

Projects Committee Meeting  
Thursday, April 30, 2015 9:00 AM  
Lower Platte North NRD Office  
P.O. Box 126  
Wahoo, NE 68066

## 1. LPNNRD Acceptance of SCWIG Grants

There has been much time spent on Shell Creek business the last few months. As previously reported, these activities included working to transition old and new grants to LPNNRD for watershed activities, and continued planning for the Shell Creek Watershed Improvement Group's (SCWIG) eventual future as LPNNRD's advisory subcommittee. It appears that the transition of SCWIG's old Environmental trust grant to LPNNRD will occur in September. At that time SCWIG and LPNNRD will need to adopt SCWIG's new operating procedures as they become strictly our advisory group for the watershed.

As you recall we have previously accepted administration of a new \$155,000 Environmental Trust grant and a NDEQ-EPA 319 grant totaling \$50,000 for the watershed. The NDEQ grant agreement will soon be sent to us for approval. SCWIG has an existing Environmental Trust grant (totaling about \$87,000) that will be used for project design, assist schools with establishing science clubs for creek sampling (Tom Wheeldon), and new watershed signage. The committee is asked to recommend sending a letter to the Nebraska Environmental Trust to request that we formally accept sponsorship and administration of SCWIG's Environmental Trust Grant and appoint Assistance Manager Mountford as grant administrator to execute necessary documents and paperwork.

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## 1. SWCP

Gottschalk reviewed the SWCP spreadsheet as attached to the Projects Committee Minutes.

### 1.A. SWCP Application Approvals

#### **SUMMER APPROVAL:**

David & Cynthia Hartman 25% EQIP	Skull Creek Watershed	Terraces/Tile	\$ 9,599
Maryland Novacek 2,436.60 75%	Butler County	Cropland to grass	\$

### 1.B. SWCP Payments

14-B-42	Walter Bohaty Flow Meter	\$ 625.00
14-D-49	Gary Mintken Diversion/Waterway	\$ 2,386.32

### 1.C. SWCP Cancellations

We are compiling our SWCP cancellations and will have them for our next Projects committee.

### 1.D. Cottonwood Creek Payments

Thomas Kloser	Terraces/Tile	\$ 4,257.44
Shanahan Family Tr.	Terraces/Tile	\$ 4,252.71

### 1.E. Sand/Duck Creek Approvals

**None**

### 1.F. Sand/Duck Cost Share Payment

**None**

## 1.G. Wahoo Creek Cost Share Approvals

**None**

## 2. WATERSHEDS

### 2.A. Shell Creek Watershed

There has been much time spent with Shell Creek business the last few weeks. These activities included receiving new grants for watershed activities, discussing and planning use of old grant funds, planning SCWIG's future as LPNNRD's advisory subcommittee and discussions about hiring former Schuyler teacher Tom Wheelson to assist other schools with sampling programs.

It appears that the transition of SCWIG's old Environmental trust grant to LPNNRD will need to occur around September. At that time SCWIG and LPNNRD will need to adopt SCWIG's new operating procedures as they become strictly our advisory group for the watershed.

#### 2.A.1. Shell Creek Watershed Environmental Enhancement Plan

The Shell Creek Watershed Environmental Enhancement Plan is still being reviewed by EPA.

#### 2.A.2. Shell Creek Environmental Trust Grant Approval

The Nebraska Environmental Trust has officially awarded a \$155,000 grant for the Shell Creek Watershed. Mountford attended an award seminar and ceremony on April 10. Attached are grant documents that were signed and returned on April 27. This grant companies a \$50,000 NDEQ grant that was awarded last fall.

### 2.B. Wahoo Creek Watershed - Water Quality Plan (PIP) Phase I

Staff will meet with JEO and NDEQ on May 1 to review and give final input to the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan Phase I report. After NDEQ completes their review, it will be forwarded to EPA for comment.

Attached is a \$15,725 invoice and update from JEO for work completed under contract.

