



January 24, 2019

NEWS RELEASE

Central Platte NRD Appoints Bohn to Sub-District 4

(GRAND ISLAND, NE) – Lon Bohn, Gibbon, was appointed to Sub-District 4 on the Central Platte Natural Resources District board of directors at their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday. Since Bohn was appointed, he will serve a two-year term and would be required to file for a four-year term in 2020. Sub-District 4 includes a portion of East Central Buffalo County including part of Northeast Kearney and a portion of Northwest Hall County. Bohn takes the seat of Bob Schanou, Shelton, who did not refile.

Other action items and updates on the agenda:

-Board Officer Election The board re-elected Jim Bendfeldt as chairman, and Mick Reynolds as vice-chairman for another two-year term. Board officers may serve two, two-year terms.

-Committee Selection Board members selected the committees that they plan to serve on this year. The following committee chairmen were selected: Jerry Milner, Water Quality; Jay Richeson, Water Quantity; Ed Stoltenberg, Eastern Projects; Marvion Reichert Jr, Western Projects; Keith Ostermeier, Programs.

-2018 Violation Report Luke Zakrzewski, GIS image analyst, reported that 32 violation letters will be mailed next week due to Irrigation of land that has not been certified or approved through a transfer. Violators must contact the NRD by February 28th, 2019, to resolve the violations. If the land continues to be irrigated without certifying the acres in question, a Cease & Desist Order will be issued and violators could face action in District Court with potential penalties of **\$1,000.00** to **\$5,000.00** per day of violation.

-Cost-Share 15 applications were approved through the Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation and the Central Platte NRD cost-share programs in the amount of \$36,464.79. Practices approved were center pivot incentive, tree planting, grazing deferment, capacitance probe, burn preparation, and well decommissioning.

-Natural Resources Conservation Service Joe Krolikowski, district liaison, reported that Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) offices across the state are still open for business during the lapse in Government funding due to a combination of funds from the appropriations prior to December 22, 2018, and mandatory program funds from the signing of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 to cover continuing operations and service to our customers.

-New Employees Lyndon Vogt, general manager, reported that Krystal Bialas and Ellie Nugent were hired for habitat specialist positions and Michelle Steffen was hired for the easement administrative specialist. Through an agreement with the Nebraska Community Foundation the NRD will be reimbursed quarterly for the 3-year positions. Bialas, Nugent, and Steffen will be located in the USDA Service Center in Grand Island, NE.

-Water Programs Updates The Central Platte Natural Resources District (CPNRD) is hosting the following Water Conferences:

- **Tuesday, March 12– Amherst Community Center, 110 N. Main Street**
- **Thursday, March 14– Buffalo County Ext. Building, 1400 E 34th Street (south side of fairgrounds)**

Both meetings will run from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

The morning update will address groundwater decline concerns in Sub-Area 9 of the NRD's Groundwater Management Program. The afternoon session will cover CPNRD and UNL activities.

This meeting is an opportunity for area irrigators to visit with the NRD about your concerns and thoughts for management of the aquifer. Your attendance and participation in these discussions concerning future groundwater management options are requested.

A current groundwater level map can be found at: cpnrd.org/groundwater-quantity. Maps of the area with detailed groundwater and geologic information will be available for review.

CREDITS AVAILABLE:

- Attendance will replace the requirement to take the Nitrogen Management Certification Test for CPNRD's Groundwater Quality Management Program.
- Continuing Education Credits (4 credits) have been applied for through the Water Well Standards/NHHS for professional Water Well Contractors License.

To assure an accurate lunch count please RSVP to CPNRD by March 7th at (308) 385-6282 or email: lee@cpnrd.org

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