

Water Committee Meeting  
Monday, December 29, 2014 5:00 PM  
Lower Platte North NRD Office  
P.O. Box 126  
Wahoo, NE 68066

1. REGULATORY

1.A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

1.A.1. Variance Request in the Hydrologically Connected Area (Limited Development Area)

No new updates.

1.A.2. Variance Requests in the Non-Hydrologically Connected Area (Normal Development Area)

No new updates

1.A.3. Variance Requests in the Restricted Development Areas

No new updates

1.A.4. Well Permit Program

1.A.4.a. Supplemental Well Permit for Ralph Diffey

Mr. Diffey has submitted a supplemental irrigation well application for 80 acres in the W½SW¼ of Section 5-T17N-R6E Dodge County (North Bend Subarea). These acres are currently irrigated with two registered wells using gated pipe. Diffey plans to purchase a center pivot and wipe ½-circle. The two current wells would be used to irrigated the “corners”. Due to the gas lines that are located beneath a portion of this “80” and their easements it is too costly to trench an underground line from one of the existing wells to the proposed pivot point location. Neither Ralph Diffey nor Harold Diffey has a Nitrogen & Water Management (NRD) certification and Oaklund told Harold Diffey that the well permit could not be approved until the certification is obtained. Harold Diffey related that he intends to go to the first certification class on January 8, 2015, in Fremont, following the Corn Expo. This would be prior to the January 12, 2015 Board meeting.

1.A.4.b. Well Permits Approved

Wells Permits Approved: 9

Landowner	Number of Wells	Number of New Irrigated Acres	Type of Well	County	Subarea
Amiel L Beranek Liv Rev Tr	1	100	Irrigation	Uplands	Morse Bluff

Noha Farms	1	65	Irrigation	Todd Valley	Todd Valley
William R Juranek	1	154	Irrigation	Uplands	David City
Paul Kettelson	1	0	Irrigation/Replacement	Shell Creek	Upper Shell Creek
Gary Mausbach	1	90	Irrigation	Shell Creek	Middle Shell Creek
Ralph Diffey	1	0	Irrigation/Supplemental	Platte Valley	North Bend
Gerald S Schofield	1	140	Irrigation	Todd Valley	Todd Valley
Gary Mausbach	1	95	Irrigation	Shell Creek	Middle Shell Creek
Grace A Stewart Family Tr	1	115	Irrigation	Shell Creek	Middle Shell Creek

The total number of approved permits for 2015 is 9

Location of Approved Well Permits for 2015: Correct as of 1/29/2015

County	Irrigation - New	Irrigation - Replacement	Stock	Commercial	Municipal	Other	Total
<b>Butler</b>	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Colfax</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Dodge</b>	1	0	0	0	0	0	1

<b>Boone</b>	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Madison</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Platte</b>	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
<b>Saunders</b>	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
<b>Total</b>	8	1	0	0	0	0	9

#### 1.A.5. Potential Violation of Expanded Irrigation

Liberty Livestock has been contacted by phone concerning their irrigation of acres that were not approved by the LPNNRD. They plan to attend either the upcoming Board meeting or the next Water Committee meeting.

They will be contacted again after the holidays.

#### 1.A.6. Special Quantity Subareas

##### 1.A.6.a. GWMA R&R Changes

Updates to the GWMA Rules and Regulations are presented for Water Committee review (see attached). The goal is to get these approved at the January Board meeting and hold a Public Hearing before the February Board meeting.

##### 1.A.6.b. LPNNRD SQS Operator Certification Classes

Two educational classes have been scheduled for producers in the Butler-Saunders SQS:

- Wednesday, January 14, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. (afternoon)
- Tuesday, February 17, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. (evening)

Both classes will be held at Hruska Library in David City.

Attendance will be required for all irrigators in this SQS.

