

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Board Meeting Minutes
February 25, 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	Dwayne Margritz	Jay Richeson
Jim Bendfeldt	Jerry Milner	Bob Schanou
Charles Bicak	Barry Obermiller	Steve Sheen
Alicia Haussler	Ladd Reeves	Keith Stafford
Chris Henry	Marvion Reichert	Deb VanMatre
Brian Keiser	Mick Reynolds	Jerry Wiese
Ed Kyes		

Excused Absences – Charles Maser and Ed Stoltenberg

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, Tricia Dudley – Resource Conservationist.

Others present – James Huntwork – NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, Grand Island, Mike Nuss – Upper Big Blue NRD, Sutton, Keith Ostermeier - Grand Island, Travis Hazard – JEO Consulting Group Lincoln, 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: Barry Obermiller made the motion to approve the January board meeting Minutes. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Alicia Haussler and Marvion Reichert who abstained. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS: Chairman Kyes asked if there were any announcements or suggestions for future meetings.

Ladd Reeves asked that at a future meeting the board discuss the problem of cedar tree infestations and whether it is a tree that should be offered as part of the tree planting program. Also brought up was the problem with some of the locust trees. Following some discussion Chairman Kyes forwarded this item to the Programs Committee.

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: James Huntwork, NRCS Central Area Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations (Area Conservationist) reported that the CPNRD Local Working Group Meeting for FY 2017 Program Year is scheduled for March 22 and will be held at the Central Platte NRD office beginning at 9:30 a.m. and invited the directors to attend (see enclosed).

He also announced that effective March 6th he would begin duties as the Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations (Area Conservationist) Central Area (see enclosed.)

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Chairman Kyes reported that Charles Maser and Ed Stoltenberg 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.

VARIANCE/APPEALS SUBCOMMITTEE: Appeal on Certified Irrigated Acres, Recommendation & Action – Jim Bendfeldt reported on the hearing and subcommittee recommendation concerning the appeal from Marty Demuth of Hastings and Gary Bader of Gresham. They were requesting additional corner acres on a pivot located in Dawson County be certified as irrigated. They transferred the corner acres in 2007 to put a pivot up.

Jim Bendfeldt said the Variance/Appeals Subcommittee is recommending, and he made the motion, that the appeal be denied because the acres were not certified before December 31, 2014 and the pivot corners involved were transferred off of the tract and were restricted in planting because it is sub-irrigated. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Steve Sheen who voted no. Motion carried.

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE: Proposed Groundwater Exchange Rules & Regulations, Recommendations & Action Needed – Jay Richeson, committee chairman, reported on their meeting held earlier that day. He asked General Manager Lyndon Vogt to report on the public hearing.

Review Public Hearing & Proposed Amendments & Take Action on Groundwater Exchange Rules & Regulations as Proposed or Amended & Add into Rules &

Regulations for Groundwater Use in Fully & Over-Appropriated Areas – Lyndon briefly reviewed the hearing held prior to the board meeting. He said there was no negative testimony presented. He said there were three proposed changes being recommended by Central Platte NRD and supported by the NE Department of Natural Resources, which were: Allow Central Platte NRD to determine the number of participant openings to the program on an annual basis, change the map that outlines the Central Platte NRD boundaries to exclude the Loup Basin area of influence, and removal of proposed section 5.6 that described how trade prices are determined by the program algorithm.

Jim Bendfeldt made the motion to approve the proposed Groundwater Exchange Rules & Regulations with the three proposed changes, and that they be added to the Groundwater Use in Fully & Over-Appropriated Areas Rules and Regulations. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Recommendation to hold Groundwater Exchange in March 2016 & Limit First Year Participation – Jay Richeson said the Water Resources Committee is recommending, and he made the motion, that the first exchange be held in March 2016 and that the first exchange be limited to the first 50 participants. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

In answer to a question General Manager Vogt said a participant will have to work with a staff member to make sure their offer to participate can be approved under the District's rules and regulations. They will have to go through that process before they are given a bidder ID and password to access the exchange web site to enter their information.

