

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Board Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Mick Reynolds 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. 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:

Todd Arends	Charles Maser	Ed Stoltenberg
Tom Downey	Jerry Milner	Deb VanMatre
Ryan Kegley	Barry Obermiller	Kevin Werner
Brian Keiser	Mick Reynolds	Jerry Wiese
Ed Kyes	Jay Richeson	Mike Wilkens
Dwayne Margritz	Steve Sheen	

Excused Absences: Keith Ostermeier, Doug Reeves and Marvion Reichert

Unexcused Absences: Lon Bohn

Staff present: Lyndon Vogt – General Manager, Kelly Cole – Administrative Assistant, Marcia Lee – Information/Education Specialist, Courtney Widup – Water Resources Technician, Jesse Mintken – Assistant Manager, Brandi Flyr – Hydrologist, Brody Vorderstrasse – Communications Assistant, and Nelson Winkel – Prescribed Fire Planning Specialist.

Others present: Joe Krolkowski – NRCS District Conservationist, Janelle Taubenheim – Buffalo Co. NRCS Resource Conservationist, Jake Klabenes and Tristan Junker – Core CPA's.

MEETING NOTICES: Chairman Reynolds 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: Deb VanMatre made the motion to approve the September board meeting minutes. Kevin Werner seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Brian Keiser, Barry Obermiller, Steve Sheen, Jerry Wiese and Mike Wilkens who abstained. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

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

PUBLIC FORUM: Chairman Reynolds asked if anyone wanted to address the board on

any item not included on the agenda. There was none.

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Chairman Reynolds reported that Keith Ostermeier, Doug Reeves and Marvion Reichert requested to be excused from the board meeting.

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

2023/2024 AUDIT: Jake Klabenes, Core CPA's Audit Director, reviewed the audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. 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 2023/2024 audit. Ryan Kegley seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

NRCS REPORT: Janelle Taubenheim, Buffalo County NRCS Resources Conservationist, reported on contracts for Buffalo and Sherman County for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (see attached).

Joe Krolkowski, NRCS District Conservationist, gave a summary of CSP programs throughout the CPNRD for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (see attached).

EASTERN PROJECTS: Jerry Milner, chairman, reported that the committee met earlier today.

Milner reported that the committee reviewed two alternative routes for the Platte Valley Industrial Park Drainage project. After some discussion the committee recommended moving forward with Option #1, but also looking at any additional alternatives.

Jerry Milner made a motion to move forward with Option #1, the initial route, for the Platte Valley Industrial Park Drainage project. Staff will continue to review any additional alternatives. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Todd Arends who voted no. Motion Carried.

WESTERN PROJECTS: Ryan Kegley, chairman, reported that the committee met earlier today.

Kegley reported that the committee reviewed Amendment #2 for the Spring/Buffalo Creek WFPO. Amendment #2 was for the additional work done for a wetland delineation and preliminary draft watershed plan in the amount of \$58,555. Amendment

#2 will be 100% covered by CPNRD as the NRCS is out of funds for this project.

Ryan Kegley made a motion to approve the Spring/Buffalo Creek WFPO Amendment #2 in the amount of \$58,555, which will be paid 100% by CPNRD. Brian Keiser 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 and was given an update on the progress. A video on the progress was shown to the board.

NeDNR – NiRIA AGREEMENT: Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reviewed an agreement with the NE Department of Natural Resources for the new Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Program. This program will pay producers who verify through approved documentation that nitrogen commercial fertilizer rates were reduced by the lesser of forty pounds per acre or fifteen percent. The agreement with NeDNR will reimburse CPNRD for those expenses paid to eligible participants for the Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Program.

Ryan Kegley made a motion to approve the agreement with NeDNR for the Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Program (NiRIA) which allows CPNRD to be reimbursed 100% from NeDNR for expenses paid to eligible participants. Deb VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT: Lyndon Vogt, chairman, reviewed an interlocal agreement with the Nebraska Association of Resources District (NARD). This Interlocal agreement allows CPNRD to purchase our tree and shrub seedlings each year that NARD purchases from Bessey Nursery.

Charles Maser made a motion to approve the Tree & Shrub Seedling Interlocal Agreement to purchase trees from Bessey Nursery through NARD. Mike Wilkens seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT: No report this month.

2024 LONG RANGE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN: Marcia Lee, Information/Education Specialist, reported that the proposed 2024-2029 Long Range Implementation Plan is on Dropbox. There were a few minor changes made. She requested approval to send the Long Range Implementation Plan onto The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.