#### 1.A.7. Lower Platte River Basin Water Management Plan Coalition (LPRBC)

- A special Lower Platte Basin meeting is being planned for January 27th at 1:00 pm at the next NARD Legislative Conference in Lincoln.
- The next meeting of the Technical Committee is scheduled for February 2, 2015 at the LLNRD office in Ord at 10:00 am.

### 1.A.8. Voluntary Integrated Water Management Plan - LENRD and LPNNRD

The next Stakeholders meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2015 at the LPNNRD office at 2:00 pm.

### 1.A.9. Cost Share Programs

#### 1.A.9.a. Irrigation Well Sample Kits

A total of 369 kits have been requested and sent (two of these were in mid-December). The results from 359 of these kits have been received from HHS/Lincoln and sent to the producers; nitrate-nitrogen range is 0.00 to 101.0 ppm.

#### 1.A.9.b. Domestic Well Sample Kits

No new updates since the last Water Committee

### 1.A.10. Bellwood Phase 2 Area

2014 is the twelfth year of this Phase 2 Area. 108 producer sample results have now been received (nitrate-nitrogen range of 0.00 to 22.3 ppm). Two additional sample results since last meeting were 4.63 and 11.8 ppm. and have updated in the table below.

Year	Nitrate-nitrogen Range	Percent Nitrate-nitrogen 0 to 8.0 ppm	Percent Nitrate-nitrogen 8.01 to 10.00 ppm	Percent Nitrate-nitrogen greater than 10 ppm
2004	0 to 25 ppm	46.3% (44 of 95)	8.4% (8 of 95)	45.3% (43 of 95)
2005	0 to 25 ppm	47% (44 of 94)	15% (14 of 94)	38% (36 of 94)
2006	0 to 24 ppm	41% (29 of 71)	14% (10 of 71)	45% (32 of 71)
2007	0 to 31 ppm	48% (48 of 100)	9% (9 of 100)	43% (43 of 100)
2008	0 to 28 ppm	53.75% (43 of 80)	7.5% (6 of 80)	38.75% (31 of 80)
2009	0 to 22 ppm	45.5% (41 of 90)	15.5% (14 of 90)	39% (35 of 90)
2010	0 to 35.7 ppm	48.65% (54 of 111)	11.71% (13 of 111)	39.64% (44 of 111)
2011	0 to 26.6 ppm	51% (56 of 110)	6% (7 of 110)	43% (47 of 110)
2012	0 to 28.9 ppm	57% (61 of 107)	9% (10 of 107)	34% (36 of 107)
2013	0 to 25.8 ppm	50% (53 of 107)	9% (10 of 107)	41% (44 of 107)
2014	0 to 22.3 ppm	51% (55 of 108)	13% (14 of 108)	36% (39 of 108)

### 1.A.11. Richland - Schuyler Phase 2 Area

2014 is the eleventh year of this Phase 2 Area. 251 producer sample results have now been received (nitrate-nitrogen range of 0.00 to 101.0). One additional result has been received since the last meeting at 8.20 ppm. and has been updated in the table below.

Year	Nitrate-nitrogen Range	Percent Nitrate-nitrogen 0 to 8.0 ppm	Percent Nitrate-nitrogen 8.01 to 10.00 ppm	Percent Nitrate-nitrogen greater than 10 ppm
2004	0 to 47 ppm	30% (42 of 139)	10% (14 of 139)	60% (83 of 139)
2005	0 to 120 ppm	31.3% (74 of 236)	10.2% (24 of 236)	58.5% (138 of 236)
2006	0 to 53 ppm	28% (50 of 181)	14% (26 of 181)	58% (105 of 181)
2007	0 to 99 ppm	32% (75 of 231)	10% (22 of 231)	58% (134 of 227)
2008	0 to 46 ppm	28% (53 of 190)	12% (23 of 190)	60% (114 of 190)
2009	0 to 57 ppm	33% (72 of 216)	6% (13 of 216)	61% (131 of 216)
2010	0 to 57.5 ppm	31% (70 of 229)	7% (15 of 229)	62% (142 of 229)
2011	0 to 65.8 ppm	28% (67 of 241)	9% (21 of 241)	63% (153 of 241)
2012	0 to 52.6 ppm	29% (70 of 241)	9% (21 of 241)	62% (150 of 241)
2013	0 to 94.0 ppm	25% (63 of 252)	9% (23 of 252)	66% (166 of 252)
2014	0 to 101.0 ppm	27% (68 of 251)	9% (22 of 251)	64% (161 of 251)

