

Regular Board of Directors Meeting  
Monday, April 12, 2021 6:00 PM  
Lower Platte North NRD Office  
P.O. Box 126  
Wahoo, NE 68066

1. Call to Order

**NOTE: The agenda is on file at the LPNNRD office and may be changed up to 24 hours prior to the meeting as scheduled.**

1.A. Meeting Notice

1.B. Inform Public on Location of Copy of "Open Meeting Act"

1.C. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

2.A. Introductions

3. Approval of Agenda

Are there any additions or corrections to the agenda?

4. Comments - Advisors/Guests

4.A. Guest Comments

4.B. NRCS Report

4.C. NARD Report

4.D. NRC Report

4.E. Managers Report

#### 4.F. Education Program

### 5. Approval of Minutes

Are there any additions or corrections to the Minutes? If not they will be approved on the consent agenda.

### 6. Report of Standing Committees

#### 6.A. Executive Committee - Action as Required

##### 6.A.1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

##### 6.A.2. MEETINGS

###### 6.A.2.a. Pending

###### 6.A.2.b. Reports

##### 6.A.3. MANAGEMENT ITEMS

###### 6.A.3.a. Directors Absence

###### 6.A.3.b. Monthly Education Program

Chris Poole has developed a PDF form for directors to complete their expense forms. Chris or staff would be available to give a quick review and explanation of how to complete this form.

###### 6.A.3.c. HBE360 Contract Renewal

Attached find a proposed engagement letter for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022 and 2023. HBE360 has proposed a minor increase (3%), but as was the case with the last two-year agreement. We can lock in that rate for both years of the engagement rather than our typical annual adjustment. Most other items are similar to previous agreements, as no substantial nature or scope of the work was proposed to be changed.

###### 6.A.3.d. Director iPad Needs

Last month the decision was made to begin reimbursing all directors for use of their

personal computers/notebooks. We now need to see if there is any director who does not own a personal computer so we can procure an ipad or tablet for them.

#### 6.A.3.e. Lake Wanahoo Developments

Discussion regarding potential developments on LPNNRD's Lake Wanahoo Property.

#### 6.A.3.f. LPNNRD Insurance Review

I have checked with 6 neighboring NRDs and it looks like there are two main companies covering those six...Inspro and Harry A. Koch (Cornerstone Insurance Company). Each of the districts I contacted used one of these two companies. I have reached out to LARM to get a definite answer from them whether we will have the option of staying with them and should have an answer by board meeting.

#### 6.A.3.g. 2021 Requirement to Re-District Due to 2020 Census

The final information obtained from the 2020 census is reported to be out and official by August/September. Because we are currently voting "At Large" the district boundaries are not quite as defined as if we were 1:1. We last re-districted in 2020 and it did affect a couple of our sub-district representatives.

### 6.A.4. EQUIPMENT

#### 6.A.4.a. Potential for FEMA Funding with 428 Funds

Chris Poole is looking into the potential of utilizing some of the FEMA 428 funds we have assigned for district equipment. Equipment would need to be purchased to assist with one of our projects damaged during the 2019 flood event. (Clear Creek or Wanahoo)

### 6.A.5. PERSONNEL

### 6.A.6. FINANCE

#### 6.A.6.a. Approval of Financial Reports

Grant will be available via conference call to review the February Financial Statements.

#### 6.A.6.b. Approval of Managers Time and Expense Sheets

Attached find Gottschalk's time and expense sheets.

#### 6.A.6.c. Accounts over 90 Days

#### 6.A.6.d. Dodge County Farm Credit Leasing Service Correction

Information was received from the Dodge County Treasurer to inform us that a tax refund to Dodge County is needed. A tax roll correction was approve for Farm Credit Leasing

Services. Dodge County is requesting \$2,519.20 from the Lower Platte North NRD. The simplest method is to deduct these funds from our next payment from Dodge County. (see attachment)

## 6.B. Operations Committee - Action as Required

### 6.B.1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

We have no unfinished business to attend to.

### 6.B.2. WILD NE AND OTHER PROGRAMS

A prescribed burn for the Wanahoo Wildlife area in Section 15 is planned, weather permitting.