Kevin Werner made the motion to approve the 2024-2029 Long Range Implementation Plan as presented and send it to The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources. Jay

Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Transfer & Applications - Kelly Cole, Administrative Assistant, requested a transfer of \$1,025 from Grazing Deferment and increasing Burn Preparation and reported that we have received cost share applications for the following programs: Center Pivot, Burn Preparation, Cover Crop and Well Decommissioning (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.

Jay Richeson made the motion to approve the cost share transfer and applications as reported. Deb VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor except Ed Stoltenberg who abstained. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Lyndon Vogt, General Manager, reviewed the October financial report.

Tom Downey made a motion to approve the October Financial report as presented. Ryan Kegley seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICT: No Report.

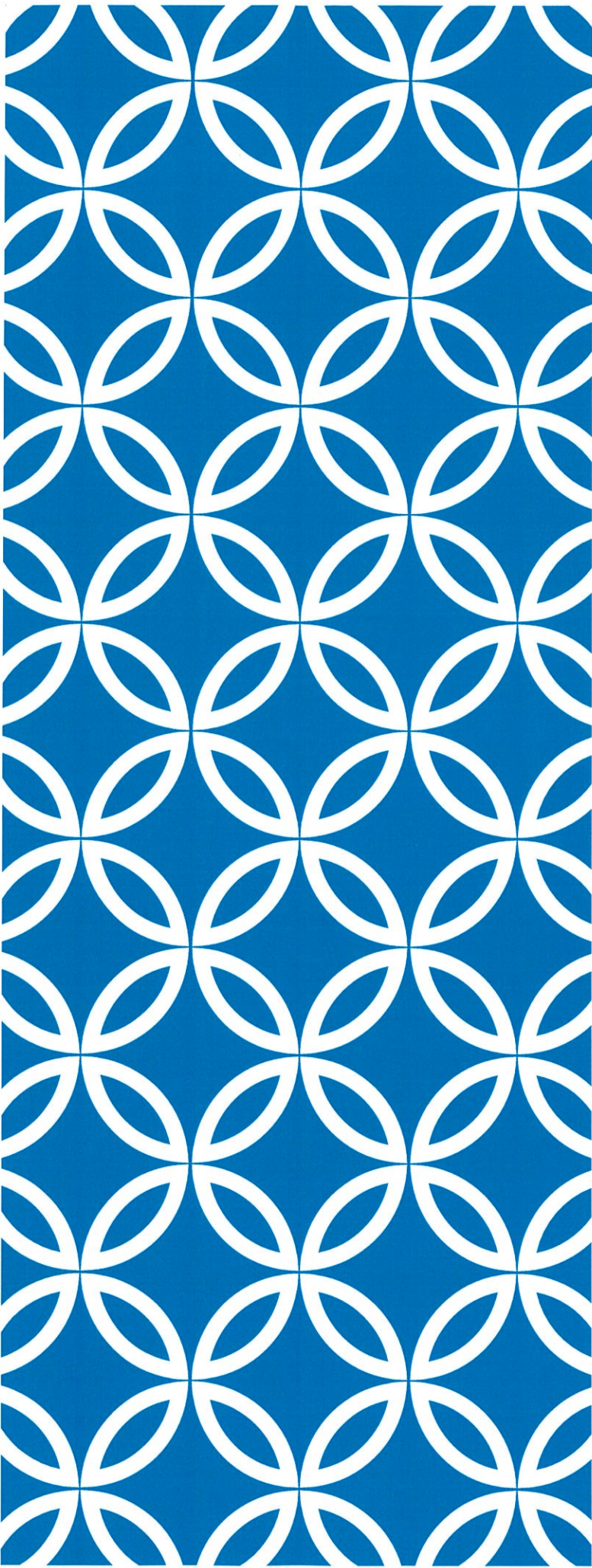
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION: Mick Reynolds, Middle Platte Basin Representative, reported that the Commission will hold a caucus in January to fill the Middle Platte Basin Representative seat, Reynolds will not refile for the seat.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Chairman Reynolds reviewed the upcoming events.

Next Board Meeting – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, November 21. Details to follow.

OTHER BUSINESS: Chairman Reynolds reported that he will appoint a nominating committee next month to fill the Chair and Vice-Chair positions on the board. Reynolds has served his two consecutive, two-year terms as Chair and Wiese, who is serving as Vice-Chair did not refile for the board of directors.

ADJOURN: Chairman Reynolds adjourned the board meeting at 2:45 p.m.



