACTION: Kearney White Water Group Request – Committee chairman Jim Bendfeldt said the committee had reviewed this item at their meeting earlier that day and reported that there has been some clarification on the group's request that was discussed at last month's board meeting. He said the Kearney White Water Group has done an extensive amount of work cleaning up Turkey Creek and have requested \$2,200.00 to help clean up a small segment of Turkey Creek involving the removal of two very large cottonwood trees that have fallen into Turkey Creek. Jim said General Manager Lyndon Vogt and Projects Director Jesse Mintken had also done an onsite inspection of the area. In answer to a question Jim said no funding assistance was requested from the City of Kearney.

Projects Director Jesse Mintken said the \$25,000.00 discussed last month is the amount that was included in this year's budget for snagging and clearing on Turkey Creek, a project that has been cosponsored with the City of Kearney. Funds for snagging and clearing on Turkey Creek have been budgeted since approximately 2011.

Mick Reynolds asked whether this project would be considered a new snagging and clearing project and whether it would be in conflict with the motion made last month. Jim Bendfeldt said the Western Projects Committee felt this would fall under the category of recreation. It was also stated that there would be erosion prevention benefits as well.

Following a brief discussion, Jim Bendfeldt made the motion to approve the request from the Kearney Whitewater Group for assistance in the amount of \$2,200.00 for hiring the removal of two large cottonwood trees from Turkey Creek. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Ladd Reeves and Jerry Wiese who voted no. Motion carried.

LEGISLATIVE BILLS UPDATE: District Biologist Mark Czaplewski briefly reviewed legislation affecting NRDs including LB 1038, a place-holder bill for the Niobrara River Memorandum of Understanding between NPPD, the Niobrara NRDs and the NE Game and Parks Commission. Mark said it concerns a major water bill being addressed this session but does not directly affect Central Platte NRD. He reported on LB 711 which would re-create the Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force with proposed funding for invasive/noxious weed control, and also discussed LB 958 which could have significant impacts on NRDs' budgets because of eliminating the exempt budget categories for inter-local agreements and capital improvements, LB 728 authorizing electronic voting devices for NRDs. Mark also reported that President Obama had vetoed the bill that would have prevented the significant expansion of the Clean Water Act. He said there are several law suits pending to prevent that expansion and said it would probably take years to resolve.

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION: Jim Bendfeldt briefly reported on the GMDA conference held January 6 through 8 in Sacramento, CA. He said "It opened a lot of eyes to the level of management and the success that Nebraska realizes, and said it is sorely needed in California". He said there were 113 in attendance with 12 states represented.

NE ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS: Jim Bendfeldt said the NARD Legislative conference is in Lincoln next Tuesday and Wednesday with the conference followed by the NARD board meeting. He also briefly reviewed LR 380CA, a constitutional amendment to change the distribution of state lottery proceeds. It would reduce the amount of funding from NET lottery proceeds to the NE Environmental Trust by 40%, it would reduce the proceeds to the NE State Fair by 25%. Funding for education would increase 46%.

NEBRASKA NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION REPORT: Mick Reynolds reported that the Water Sustainability Fund has \$18,506,808.94 available. He said they have had applications filed totaling \$51,553,853.00. Mick said the NE Dept. of Natural Resources will have to review the applications and see if they all meet the fund's requirements. It is hoped the review will be done by early March. He briefly reviewed some of the projects that have requested funds. He said they have a new web site which is nrc.nebraska.gov and also said their next meeting is scheduled for January 27th in Lincoln.

In answer to a question Mick said the projects that had been approved under the former NE Resources Development Fund are guaranteed to be funded. The Water Sustainability Fund is for new projects.

COST SHARE PROGRAM: Applications -- Programs Coordinator Kelly Cole reported that we have received applications for the following cost share programs: Tree Planting 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. Bob Schanou seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Due to the December board meeting being a week early that month's report had not been available at that meeting. It was sent to the directors prior to the January board meeting. General Manager Lyndon Vogt reviewed the December report.

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

Because the January board meeting was a week early that report will be acted on at the February board meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS: As listed on the agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS: Next Meeting – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, February 25th. Details to follow.

New Employee – General Manager Vogt introduced Tricia Dudley who will begin employment with Central Platte NRD on February 1st. Tricia has been working jointly for the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture and Central Platte NRD for the past four months and has been assisting several employees with district programs.

Request for Maps – Mark Haskins asked if maps of the new Water Quality Phase 2 areas would be available to the public. It was stated they would be available.

ADJOURN: Chairman Kyes adjourned the board meeting.

United States Department Of Agriculture



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 Grand Island Field Office
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 Grand Island, NE 68803
 Phone (308) 395-8586 (Ext. 3)

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

January 20, 2016

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

January Report to CPNRD

Following is a preliminary summary of FY 2016 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) applications in the CPNRD. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Field Office staff are in the process of finalizing the conservation plans and cost estimates that are used for application ranking. It is anticipated that ranking will be completed by early February, 2016. Following ranking, contract offers will be immediately extended to the highest ranked applications so that fund obligation can be completed early in 2016.

The current CPNRD Ogallala Aquifer Initiative project fund allocation is \$1 million, the RCPP allocation is \$378,000 and the CPNRD allocation for all other fund codes is \$349,763.

CPNRD Fund Code	# of Applications	\$ Requested	Current \$ Allocation
Ogallala Initiative	71	\$2,130,000	\$1,000,000
RCPP	109	\$3,500,000	\$378,000
Water Conservation/Quality	69	\$2,070,000	\$349,763
IWM	28	\$125,000	
Grassland Invasive Species	9	\$258,000	
Grassland	16	\$377,000	
Cropland Soil Erosion	43	\$493,000	
Totals	345	\$8,953,000	\$1,727,763

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ G. James Huntwork

G. JAMES HUNTWORK
 District Conservationist

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CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Cost Share
January 21, 2016

TREE PLANTING COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	1,581.40
Paul Hazard – Buffalo	\$	1,581.40	
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$	2,750.00
Eagle Hills Ranch – Dawson	\$	500.00	
Tim Maline – Dawson		750.00	
Davis Family Limited Partnership – Hall		750.00	
Biehl Cattle Company – Dawson		750.00	
Total		\$	4,331.40