Heimann has reached out to the Big Game Conservation Group and the Wahoo Chapter of Ducks Unlimited asking if they would have some interest in a volunteer day to eradicate trees in certain areas.

Scott Luedtke is exploring grant opportunities for tree removal on the Wanahoo areas.

### 6.B.3. OPERATION & MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS

The O & M crew burned large tree piles at Czechland Lake. Dam inspections after the recent rains. Equipment and vehicle maintenance gearing up for spring/summer. Assisted with a water line leak repair at the dump station. Continue to cut and treat trees on all our areas.

#### 6.B.3.a. Wanahoo Stilling Basin - (FEMA)

Valley Corp ran pumps to see if they could lower the water table enough for drawing down the stilling basin area safely for the welding of the gabion basket brackets. They were not successful enough to lower the water so, they are discussing alternate "B" Gabion Basket Connection (attached) of which will not be required to lower the water level as much. Discussion involves price. The District is monitoring the Lake level an attempting to get it down one foot and when the water isn't blowing over the weir Valley Corp will begin work on the baffles and then filters #1 and #2.

Attached is the third pay application which was sent too late for the previous Board meeting. We should expect pay application #4 before our April Board meeting.

#### 6.B.3.b. Western Sarpy Clear Creek O & M Manuals & Easements

The Clear Creek Levee O & M manual is still under review within the Corps of Engineers and between LPN and LPS NRD's. Staff has forwarded comments to the COE. Heimann will register the Army's easement with the Register of Deeds after Board meeting.

There is also an easement with the State of Nebraska, Dept. of Military, within Camp Ashland that was signed by the State but not by the NRD and it also has not been registered with the Deeds Office. Heimann has requested the State to research this.

#### 6.B.3.c. Conservation Trees

Currently the District has ordered 11,275 trees and of those 5,245 will be planted by the District for 12 cooperators.

#### 6.B.3.d. Haying on Recreational Grounds

Maps have been put together for haying lands at Czechland, Homestead and Lake Wanahoo. See the five attached maps.

We will advertise for three weeks, send packets to interested cooperators and open bids at our next Operations meeting April 29th.

#### 6.B.3.e. Wahoo Creek Watershed Water Quality Plan Phase II (Czechland Lake)

We have been in contact with Mark Mainelli, Saunders County Engineer and acting Road Superintendent about completing the Czechland Lake Shoreline/Road Stabilization Project this summer. Saunders County is securing a 404 permit (attached) and will also contribute all engineering services. The total Project estimate is \$299,103 (attached). The plan is that LPNNRD will provide the rip-rap and fabric (\$231,955) and the County will provide engineering and do the construction work. We plan to use available EPA 319 and NET grant funding to assist with at least 60% of our expense.

#### 6.B.3.f. Nebraska Land Trust

The Nebraska Land Trust is an organization that secures conservation easements on properties throughout the State of Nebraska. The conservation easements protect lands in their natural state preserving them from future development.

David Sands is the administrator of the NE Land Trust and he operates under a Board of Directors (list attached) of many walks of life, agencies and organizations.

Our District can have up to three people listed on the Board with only one of those individuals capable of voting at one time. Since John Hannah was not reelected and was a member of the NE Land Trust, would there be a current board member who would have interest in joining the NE Land Trust Board. Currently Nancy Meyer and Bob Heimann are listed members.

#### 6.B.4. ROCK AND JETTY

Dave Medinger in Butler County did some repair work on jetties last summer in which we assisted and plans to continue.

#### 6.B.5. LAKE WANAHOO

##### 6.B.5.a. Lake Wanahoo Permit Sales

For the month of March, as of 3/31, the District has received \$8,755.00 in annual permit revenue. The year by year comparison table is below.

Calender Year	Permits Sold	Monthly Sales	YTD Toals
2021	537	\$8,755.00	\$33,692.50
2020	324	\$5,357.50	\$27,542.50
2019	259	\$4,455.00	\$29,090.00

6.B.5.b. Lake Wanahoo Camping Revenue

As of 3/31, the District has received \$1,290.50 in camping revenue.