KEARNEY FO UPDATE

October 2024

KEARNEY FO EQIP FUNDED APPLICATION

- 24 New Contracts: 1,209,910.13

- SDI: 5 Contracts (\$574,263.45)
- Brush Mgt: 3 Contracts (\$45,125)
- IWM & Cover Crops: 1 contract (\$10,994)
- Livestock System: 8 Contracts (\$289,097.68)
- Cover Crop and Nutrient Management : 2 Contracts (\$107,655)
- Irrigated Pasture: 1 Contract (59,664)
- Range Planting: 1 Contract (\$23,748)
- Small Scale Urban Ag: 1 Contract (\$23890)

RCPP FUNDED APPLICATIONS

8 Total Contracts: \$285,937

1966- Cover Crop

- 5 Contracts Funded (\$100,305)

2271 - Irrigation

- 1 Pivot Contract (\$153,751)

- 2 Irrigated to Dryland (\$31,881)

CSP FUNDED APPLICATIONS

- 5 New CSP Contracts (\$424,037)
- 2 New CSP GCI Contracts (\$7,745)

CRP

- 4 New General CRP
- 1 New Grassland CRP

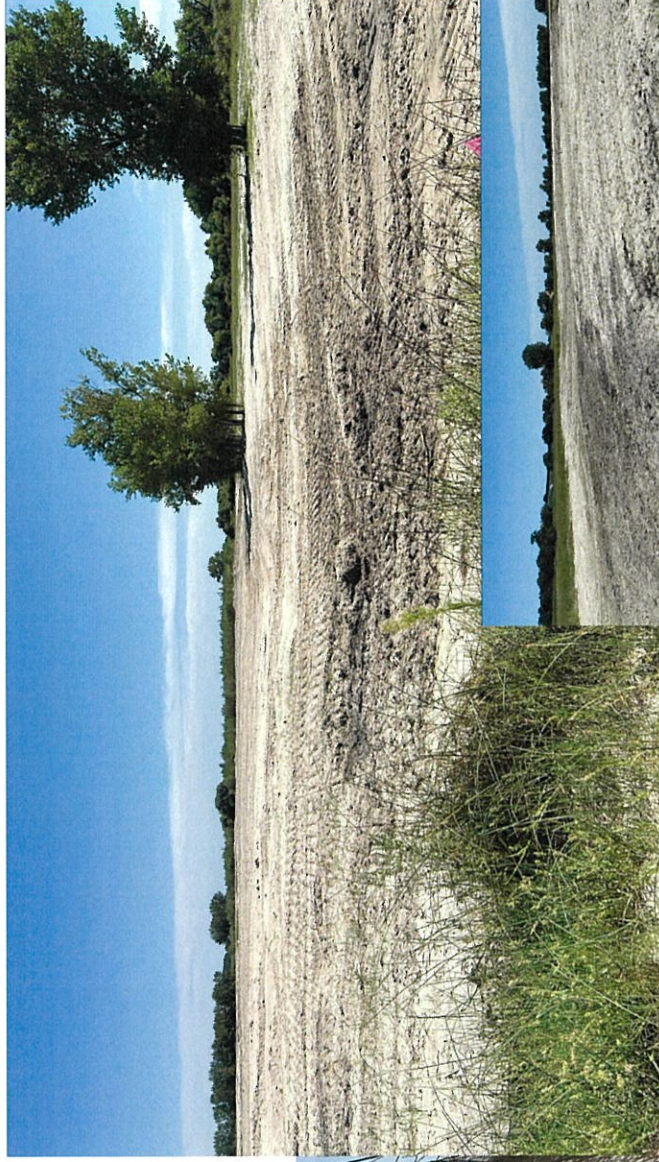
CPNRD & LLNRD FUNDED APPLICATIONS

- 18 Funded and Completed
 - 2 Range Planting, 1 Flow Meter, 3 Brush Management, 10 Windbreak, 2 Grazing Systems
- 6 Funded and Waiting for Work to Be Completed
 - 2 Irrigation, 3 brush management, 1 waterway