CROP REPORTING FORM UPDATE: Sandy Noecker, Data Compliance Officer, briefly reported on the four instruction sessions that were held on the new groundwater management reporting software. Sessions were held in Lexington, Kearney, Grand Island and Central City. Sandy said the overall reception to the new program is positive.

PRESCRIBED BURN CONTRACTOR BIDS: David Carr, Range Management Specialist, reported that as part of the grassland conservation grant program funds are available to pay for a professional burn contractor to assist with the prescribed burns. Requests for proposals were sent out and bids were received from five contractors. David said they were all similar in terms of qualifications, specified equipment, personnel, insurance and availability. Bids ranged from a low of \$37,373.00 to a high of \$83,234.82. He said he would recommend the low bid from Chloeta Fire be approved.

Following a brief discussion Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the low bid from Chloeta Fire in the amount of \$37,373.00 to assist with the prescribed burns. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

TRUCK BID RESULTS: Tom Backer, Projects Assistant, reported that bids were requested for a 2016 four-wheel drive, half ton, full size crew cab pickup with trade in of the 2007 Chevy 1500 Silverado pickup. Three bids were received: Dinsdale Chevrolet Cadillac GMC of Grand Island for \$16,517.00, Plum Creek Motors of Lexington for \$16,659.36, and Roy's Grand Dodge of Grand Island for \$17,546.00. Tom said it would be staff's recommendation to accept the low bid from Dinsdale Chevrolet Cadillac GMC for a 2016 Chevy pickup for \$16,517.00.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the low bid from Dinsdale Chevrolet Cadillac GMC of Grand Island for \$16,517.00 for the purchase of a 2016 Chevy half ton pickup that includes the trade in of the District's 2007 Chevy pickup. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

GRAND ISLAND AREA CLEAN COMMUNITY SYSTEM REPORT: Marcia Lee, Information/Education Specialist, referred to the article in the Grand Island Independent concerning the activities and improvements at the facility (see enclosed). She also said that Executive Director Denise McGovern-Gallagher had sent a letter thanking Central Platte NRD for the support provided and said their board and staff wanted to let Central Platte's board know how much that support is appreciated.

NE ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICT REPORT: CPNRD's NARD representative, Jim Bendfeldt, briefly reported on the NARD Legislative Conference held in Lincoln in late January. He said at the conference they reviewed legislation that would affect NRDs and natural resources. He also reported on the NARD board meeting held on the 27th.

NE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION REPORT: Mick Reynolds reported that the scoring committee has scheduled five days for reviewing the applications for the NE Water Sustainability Fund and said a report would be available at a later date.

COST SHARE PROGRAM: Applications -- Programs Coordinator Kelly Cole reported that we have received applications for the following cost share programs: NE Soil & Water Conservation Program, Grazing Deferral, Center Pivot Incentive, 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.

Bob Schanou 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 REPORTS – JANUARY & FEBRUARY: Because the January board meeting was a week early that report was forwarded to the directors following payments made on January 28th. General Manager Vogt reviewed the February financial report.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the January and February financial reports as presented. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

MARCH BOARD MEETING – CONSIDER MOVING TO MARCH 31ST: General Manager Vogt asked the board to consider holding the March board meeting on the 31st rather than on the fourth Thursday so that the board can approve the transactions for the Groundwater Exchange and notify the bidders in a timely fashion rather than waiting another month.

Ladd Reeves made the motion to hold the March board meeting on the 31st which is one week later than normal in order to accommodate the schedule for the Groundwater Exchange. Marvion Reichert seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Legal Matters – Mick Reynolds made the motion that the board go into Executive Session at 2:50 p.m. for the purpose of discussing legal matters. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Marvion Reichert made the motion that the board come out of Executive Session at 3:01 p.m. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

UPCOMING EVENTS: As listed on the agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS: Next Meeting – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, March 31st (one week later than normal). Details to follow.

ADJOURN: Chairman Kyes adjourned the board meeting.