Total contract: \$120,000

Contact completed: \$89,025 (74%)

Contact remaining: \$30,975 (16%)

## 3. LOWER PLATTE RIVER CORRIDOR ALLIANCE

### 3.A. LPRCA Monthly Report - Meghan Sittler @ 9:00 a.m.

Meghan was present to discuss Alliance business. She is putting together various project invoices that will be presented at the May 28th Projects Committee Meeting along with the proposed FY 2015-16 budget discussion. At the Alliance 9:00 a.m. meeting at LPSNRD on May 7, the partners will discuss details for the upcoming Alliance budget. One major topic

will be whether or not to continue with the Obstruction Removal Project near Two Rivers State Park. LPNNRD has already voiced that we do not support this project. LPNNRD Directors are encouraged to attend and give input at the May 7th meeting.

#### 4. OTHER

##### 4.A. Army COE 205 Projects

###### 4.A.1. Fremont 205

###### 4.A.2. Schuyler 205

As reported earlier, activities on the Shell Creek levee are wrapping up and the focus is on the future of the Platte River levee. A final walk through took place last week. It appears that Schuyler is eventuating whether or not to proceed with finishing 30% design of this potential project because of the Army COE's preferred levee alignment (which is not the City's desired alignment) and the estimated high cost of construction. The Army COE is scheduled to meet with the City on May 12 to answer questions and discuss future plans.

The Army COE is also planning a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Shell Creek levee, possibly the week of May 18.

##### 4.B. Shell Creek Landowner Levee Project Update

Survey information has been completed by the Engineer and the next step will be to complete the no-rise certificate for Schuyler's approval.

##### 4.C. All Hazard Mitigation Plan Update- JEO Progress Report and Invoice

Attached is JEO's \$4,322 invoice and update for work completed under contract on our All Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Total Contract: \$126,000

Contract Complete: \$78,822 (63%)

Contract Remaining: \$30,975 (37%)

##### 4.D. Review of Projects Financial Statement

##### 4.E. NEMA Repeditive Property Loss Acquisition Project Proposal @ Fremont

Miyoshi and Mountford attended a informational meeting on April 3rd between the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources and Fremont city staff regarding a potential project to purchase identified repetitive loss properties in flood prone areas. Presently there are 16 properties identified in the repetitive loss category of which four are listed as severe. Depending on the loss severity, 75% to 100% of the appraised property value can be offered to willing homeowners for buyout and removal from the floodplain. It is unknown how interested Fremont is in participating, but we have been identified as a potential partner for this voluntary buyout program. The next meeting is scheduled for 1:00 p.m., May 8, at the Fremont City Office Chambers.

#### 4.F. LPNNRD Local Working Group Meeting Update

Directors Olson, Kavan and Hilger and Assistant Manager Mountford attended the annual Local Working Group meeting at LPNNRD on April 30. Information and priorities for the FY 2016 federal program funds were discussed. It is anticipated that \$1.3 to \$1.4 million will be available in LPNNRD for new EQIP contracts.

#### 4.G. Platte Center Elm Creek Bank Stabilization Project Update

Platte Center is making plans to move forward with their Elm Creek Bank stabilization project. They will be prioritizing the most erosive areas and report back to the Projects Committee. We have \$6,750 budgeted to assist them this fiscal year.

### 5. SAND CREEK ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROJECT REPORT

#### 5.A. Lake Wanahoo

Warranty work and re-seeding is taking place this week.

#### 5.B. Upstream Structures - Update

### 6. WESTERN SARPY/CLEAR CREEK LEVEE REPORT

- **Segment 4B**
- Contractor is placing topsoil on the project
  
- **Segment 5**
- Placing of the mat continues
- Estimated completion date is May 25

A tour of the WS/CC Project occurred after the Projects Committee Meeting.

### 7. ADJOURNMENT

This no further business, the Projects Committee adjourned at 10:15 a.m.