6.B.5.c. Lake Wanahoo Education Building

During the month of March, the building was rented 16 times. 2 NRD meetings, 1 youth event. Revenue for month of December: \$900

6.B.5.d. General Lake Wanahoo Update

Staff has been working on getting the dump station operational after a line break was found below one of the flush out hydrants. Richard Mullen has returned from Arizona and will begin work on 4/1. Gottschalk and Schomer will be reviewing applications for summer Wanahoo Technicians. We only have one returning employee from last year. We are looking to replace the four past employees not returning as well as at least one person for the guard shack. The new trails have been mapped and work will begin at the start of April.

6.B.6. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

6.B.6.a. Information

6.B.6.a.1. Radio & eAds

The KTIC ad and Wahoo Newspaper e-ad from March is attached. The ads promoted our tree sales

6.B.6.a.2. Analytics

**LPNNRD Website:** The same top 5 viewed pages remained the same in March. We continue to receive most of our traffic from internet searches with keywords: lower platte north nrd, lower platte north, lake wanahoo, wanahoo nrd, czechland and others. We are also receiving traffic from outdoornebraska.org, nrdnet.org, visitnebraska.com, wahoo-ashland-waverly.com and other sites. There were 50 clicks to our site from Facebook and 3 from Twitter.

LPNNRD Website	# of Users	Top Pages/views	Viewing Device
<b>February 2021</b>	1,032	Home 708 Lake Wanahoo 480 Forestry 209	Desktop 61.53% Mobile 34.4% Tablet 4.07%

		Downloads 171 Certification Test 144	
<b>March 2021</b>	1,696	Home 1,577 Lake Wanahoo 833 Certification Test 245 Forestry 227 Downloads 225	Desktop 56.81% Mobile 39.78% Tablet 3.42%

**LPNNRD Facebook:** Our top Facebook posts included: docks are back in at Czechland Lake and Lake Wanahoo, press release and information about the new educational series "Coffee, Lakeside"

Facebook	Total Views	Total Reach	Total Engaged Users	Followers
<b>February 2021</b>	1347	1313	37	1217
<b>March 1-28, 2021</b>	3,108	2,843	72	1,192

**LPNNRD Twitter:** Our top posts included information about the first Coffee, Lakeside event; limited availability remaining for tree and shrub orders; docks are back in at Czechland Lake and Lake Wanahoo.

Twitter	Impressions	Engagements	Followers
<b>February 2021</b>	1748	49	
<b>March 1-28, 2021</b>	3311	90	330

As a reminder, please Like and Share our Facebook and Twitter posts if you have an account - this helps us to reach more people!

#### 6.B.6.a.3. Advertising with News Channel Nebraska

Last year we shared the Lake Wanahoo video during the start of the pandemic with News Channel Nebraska and had a great response! This year we have two new videos (Projects video, Operations and Maintenance video) that we would like to share with News Channel Nebraska.

Attached is the coverage map for News Channel Nebraska and it can also be downloaded through streaming devices.

The rates (same as last year) for running the videos are also attached:

News - \$475 per month

Ag - \$400 per month

#### 6.B.6.b. Education

#### 6.B.6.b.1. Education Programs

- The first Coffee, Lakeside is taking place today at 9 o'clock.
- Kyle Arp, EMS captain here in Wahoo, taught safety and first aid to our survival club this month.
- K-6 at Saint Wenceslaus will be coming out to Lake Wanahoo for their field trips in April.
- St. Wenceslaus Pre-K groups will be coming out to Lake Wanahoo for their field trips in April.
- 1st and 3rd graders from Wahoo elementary will be coming out to Lake Wanahoo for their field trips in April and May.
- Spring Conservation Sensation will be taking place May 5th.
- Aaron Ickler, our CEO student, has been in the office learning from different departments.

#### 6.B.6.b.2. Shell Creek Watershed Scholarship Applicant

We received one scholarship applicant this year - Emma Montoya. Her information is attached. She has met the qualifications.

To qualify for the scholarship, applicants must:

- Be a graduating senior at Newman Grove High School or Schuyler Central High School
- Have completed at least one year as a member of the Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Program
- Be enrolled in an accredited two- or four-year college or university
- Plan to pursue a major or course of study relating to science and/or natural resources

#### 6.B.6.b.3. Envirothon

The Nebraska State Envirothon Contest will be held at Lake Wanahoo on April 28th.