United States Department Of Agriculture



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

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

Subject: Conservation Programs
Local Working Group Meeting

Date: February 22, 2016

To: Members of the Central Platte NRD Local Working Group

File Code: 300

Please let this serve as an invitation to participate in the Central Platte Natural Resources District (CPNRD) Local Working Group Meeting (LWG) for the FY 2017 Program Year. The purpose of this meeting is to provide recommendations to the District Conservationist and State Conservationist on local natural resource priorities and criteria for conservation activities and programs. Local Working Group meetings are open to the public and notice of this meeting will be provided to local newspapers.

The meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 22, 2016 in Grand Island, NE at the CPNRD Headquarters, located at 215 Kaufman Avenue. We will begin at 9:30 AM and should conclude by noon. You or your designee is encouraged to attend so that you may provide input related to natural resources concerns and cooperator objectives in your area of responsibility.

Enclosed please find an agenda for the meeting. If you have questions about this or need additional information please contact your local NRCS office or me. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

/s/ G. James Huntwork

G. JAMES HUNTWORK
District Conservationist

Enclosure (Meeting Agenda)

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Central Platte NRD EQIP Local Working Group Meeting

Grand Island, NE

Central Platte NRD Headquarters

215 Kaufman Ave.

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

9:30 AM

- **LWG Responsibilities** **9:30 AM – 9:45 AM**

- **Public Forum** **9:45 AM – 10:15 AM**

- **EQIP Application Ranking Pools** **10:15 AM – 10:30 AM**
 - **Primary Resource Concerns (NRD Level Ranking Pools)**
 - Cropland-Soil Erosion
 - Cropland-Excess/Insufficient Water
 - Cropland-Excess/Insufficient Water-IWM
 - Grassland-Degraded Plant Condition
 - Grassland-Livestock Production Limitation
 - **Statewide Ranking Pools**
 - **RCPD Project**
 - **National Initiatives (Ogallala Aquifer Initiative)**

- **EQIP Application H/M/L Priority System** **10:30 AM – 11:00 AM**
 - **Review System for Application designation as High, Medium, or Low Priority**

- **EQIP Application Ranking Systems** **11:00 AM – 11:30 AM**
 - **Review Ranking Factors and Points**

- **Program Practice Payment Schedule** **11:30 AM – 11:45 AM**
 - **Practice Payment Schedule Scenarios**
 - **Practice Payment Schedule Rates**

- **Other** **11:45 AM – 12:00 PM**

February 25, 2016

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

February Report to CPNRD

Effective March 6, 2016, I will begin duties as the Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations (Area Conservationist) in the Central Area for NRCS in Nebraska. My duty station will be located in Grand Island, NE and I will be responsible for providing supervision, direction, and leadership for Area Office Staff and the District Conservationists in the CPNRD, LBNRD, LLNRD, LNNRD, LRNRD, TBNRD, UBBNRD, and UENRD.

There will be a period of transition for leadership of NRCS Field Office operations in the CPNRD, which will include selection of various employees to serve as the Acting District Conservationist for a period of several months. During that time period the position vacancy will be advertised, followed by evaluation and selection of a candidate from the list of eligible and best qualified applicants.

For 18 years it has been my honor and privilege to serve as the NRCS District Conservationist in the CPNRD. I have been most fortunate in having the opportunity to work with the very best NRCS/CPNRD staff and Board of Directors found anywhere in the country. During that time we have accomplished many positive natural resources conservation outcomes. I look forward to the opportunity for building upon those achievements and that relationship in my new role with NRCS in Central Nebraska.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ G. James Huntwork

G. JAMES HUNTWORK
District Conservationist



Denise McGovern-Gallagher, executive director of Grand Island Area Clean Community System, stands between shelves of recycled paint and paint solvents Thursday at the agency's collection facility.