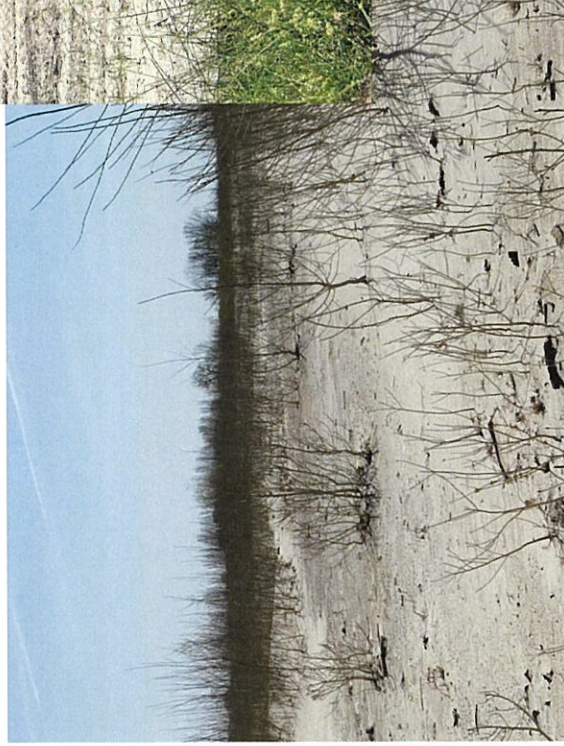
APPLICATIONS GOING INTO FY 2025

11 Brush Management	1 Range Planting
1 Written Burn Plan	15 SDI
10 Cover Crops	2 SSUA
1 Dryland	4 IWM & Nutrient Mgt
12 Grazing Systems	1 Nutrient Mgt
2 HEL Structure	1 Wetland Restoration
14 Pivots	
	TOTAL: 75 – Application Deadline Mid November

PROJECT UPDATE



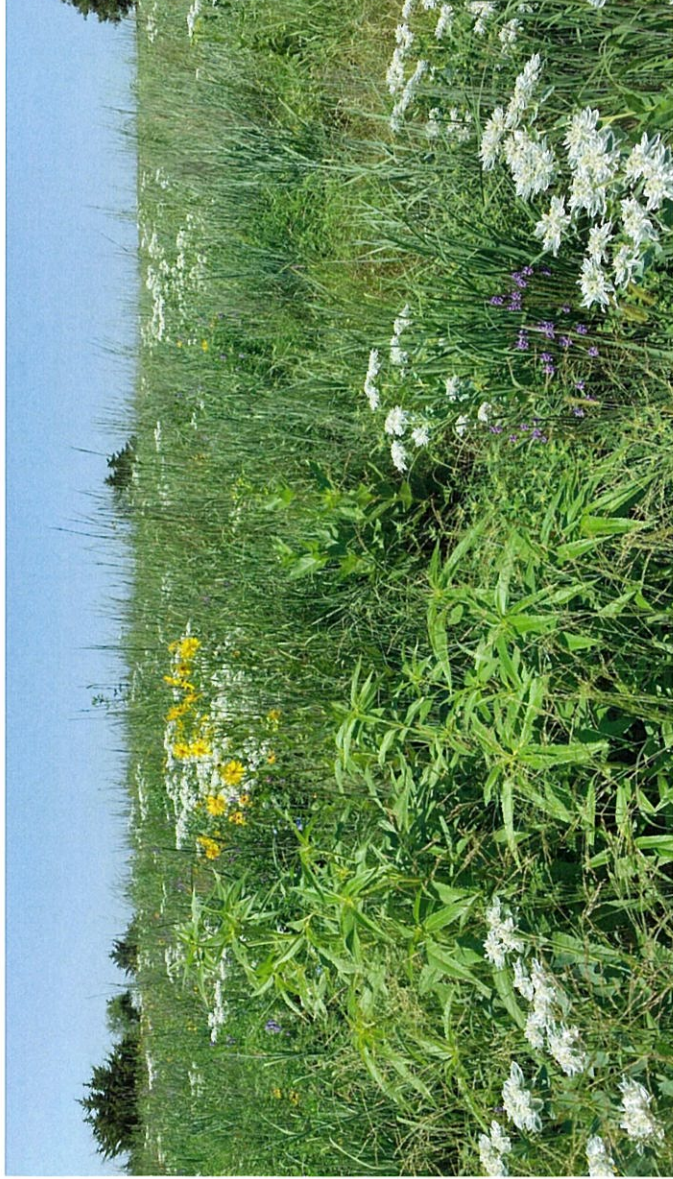
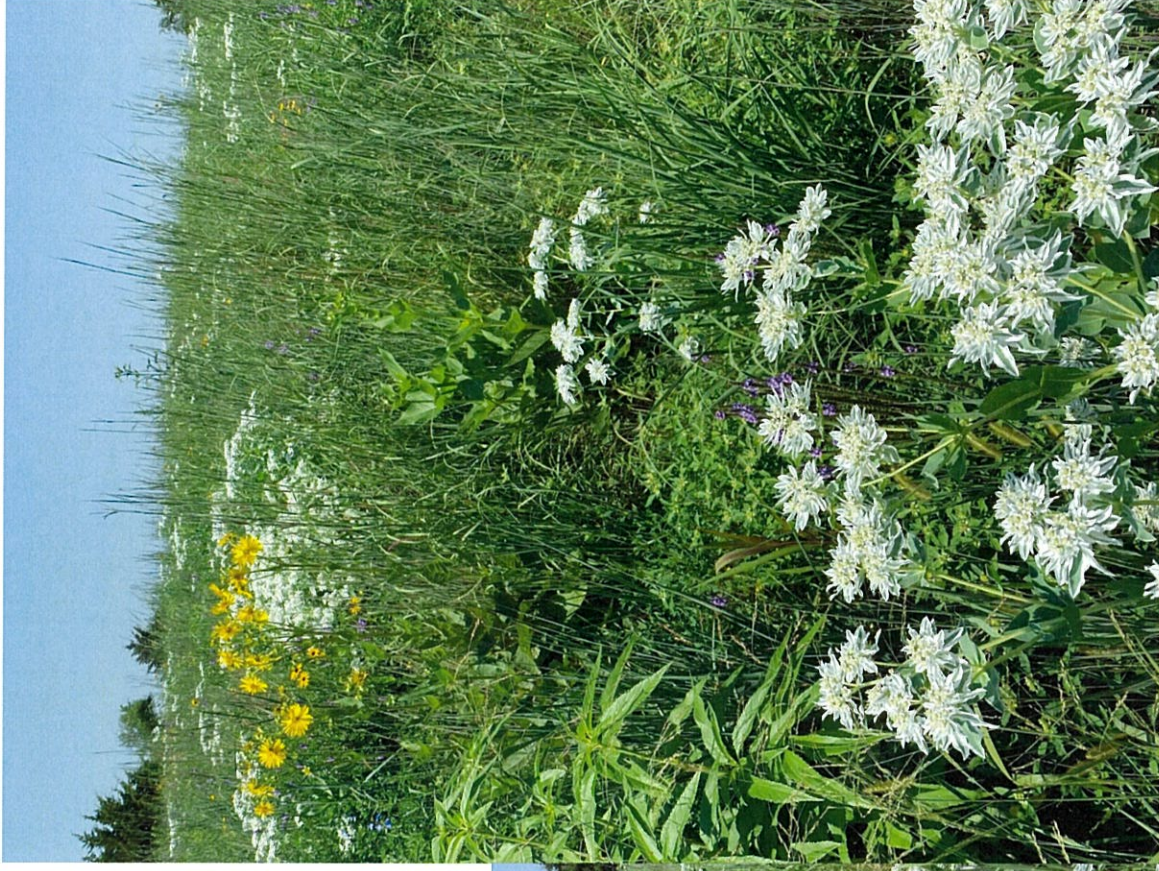
After Land Clearing
and restoration.
Next: Cover Crop
then grass seeding