The NCF-Envirothon has decided to make the contest virtual in the last week of July. We will not need any volunteers for this.

#### 6.B.7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

DHHS released the 2020 water quality reports for our Colon and Bruno RWDs. Reports will be posted to our website and at local post offices.

Elliott and Benal attended the Nebraska Rural Water Conference in Kearney March 15-16. Both acquired enough hours to renew their Grade 4 water operator licenses. Major topic was the new lead and copper rules going into effect; Colon and Bruno RWDs

shouldn't see any big effects, but many water utilities are going to see significant impacts due to increasing lead restrictions and reporting requirements.

#### 6.B.7.a. Colon System

New water rates take effect with this month's (March) bills.  
JEO submitted a cost estimate (attached) for new development in Colon; the Colon RWD will cover costs of engineering, and DHHS review.  
Meters read, bills in the mail, and routine monthly sampling completed.

#### 6.B.7.b. Bruno System

The new 2" service connection at the Waste Connection Landfill should be completed by 4/2. M.E. Collins has been contracted for the labor.  
Meters read, bills in the mail, and routine monthly sampling completed.

#### 6.B.7.c. Other

### 6.C. Water Committee - Action as Required

#### 6.C.1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

To table flow meter discussion until February Water Committee, so Committee could know if grant funding would be available.

Update: January 22, 2021

The NET Grant submitted by LPN didn't score high enough for it to be on the recommended funding list for 2021.

After agenda item was taken from the table, staff showed the list of projects approved by Nebraska Environmental Trust and how this project scored compared to others.

#### 6.C.2. REGULATORY

##### 6.C.2.a. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

###### 6.C.2.a.1. Well Permit Program

###### 6.C.2.a.2. METOs Equipment

Staff has been working with Derek Brazada from the METOs company on setting up weather stations and water level locations for remote read. Derek attended the Water Committee to explain the information that is shown on these sites. Staff will be installing one site with a conversion kit from the McCrometer Company to do remote reads on a mechanical flow meter.

Attachment shows the cost of this equipment.

#### 6.C.2.a.3. Water Use Reports and Flow Meters

Staff has been in contact with producers/owners on installing a required flow meter by March 26, 2021. All producers has told staff that they are working on installing a flow meter before irrigation. Staff will continue to stay in contact with these individuals and will report to the Committee, if other actions will need to be taken.

Information from 2020 meter reports.

System Type	Avg. Pumped (Acre inches)
Gravity (25)	14.12"
Pivot (877)	5.61"
SDI (4)	5.07"

#### 6.C.2.a.4. Lower Platte River Basin Water Management Plan Coalition (LPRBC)

The technical and management groups have met in the last months reviewing next year budget, yearly IMP reports and contract for analyzing the next 5-year increments. The Coalition Directors meeting will be held April 27 (virtual and in-person) at Lower Loup NRD starting at 11 am. The directors will be voting on the items described. Attached for review is the draft budget and contract along with the submitted LPN V-IMP report. The cost of both of these contracts are \$129,500, which will be part of the Coalition budget.

LPN Water Committee wants to emphasis that recharge need to be accurately represented and after adding extra acres over the last 4 years, water levels have remained relatively unchanged.

#### 6.C.2.a.5. LPNNRD Operator Certification

Updated 3/31/2021 - 8 more producers have passed the online test and 2 others have passed the take-home test.

Class Attendance for 2021:

• Butler County Events Center (Test only)	3
• Schuyler - Oak Ballroom (Test only)	4
• Wanahoo Educ Bldg A.M. (Test only)	4
• Wanahoo Educ Bldg P.M. (presentations)	11
• Columbus - Ag Park (presentations)	30
• Webinar 1	14
• Webinar 2	2
• Online testing	115
• Take Home test	<u>19</u>

Total

202

Of these 17 were "New" (first-timers)

### 6.C.3. GROUND WATER PROGRAMS

#### 6.C.3.a. DECOMMISSIONED WELL PROGRAM

##### 6.C.3.a.1. Well Estimates

3 new wells has been reviewed and approved for decommissioning since the last Committee meeting.