Local facility has banner year in hazardous waste collection

Clean Community System seeing that useful items such as paint find new homes

By Tracy Overstreet

The Grand Island Area Clean Community System has reopened its household hazardous waste collection center, and it's taking in a lot more than paint and pesticides. "Those 4-foot fluorescent tubes, the 8-foot tubes and even those curly (compact fluorescent) bulbs you'd use in your lamps all need to come out here, not in the trash," said Denise McGovern-Gallagher, Clean Community System's executive director. "They have mercury in them."

The Grand Island Area Clean Community System is supported by grants including grants from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and the Nebraska Department of Transportation for disposal of household hazardous waste there is free.

The agency reopened its household hazardous waste collection facility in September 2014 and doubled the size of the Swap Shop in September 2015 for collected items that are still able to use.

It led to what McGovern-Gallagher called a banner year. "For the year, our facility accepted 45,000 pounds of household hazardous waste and 14,700 pounds of electronics," she said.

That's second only to 2008, when 60,000 pounds of household hazardous waste was collected over the entire year.

Latex paint is the most common household hazardous waste brought to the center, McGovern-Gallagher estimated that about 80 percent of it is reusable and goes onto the Swap Shop shelves, where anyone who asks the product can pick it up at no cost.

"We open each can... if it's not so good, then we try and recycle it with our paint recycling machine, and then that paint goes into a 55-gallon drum, and we ship it off," she said.

"By law cans of latex cannot be cleaned with household garbage. A unit can must be empty or all the lint dried from the can, prior to disposal," she said. Homeowners can



Andre Nave, a household hazardous waste technician, demonstrates how a paint recycling machine operates at the Grand Island Area Clean Community System facility.



Fluorescent lamps fill an upright container at the Clean Community System facility. There is also a small container for small items containing mercury.

dry out their own latex paint by adding kitty litter or concrete to the can, but bringing the unwanted paint to the Clean Community System is best because then the paint container can also be recycled, as long as it's metal.

Oil-paint tubs no longer, usable is placed in flammable cabinets at the Clean Community System and then shipped off for proper destruction, McGovern-Gallagher said.

Other items that come into the Clean Community System that are popular on the Swap Shop shelves include spray paint, automotive waxes, air tools, antifreeze and rag shampoo.

As spring gets closer, the Swap Shop's garden section will see more use with patrons coming to get insect sprays, fertilizers and other lawn products, McGovern-Gallagher said. More than 200 Swap Shop patrons

IF YOU GO
Grand Island Area Clean Community System
Address: 2651 N. Sky Park Road, (26)
Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays; 8 a.m. to noon on the first and third Saturdays of each month. Call ahead by appointment.
Phone: (308) 385-5995
Online: www.cleancommunity.org

removed 1,700 pounds of products last year.

The rest of the household hazardous waste that came into the facility was handled by professional hazardous waste disposal companies in quarterly collections. The last one removed 8,800 pounds of household hazardous waste, McGovern-Gallagher said.

She estimated that the number of waste pickups will increase to six or seven for 2016.

The center serves residents of Hall, Adams, Merrick, Hamilton and Howard counties. The three-member staff focuses on keeping hazardous household waste out of the landfill and educating the public about recycling and keeping the environment picked up.

"We highly encourage reduce, reuse and recycle," McGovern-Gallagher said.

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
 Cost Share
 February 25, 2016

NEBRASKA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	2,475.00
Daniel R Baker – Underground Pipeline – Merrick	\$	2,475.00
GRAZING DEFERMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	15,810.00
Larsen Land & Livestock Inc. – Dawson	\$	3,495.00
Wade Kloepping – Dawson		327.00
Cheryl Maurer – Dawson		11,988.00
CENTER PIVOT INCENTIVE COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	7,500.00
James Reeves – Merrick	\$	7,500.00
TREE PLANTING COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	4,156.65
Mamot Land & Cattle – Howard	\$	748.40
Wayne Hubbard – Dawson		2,508.65
Sheldon Bartruff – Dawson		899.60
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	1,500.00
Martin Hargens – Hall	\$	750.00
Steven G & Barry J Pfister Bros. – Dawson		750.00
Total	\$	31,441.65

