

Operations & Education Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 31, 2018 8:30 AM
Lower Platte North NRD Office
P.O. Box 126
Wahoo, NE 68066

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing to take action.

2. WILD NE/CREP REPORT

Nothing to report on either program.

3. OPERATION & MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS

The O & M crew has been burning tree piles, removing snow, keeping up with the restrooms at the recreation areas, servicing vehicles and equipment and completed tree removal on the Clear Creek Levee at Thomas Lakes.

3.A. Lake Wanahoo Lake Level Panel

At LPNNRD's January 8, 2017, Board Meeting, a motion was passed to discontinue regularly scheduled Panel meetings until a future need arises. Future Lake Wanahoo business, including discussions with USACE and NGPC regarding Operation and Maintenance of Wanahoo lake levels will continue to be handled primarily through regular scheduled LPNNRD Operation, Education and Rural Water Committee meetings. The previous Lake Level Panel minutes are attached.

3.B. Lake Wanahoo SRA

NRD staff is assisting G & P in keeping the restrooms clean and supplied. At times there may be a hundred vehicles and more people than vehicles at Lake Wanahoo ice fishing.

3.C. Platte River Floodplain Mapping

On Tuesday, January 16, 2018 FYRA Engineering organized and held a Platte River Flood Plain Mapping update meeting held in Fremont. Invitees were Dept. of Natural Resources (NeDNR) Katie Ringland and Jamie Reinke, Dodge County, City of Fremont, Inglewood and Lower Platte North NRD.

Katie Ringland gave a presentation on NeDNR Flood Plain Management responsibilities, the processes of mapping, funding and requirements required of FEMA. She also explained the Hydrologic Study that the Corps of Engineers organization "Silver Jackets" is currently doing. FYRA presented how they can also do Hydrology and Hydraulic Studies from Columbus to the Hwy 75 Bridge as they have done for the Papio Missouri NRD on the Missouri River and the lower Platte River from Ashland to the mouth. Their current completed study has been

accepted by FEMA and the COE. FYRA said that they can potentially complete the studies well before NeDNR and the Silver Jackets. The cost is around \$877,000 which incorporates Lower Loup and Papio-Missouri NRD's.

Options:

(1) NeDNR has proposed mapping in these watersheds in their current FEMA mapping partner business plan. The leverage data provided by the Silver Jacket's Hydrology Study (Draft 2018) will likely move the anticipated project start date to October 2020. If the local entities (Cities, Counties, NRD's) are interested in Silver Jackets proposing a Hydraulic Study for the area, they can send a support/request letter to the Nebraska Silver Jackets for the funding cycle starting in late 2018. If hydraulics is not secured through another means, it will be funded as part of the FEMA project. Flood plain mapping will also be funded as part of the FEMA project. This process generally takes 5.5 to 6 years, meaning an earliest effective date of December 2025. We, the partners, will not burden any cost. At our South Fremont Study public information meeting at Christensen Field, we did not have any complaints regarding flood insurance premiums from the public.

(2) Hire a private consultant such as FYRA Engineering to do the Hydrology and Hydraulics Studies on the Platte River plus tributaries from Columbus to Hwy 75 at a price estimated at \$877,000. FEMA would also have to approve methods in these studies. Then the mapping may be an additional cost if we have the consultant do that phase. Or have NeDNR do the mapping at no cost as part of the watershed project mentioned above. At this point there is no guarantee the mapping would be expedited. We may gain 2-3 years but that is unknown as federal funding also plays a role each year in all the processes. We would have to designate a sponsor, in which they would have to organize all entities (Cities, Counties, NRD's) for the entire river stretch and have them agree to cost and inter-local agreements, figure percentages of cost to each entity, etc. or have the consultant do the organization at an additional cost.

Verbally, City of Fremont and Dodge County representatives have said they would opt for Option 1.

3.D. Advertise for Haying

Staff would like to start advertising in February or March the recommended NRD properties for haying. We would accept bids on a per ton basis. The bid winner would have the opportunity to fertilize any cool season grasses (if available) during the Spring or early Summer. We would advertise locally and send out notices to past interested parties.

3.E. Recreation Area Revenues

The Committee had discussion on how the District could utilize revenues such as hay, dirt sales and camping fees (Czechland). The Committee suggest taking hay, dirt & camping revenues and putting it into an earmarked sinking fund for future maintenance/improvements on our recreation areas. The sinking fund could come in handy for future improvements/maintenance required on the Wanahoo Wetlands and any other areas in need of improvement.