Well Owner	Type of Well	Cost Share Estimate	County
Nick Schmit	Irrigation	\$1,000 (capped limit)	Butler
Kenneth Sousek	Hand-dug	\$1,500 (capped limit)	Saunders
Kenneth Sousek	Domestic	\$437.62	Saunders

##### 6.C.3.a.2. Plugged Wells

# wells have been plugged, reviewed, and ready for cost share payment approval this month.

Well Owner	Type of Well	Cost Share Estimate	County

### 6.C.3.b. LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD GROUND WATER STUDIES

#### 6.C.3.b.1. Phase Area Update

Staff had discussion on demonstration fields for 2021 in the nitrate areas. Some of the ideas were nitrogen modeling software comparison, inhibitors and nitrogen test strips. UNL on-farm research is looking for fields to study these ideas with funding available for participating producers.

Part of the NET Grant is to purchase Field Equipment to test for PH, Dissolved Oxygen, Conductivity and other parameters prior to collecting a water sample. More information is attached, with staff looking at purchasing 3 water sampling meters. The Grant will be paying \$5,500, with the other portion used as NRD match.

Quotes:

Oakton PCD 659 - \$3010.51

Xylem/YSI

ProDSS - \$5,629.00

ProQuatro - \$2,957.00

Hach

HQ2100 - \$2,606.22

HQ4300 - \$3,203.20

Staff explained the differences of each meter with the higher cost due to the dissolve oxygen probe. Dissolve oxygen (DO) helps in determining if an aquifer is anaerobic or aerobic. This information is valuable in determining the movement of contaminants like nitrates, iron and manganese, that will react differently when a certain level of oxygen is present. The equipment staff uses now, does not have a DO probe and is about 10 years old.

Attached is an updated quote for the ProQuatro equipment from YSI Inc. The cost per meter will be \$2878.18 per meter for a total cost of \$8,634.55, plus estimated shipping of \$10.

#### 6.C.3.b.2. NEW MONITORING WELLS

Updated information on the test holes and monitoring wells. UNL/CSD can do the test holes as shown by the schedule below.

Site	CSD Lead	Est. Timing	Est depth (ft)	Reason	Well designs
Richland N (17-2E)	Sue	Late April	180	Elevated NO3-N	~1 week after test hole
Fremont East	Katie	End April-May	320	Base Kd (AEM)	~1 week after test hole
SQS2 (19-1E)	Jesse	Mid-September	250 (+/- 50)	Well Interference???	~1-2 weeks after test hole

As a rough cost estimate UNL is figuring an average of \$12/ft \* 700-800 ft = \$8400 to \$9,600. There is still a balance of \$13,111 in the UNL/LPN Cooperative Agreement that has not been assigned. So UNL could handle funds through this agreement, if preferred. (End date

on the agreement is June 2022.) Attachment showing information on the 3 sites.

Staff is working on obtaining permission from land owners for test holes on the first 2 sites, with the plan to send RFPs on a monitoring well in the Richland Area.

#### 6.C.3.b.3. Phoenix WebGroup

This was the first year that the NRD offered online reporting for meter and nitrogen reports. Staff was overall satisfied on how this process worked with 29% of the water use reports submitted online and 38% of the nitrogen reports. Some of the producers recommended a few changes to make this process easier. Changes for the online site include:

- Producer will have the ability to save a partially-completed form and then finalize it later.
- New Chemigation permit can be applied for online, which then would include some work on the private site.

Private Site changes include

- Enable for staff to assign task from Chemigation page
- Develop a Field CSV to assist in tracking non-reporting
- Chemigation CSV to assist in tracking chemical amounts
- Water Well kits would auto-complete for consistency in reporting.

The total cost of these updates would be \$18,775, which 50 percent is needed as initial deposit - \$9,387.50. The other 50% would be paid in next year's budget. Also attached is a yearly support plan, which the NRD participated with the Silver Plan last year at \$2,500. Staff was anticipating that changes would be needed after the first year of doing online reporting, as \$15,000 was budgeted for this year.

#### 6.C.3.b.4. Cost Share Programs

##### 6.C.3.b.4.A. Cost-share Projects

Does the Water Committee want to consider items to encourage producers to improve their management?