Before Restoration



CSP — POLLINATOR SUCCESS



October 21, 2024

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

October Report to CPNRD

The NRCS is currently working on the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) contract renewals. These are existing contracts held by producers throughout the CPNRD and state that have the option to renew their contract for another 5 years, or let it expire and then possibly reapply at a later date. The Conservation Stewardship Program helps you build on your existing conservation efforts while strengthening your operation. Whether you are looking to improve grazing conditions, increase crop yields, or develop wildlife habitat, we can work together to custom design a CSP plan to help you meet those goals.

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

If you are interested in the CSP Program, and have never applied before, remember applications are accepted all throughout the year for this program. Each year specific deadlines are set for ranking and funding opportunities. The next application deadline for funding consideration is **November 15, 2024**. If you are interested, you should contact your local NRCS field office for more information.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist



Transfer \$1,025 from Grazing Deferment to Burn Preparation

**CENTRAL PLATTE NRD
Cost Share
Thursday, October 24, 2024**

CENTER PIVOT INCENTIVE COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$ 15,000.00
Thies Farms Central LLC – Merrick	\$ 7,500.00	
Alvin Kowalski III – Merrick	7,500.00	
BURN PREPARATION COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$ 50,000.00
South Camp Cattle Co, LLC – Frontier	\$ 10,000.00	
Scott Nielsen – Frontier	10,000.00	
William Muller – Buffalo	10,000.00	
Leilani Acres, LLC – Hall	10,000.00	
The Kent W Hueftle Rev Trust – Dawson	10,000.00	
COVER CROP COST SHARE PROGRAM		\$ 6,000.00
Rathman Farms Inc. – Hall	\$ 2,000.00	
Sara Dexter – Merrick	2,000.00	
Aaron Schott – Polk	2,000.00	
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM.....		\$ 750.00
Arthur Runge - Polk	\$ 750.00	
TOTAL		\$ 71,750.00