This past year the revenues were; Czechland hay \$4,556, Wanahoo hay \$6,810, Czechland RV camping \$7,800 and dirt \$9,008, which totals \$28,174. A portion of the Wanahoo hay revenue is reimbursed or credited to Nebraska Dept. of Natural Resources.

3.F. Tractor Rental (Seasonal)

For the past two years we have rented a John Deere tractor from Platte Valley for \$3,500/year. The tractors are large, JD 8235R and 8245R, which are 235-245 horsepower tractors. This past season we had to change how we hook it to our shredder, a shredder we purchased from Platte Valley. We had problems with breaking the clevis in which we had to purchase. Heimann has asked Platte Valley for a smaller tractor and not to have to change how we originally hook up to our shredder. We are told that we cannot get a smaller tractor. Heimann contacted Dinkel Implement of Norfolk, of which, use to have the State Contract. The District used that State Contract from 2010 -2014. They will rent the District a smaller tractor, 125-150 PTO HP at \$25/hr at a minimum of 125 hours which equals \$3,125.

3.G. Wanahoo Dirt/Sand Sales

To date the District has received \$220,153 from M.E. Collins for dirt and sand sold from the Wanahoo property off of County Road P. This contract dates back to June, 2012. M.E. Collins would like to continue using the borrow site and renew a contract for a certain number of years. Jerry Kabourek of M.E. Collins was present to explain their request. Attached are photo's of the site, a Google Earth aerial, proposed agreement by M.E. Collins and a edited agreement by legal counsel.

3.H. Grass Drill Rental

The District received \$1,948.08 from Rezac Seed for grass drill rental from July to December, 2017. There was \$11.08 taken out for repairs.

We have not received information from the Schuyler Coop or Rosendahl Seed and Feed in Platte County.

3.I. Trailers to Sell

The District has received the new triple axle dump trailer. We now have our 2012 14' dump trailer to sell, the District purchased it for \$6,900. A sale price range has not been determined. See attached photo.

We also have a 2014, 24' enclosed cargo trailer we could sell, that the District purchased in late 2013 for \$8,800. The trailer was designated as a safety trailer. It was storing 20' siphoning pipe and some other equipment. It has always been stored in the shed and never pulled down the road. Staff would recommend selling this trailer for the lack of use. See attached photo.

3.J. New Vehicle Purchase

The District has \$28,000 budgeted for the purchase of a new vehicle. We have purchased vehicles off of the State of Nebraska Contracts in past years. We generally sell our oldest or highest mileage vehicle after we receive the new vehicle. The vehicle to be replaced is predominately use by the Water Department. Find attached an inventory list of the District's current vehicles and a list of current vehicles listed on the State Contract.

4. ROCK AND JETTY

The North Bend Levee work has not been inspected because of weather.

5. EROSION & SEDIMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

6. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

6.A. Information

6.A.1. Radio & eAds

The February KTIC Radio Ad and Wahoo Newspaper eAd will promote the lawn care workshops, "Five Steps to a Beautiful Lawn". The LPNNRD Water Department and Nebraska Extension will host a workshop on March 1st at the Dodge Extension Office at 6:30 pm and a second workshop on March 13th at Union Bank at 6:30 pm.

6.A.2. Viaduct

The 2018 winter edition of the Viaduct has been sent to Suburban Newspapers for printing and distribution. It will be sent to area newspapers in the district for distribution in mid-February. Distribution is planned for the following newspapers: Fremont Tribune/Shopper, David City Banner Press, Schuyler Sun, Columbus Telegram/Area Choice, Albion News, Newman Grove Reporter, Humphrey Democrat, Wahoo Newspaper, North Bend Eagle, and the Ashland Gazette.

6.B. Education

6.B.1. John Hannah Instruction

John did a great job with the 4th and 5th grade class at District 24. Insects were the topic of interest for an hour. John even bought his collection for the kids to admire as shown in the picture. Great job John!!!

6.B.2. Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Program Scholarship

The first semester transcripts have been received from the 2017 scholarship winner, Hannah Haase. Hannah has met all scholarship requirements, and the \$1,000 scholarship award has been mailed to her.

6.B.3. Envirothon 2020

LPNNRD has received and paid the invoice from NARD for the first-year sponsorship of the 2020 National Envirothon for \$4,245.

6.C. Computer

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

7.A. Colon System

7.B. Bruno System

7.C. Other

8. Adjournment