Committee and staff discussed the items shown below, with Mark Walkenhorst from NRCS available for questions. It was explained that the RCPP grant is designed for designated areas, which would emphasize certain practices to solve the identified problems. It was pointed out that some of the most successful programs utilize staff that could work one-on-one with producers. This individual would set up management strategies with producers and then apply for funding to implement the BMPs. Increasing education in the nitrate management areas need to be a priority utilizing all avenues and working with UNMC on the health aspects. Committee discussed the ranking criteria on smaller fields that sometime

can't get funding but still contributes to the problem. The grant should consider doing a few BMPs well, than trying to do many average. Committee and staff will continue to discuss with more detailed information at the next Water Committee Meeting.

Discussion Items:

- Designated Areas within Districts
- SDI and Pivots
- Crop Rotations
- Cover Crops
- Extra Staff to work one-on-one with producers
- Domestic Water Sampling
- Other

Staff has been discussing the possibility of applying for a RCPP grant with some comments from NRCS shown.

SDI - \$740.64/ac. for General Signup. Nitrate Areas (not specific to high nitrate areas) but for source water areas which often include high nitrate areas it is 1058.05/ac. The EQIP - General HU of 1269.66 would apply to Historically Underserved clients (Beginning farmers, etc.). Applications for microirrigation (SDI) must meet the irrigation history for two of five years and must not exceed the 5% threshold of newly irrigated acres on the entire system. An application for microirrigation (SDI) would be considered ineligible even if the applicant is willing to pay for those additional acres (greater than the 5% incidental acres allowed) without cost assistance. Pivot cost-share is \$18.97 per linear feet.

Can the NRD put another \$5,000 - \$10,000 on top of the EQIP payment? To my knowledge "yes". May be a stipulation that the cost share (incentive) cannot exceed 100% of the cost. Will need to get this checked.

Would a product like SoyGreen for soybeans be eligible for cost share to decrease PH to encourage a crop rotation in high nitrate areas? I do not know, it would depend if that product meets NRCS tech guide.

Would there be any incentive for a 3 crop rotation? Yes, we currently have an incentive to encourage a more diverse crop rotation.

With RCPP, we do have flexibilities that EQIP does not. For example, if a project proposes to pay a higher rate than EQIP for established conservation practices, that is OK (as long as defined in the final agreement and is equitable). But it cannot exceed 100% of the cost rate. Please keep in mind that RCPP proposals where the *partner* provides more % of FA (preferably cash) typically score better than those who do not.

LPN collected this information during the process of certifying irrigated acres.

System type	Total Number	Total Acres	Number <20 acres
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Center Pivots	3407	243,249.8	417
Center Pivots with Gravity	901	77,265.61	76
Gravity (Flood)	654	33,465.04	125
Drip Tape (SDI)	21	951.29	6
Towline	70	5,288.353	2

Surface Irrigation - 4,269.19 acres, Commingled Acres of GW and SW - 5,117.56 acres.

#### 6.C.4. SURFACE WATER PROGRAMS

#### 6.C.5. OTHER

##### 6.C.5.a. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

#### 6.D. Projects Committee - Action as Required

##### 6.D.1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business to address.

##### 6.D.2. SWCP

Attached is the 2021 SWCP policy with prior approved Lands For Conservation revision. DNR reallocated returned SWCP funds to each NRD in the amount of \$1,887.51.

##### 6.D.2.a. SWCP Application Approvals

##### 6.D.2.b. SWCP Payments

2  
0- PAID \$  
S- Norm 2,  
9 Lindgren 045.76 TOT

##### 6.D.2.c. SWCP Cancellations

None

##### 6.D.2.d. Wahoo Creek Cost Share Approvals

None

##### 6.D.2.e. 2021 Tree Planting Cost-Share

Attached is the 2021 Tree Cost Share applicant list. There are six separate applicants for a total of 3,354 trees with NRD's 75% cost share totaling \$5,031.

### 6.D.3. WATERSHEDS

#### 6.D.3.a. Shell Creek

##### 6.D.3.a.1. Shell Creek Environmental Enhancement Plan Implementation

No new updates. Last month, JEO was approved to update the Shell Creek Watershed Water Quality Plan and they have started this effort.

