

Projects Committee Meeting
Thursday, December 3, 2020 7:30 AM
Lower Platte North NRD Office
P.O. Box 126
Wahoo, NE 68066

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business to discuss.

2. SWCP

2.A. SWCP Application Approvals

None.

2.B. SWCP Payments

None

2.C. SWCP Cancellations

None

2.D. Wahoo Creek Cost Share Approvals

None

3. WATERSHEDS

3.A. Shell Creek

3.A.1. Shell Creek Environmental Enhancement Plan Implementation

3.A.1.a. Tom Sprunk Bank Stabilization/Wetlands Project

Construction activities are underway with the possibility for a December completion, weather permitting.

3.A.1.b. Shell Creek Grant Funding Update

No new information.

3.A.1.c. Shell Creek Practice Cost-Share Applications

Allan Zimmerman: Sec 19-18-3E: Solar Well and Livestock tanks - \$12,598.32
Reece Klug: Septic System upgrade: \$4,800.00

3.A.1.d. Shell Creek Environmental Enhancement Plan Payment

Jerry Korte - Septic System Upgrade - \$4,800.00

3.A.1.e. Shell Creek Bank Channel Improvement/Benching Project Update

Director Bailey reported that Pruss Construction has finished with channel improvements and benching north of the U.P. Railroad Bridge at Colfax county road 15 and is moving toward completing the channel/benching project south of the bridge. The U.P. is beginning activities to replace their railroad bridge at this location and plans to have the entire replacement complete by April, 2021. While LPNNRD is not directly involved with U.P.'s replacement of their bridge on county road 14, that project should be completed the week of December 7 - 11.

3.B. Wahoo Creek Watershed

3.B.1. Wahoo Creek Dam Site Planning Update & FYRA Invoices

Attached is FYRA's \$4,596.25 invoice for contracted economics work for the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan. After this payment, \$73,341.75 will remain under contract.

There was a cultural resource dam site 83 revisit with NRCS and Indian tribe representatives on December 2, but this was canceled due to illness of tribe representatives.

3.B.2. Wahoo Creek Watershed Water Quality Plan Phase II

No new information.

3.B.3. Olsson Design Update and Invoice

No new information or invoice at this time.

4. JOINT WATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD

We continue to assist Fremont, Dodge County and other partners with various grant applications. We also learned from NRCS that Dodge County received a \$745,000 Watershed Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) federal grant for completing a watershed study to analyze flood reduction opportunities for the Rawhide Creek Drainage, Dodge County. While Dodge County is the leading entity for completing this plan, LPNNRD will be closely assisting with this effort. Attached is a summary of the status other grant applications.

5. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

As reported earlier, our District-wide Hazard Mitigation Plan has been approved by NEMA/FEMA and JEO continues to round up adoption resolutions from participating plan

entities. To date, 41 of 55 have approved formal resolutions and JEO will continue to follow-up with the remaining 14 to get this completed (attachment).

6. EROSION AND SEDIMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

No new information.

7. OTHER

7.A. LPNNRD Reservoir Water Use Request (attachment)

As attached, Steven Case, attorney who represents Keystone XL pipeline, is exploring water sources for the pipeline establishment through Butler County in 2021. One source they are looking at is water from one of our Bellwood Watershed Flood Reduction dams. Since LPNNRD holds the surface water rights impounded by the 13 Bellwood watershed dams, he is asking if we would consider allowing them to pump an estimated 10.7 million gallons for hydrotesting pipes (checking for leaks) and for dust control from Bellwood dam 5H. This is the first third party request to pump water from one of our reservoirs and the first for industrial purposes. While LPNNRD holds the surface water rights for our dams, it was discussed that we would need to be very cautious to allow such an activity by a third party without support of all landowners with the permanent pool on their property. Another concern is that Bellwood structure 5H, is 50 years old and much of the available permanent pool has been replaced by sedimentation. About 45 years ago, we allowed one landowner at this dam site to pump from the reservoir for irrigation purposed in the past, but it appears this is no longer occurring. Mr. Case is also exploring working with a landowner to use 8.3 million gallons from an irrigation well in the area that was discussed with the Water Committee.

Mr. Case joined the committee via Zoom to discuss this request and answer questions. The committee will have open discussion at the December 14 Board Meeting and potentially make a decision at that time.

7.B. S.I.D. No. 8. (Woodcliff) Project Assistance Request - 8:15 a.m.

As discussed last month, Sanitary & Improvement District No.8 (Woodcliff) has submitted assistance requests for project repair of their existing bank stabilization project and roadway, and also for a new road raise project at the same location (letter attached). LPNNRD first learned of these projects last month and that construction was nearing completion on portions of the projects. LPNNRD policy requires that assistance requests need approval prior to work being completed.

S.I.D. No. 8's first request is for assistance on the local share for repairing 2019 flood damages to their bank stabilization project. Their letter stated that they are working with FEMA/NEMA to receive up to 87.5% federal/state cost share assistance for damage repairs on the bank stabilization and roadway. Also included in this portion of this effort is additional road protection along an area by their lagoons and emergency protective measures. FEMA/NEMA's estimated contribution is \$822,194 toward the repair, with the SID's

estimated local 12.5% stated as \$137,032.

The S.I.D.'s second request is for \$400,000, which is 50% of an estimated \$800,000 for a road raise flood risk reduction project (engineering and construction). This project is not receiving FEMA/NEMA funding. It was noted that about 75% of this project is complete and scheduled to be finished in the Spring 2021. Project plans, specifications and bid tabulation can be observed at <https://we.tl/t-cwSnCoLVuk>.

Jake Miriovsky, JEO project engineer, and Lonnie Mart, S.I.D. representative, attended the Projects Committee meeting (Zoom) to provide project details and present their assistance requests. JEO's pdf presentation is attached for review. The committee had much discussion about potential cost share amounts that might be considered by LPNNRD, but requested project plans, specifications and bid tabulations that can be reviewed for open discussion at the December 14 Board meeting. A potential Board motion may possibly be made at that time.

7.C. LPNNRD Reservoir Water Use Request

As was discussed at the last Project Committee and Board Meeting, Steven Case, attorney who represents Keystone XL pipeline, will again join the Projects Committee Meeting (Zoom) to discuss Keystone's request to pump water from one of the Bellwood Watershed Dam for their pipeline project in 2021. Attached is an email Mountford recently sent to Mr. Case, summing up the situation at hand including questions/comments from staff and Directors. The committee is asked for a recommendation regarding this request.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Projects Committee adjourned at 9:35 a.m.