#### 1.A.12. LPNNRD Certification

##### 1.A.12.a. LPNNRD Operator Certification Classes

No on-line tests have been completed since the last committee meeting. Staff of LPNNRD met with UNL County Extension Educators on Monday, December 1st, to set up classes. Eleven classes have been scheduled (class schedule attached) and mailed to about 500 producers.

#### 1.A.13. Certifying Acres in Saunders and Dodge Counties

No new updates.

#### 1.B. CHEMIGATION

At the end of 2014, the District had a 456 chemigation permits.

Attached are updates to the LPNNRD Chemigation Rules, which includes our new fee schedule. This is to be reviewed at the Board meeting in January and then advertise for three weeks for review (and hopefully) approval at the February Board meeting.

#### 1.C. LIVESTOCK WASTE PERMITS

The LPNNRD has received one new livestock permit application from DEQ since the last Water Committee meeting.

Name	Livestock	Type of Permit	Legal Description	County
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Raikes Farm Enterprises	Cattle 10,000 head 10,000 A.U.	Expansion of existing Permit	SW1/4 and SE1/4, Section 16, T13N, R9E	Saunders
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Raikes Farm Enterprises wants to modify an existing operation of 6, 000 head (6,000 A.U.) with an addition of 4,000 head for a total of 10,000 head of cattle (10,000 A.U.).

## 2. GROUND WATER PROGRAMS

### 2.A. DECOMMISSIONED WELL PROGRAM

#### 2.A.1. Well Estimates

One new well has been reviewed and approved by Gottschalk for decommissioning since the last Committee meeting.

Well Owner	Type of Well	Cost Share Estimate	County
Philip & Jeana Buhman	Irrigation	\$666.95	Platte

#### 2.A.2. Plugged Wells

Three wells have been plugged, reviewed, and ready for cost share payment approval this month (see attached spreadsheet).

Well Owner	Type of Well	Cost Share Estimate	County
Don Yindrick	Irrigation	\$870.96	Butler
Jamie Yindrick	2 x Domestic	\$854.59	Butler

## 2.B. LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD GROUND WATER STUDIES

### 2.B.1. Elkhorn Loup Model (ELM)

The last training session was held on December 4 and 5, 2014 at the LLNRD in Ord. Training involves using the completed USGS ground water flow model with GIS applications to develop maps. The next training session has not yet been scheduled.

### 2.B.2. Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assessment (ENWRA)

Data from the latest helicopter flights (AEM) will be presented at the next NARD conference near the end of January 2015. The next round of helicopter flights are scheduled for the spring of 2015 and one of these flight lines will go over the Prague subarea.

We have received an invoice from ENWRA for our 2015 dues of \$30,000 (invoice is attached).

## 2.C. GROUND WATER ENERGY LEVELS

Staff have been working on updating the hydrographs from the data loggers placed in several of our monitoring wells. Staff will place several of these in our upcoming SQS and NRD operator certification classes that are to be held over the winter.

## 3. OTHER

### 3.A. LPNNRD Long Range Plan

Draft copy of LPNNRD Long Range Plan is attached. This will be voted on at the January 12, 2015 Board meeting.

### 3.B. GMDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

GMDA Annual Conference will be held January 6 - 8, 2015 in Scottsdale, Arizona. Directors Lon Olson, Don Veskerna, and Gene Ruzicka plan to attend. Staff members Bret Schomer and Larry Angle will also attend.

### 3.C. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Simone Rock of HDR attended the Water Committee.