##### 6.D.3.a.1.A. Shell Creek Grant Funding Update

No new information to report since last month.

##### 6.D.3.a.2. Shell Creek Environmental Enhancement Plan Payment

Septic System upgrade -

JAMES BROCK (PAID) \$ 4,800.00

#### 6.D.3.b. Wahoo Creek Watershed

##### 6.D.3.b.1. Wahoo Creek Dam Site Planning Update & FYRA Invoices

NRCS investigated Wahoo Creek Dam Site 83 for evidence of additional archeological findings on March 30 & 31. FYRA has calculated economics based on 11 dam sites, including Site 83, and is waiting to finalize things until NRCS makes a determination regarding the site. An additional ancient earth lodge was verified in an area that appears would be covered with prement water from the proposed dam. NRCS will complete a formal report on their discoveries, including impacts and potential options to continue with keeping the dam site in the watershed plan. Our plan to have NRCS present this information at the next Projects Committee Meeting and at the May 10th Board Meeting.

Attached is FYRA's \$6,863.75 invoice for work completed on the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan. After this payment, \$17,886.25 will remain on our \$95,469 contract addendum. Janel Kaufman, FYRA, reports that during the invoice period, they finished up the economics modeling, worked on bridge/road benefits, and consulted with NRCS. They are finalizing the economics and Plan and are waiting on any additional costs on Site 83.

Mike Sotak, FYRA, has outlined two paths moving forward:

1. "Site 83 stays in the Plan and we include some additional costs for what it takes to document what is on site and prepare it for whatever mitigation is required because of Site 83."
2. "We remove Site 83 from the plan and finish up."

"Removing Site 83 from the plan will actually take a lot more work than leaving it in. If you really need to have a schedule estimate now for both cases, Janel and I can come up with that...Otherwise, because the economics look good as currently prepared and reviewed by

the State, let's see what they find in the field this week and plan on clearing up the path for the Plan right after we hear back. IF they know that there will not be a need to remove Site 83 and we'll just be adding some \$, it will be clearer on how to proceed and I can almost assure you that whomever needs to write up that part of the Plan will take longer than we will to finish it up. So our schedule to finish will not likely be the critical path."

6.D.3.b.2. Wahoo Creek Watershed Water Quality Plan Phase II

We have been in contact with Mark Mainelli, Saunders County Engineer and acting Road Superintendent about completing the Czechland Lake Shoreline/Road Stabilization Project this summer. Saunders County is securing a 404 permit (attached) and will also contribute all engineering services. The total Project estimate is \$299,103 (attached). The plan is that LPNNRD will provide the rip-rap and fabric (\$231,955) and the County will provide the engineering service and construction work. We plan to use available EPA 319 and NET grant funding to assist with at least 60% of LPNNRD expense.

As approved by the Board last month, JEO is working to update the Wahoo Creek Watershed Water Quality Plan.

6.D.3.b.3. Olsson Design Update and Invoice

No new update. As mentioned previously, Olsson is on hold completing any additional dam design work until the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan is approved. On March 23, Gottschalk and Mountford met with Andrew Phillips and Joshua Shackelford, Olsson PE. Shackelford works out of the Olsson Denver Office and will be assisting with quality control on the Wahoo Creek Dam designs.

6.D.3.b.4. Lands For Conservation

PARTICIPANT		ACRES
DAN		
PABIAN		
(Sec. 19-15-6)	10	\$ 2,050.00
JON		
SWANSON		
(Sec. 22-15-6)	33	\$ 6,765.00
ROBERT		
POKORNY		
(Sec. 4-14-6)	64	\$ 13,120.00
CARL & DOROTHY		
PETERSON		
TRUST	50	\$ 10,250.00

(SEC. 35-  
15-6)

**\$32,185.0**

**Total 1570**

#### 6.D.4. Nebraska Buffer Strip Program Contract Approvals

The following NeBSP applications have been reviewed by NRCS, NeDA, and NRD staff and are ready for approval:

Charles Barjenbruch	9.5	100	\$229.24
Dan Gehring	8.9	21020	\$2,148.46
Reece/Beau Klug	11.7	21024	\$2,632.50
David Luckey	12.7	21022	\$2,818.89
Diann Svatora	5.5	21023	\$1,327.70
Sam Welch	4.9	21025	\$1,050.32
James Barjenbruch	8.2	362	\$215.58

Total acres = 61.42

Total NeBSP payments = \$13,672.85

#### 6.D.5. JOINT WATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD

No new updates from last month. It is anticipated that this spring and summer we will be working closely with JWMAg partners on our several joint projects. Director Thompson said that he listened in at the last Fremont City Council Meeting and commented that the general public in Fremont is becoming very aware of the many projects and overall efforts JWMAg partners are involved with to reduce flood impacts to community.

#### 6.D.6. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

No new updates.

#### 6.D.7. EROSION AND SEDIMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

No new issues to address.

#### 6.D.8. OTHER

##### 6.D.8.a. Woodcliff (SID No.8) FEMA 406 Bank Stabilization Project JEO Update/Request

Jake Miriovsky, JEO, attended and Lonnie Mart, SID No. 8. participated (Zoom) on the progress report on the Woodcliff (SID No. 8) FEMA 406 Bank Stabilization Project. The 404 permit has been received from USACE and they are in the process of obtaining a permit from County Zoning. SID No. 8 is advertising for bids and is planning to award a construction bid in May. While LPNNRD has not yet made a formal

commitment on this portion of the project, it was indicated previously that assistance would be considered as long as LPNNRD is kept informed on the process and a formal assistance request is presented prior to project construction. The project estimate (@ \$692,000) has been approved for 87.5% from FEMA (75%) and NEMA (12.5%). SID No. is requesting 50% LPNNRD assistance on the 12.5% total estimated local share of \$80,000. .

Attached are the project plans and information provided at the Decemeber 3, 2020, Projects Committee meeting.

As additional information, Jake Miriovsky reported on another repair project of the Levee/Road that was not part of the original project stabilization project. It has been discovered that significant erosion on 400 feet of the embankment has ocured. This is considered an emergency repair roughly estimated at \$275,000 - \$300,000 at this time. SID No. 8 will present a formal assistance request for this project repair after more details are finalized.

#### 6.D.8.b. Schuyler Flood Risk Reduction/Drainage Improvement Project Assistance Request

As attached, the City of Schuyler is submitting a formal assistance request on their flood risk reduction drainage improvement project. This project was previously discussed with the Projects Committee last month. The total project request involves placing three additional flap gate closure structures on storm sewer outfalls to Lost Creek and channel widening in the southeast part of the city. The gates are to prevent floodwater backflow into the City. Schuyler is requesting LPNNRD 50% assistance on the \$312,000 estimated project costs (\$156,000), as attached. Kevin Kruse, JEO, and City of Schuyler Administrator William Re Roos, were joined by Zoom to discuss their request. The committee will consider this request after having more time to review the project components. Also attached is Schuyler's Internal Drainage Study Report.

### 7. Additional Action Items

#### 7.A. Well Permit

Attached is the well permit and drawing of irrigated acres with well locations. This permit came in after the Committee meeting and the producer is wanting to drill ASAP. The reason for the changes is Hwy 30 will be dividing up the current irrigated acres. They would like one new well permit to go with 3 replacement well permits. The new well will allow them not to run a pipeline over to the pivot in the NE¼ 3-17N-8E. They will be reducing certified irrigated acres by 40 - 50 acres and would like the right to reserve the acres for south of the highway after construction.

A motion will be needed to approve the McKnight Well Permit application as

attached.

**7.B. Wahoo Creek Lands for Conservation Application**

Geroge Cejka - 13 Acres - \$2,665.00

**A motion will be needed.**

**To approve Geroge Cejka Wahoo Creek Lands for Conservation application for 13 acres in the amount of \$2,665**

8. Approval of Bills Pending

9. Consent Agenda Adoption

10. Comments from Directors/Guests

11. Meeting Establishment/Adjournment

**NOTE: The agenda is on file at the LPNNRD office and may be changed up to 24 hours prior to the meeting as scheduled.**