



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MARCH 26, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District met at the Lower Platte South NRD Office on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. Directors participating were Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum. Andersen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Andersen welcomed those in attendance, and the pledge of allegiance was recited. He noted that the public meetings law is posted in the room and that carrying concealed weapons is prohibited at board meetings and on District property. He requested all cell phones be put on silent mode. He reminded everyone a recording of the meeting will be on the NRD website. Andersen requested anyone wishing to speak on an agenda item to provide their name on the sign-in sheet and which agenda item they wished to speak on. An opportunity for the public to speak to non-agenda items was given. Marie Gregoire addressed the Board regarding the action taken by Cass County Board on the MoPac Trail.

General Manager Mike Sousek introduced Bridget McKinley, who was recently hired as a NRD Resources Technician in the Lancaster County NRCS Office.

ITEM 1. ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

Twenty Directors were present upon roll call.

ITEM 2. PUBLICATION OF LEGAL NOTICE OF MEETING

Andersen reported that the legal notice of the regularly scheduled March 19, 2025 Board Meeting was published on March 8, 2025, in the Lincoln Journal Star.

The meeting was postponed and rescheduled to March 26, 2025 due to hazardous weather conditions pursuant to Operation Policy C-11.1.b.

Legal notice of the rescheduled Board Meeting was published on March 22, 2025 in the Lincoln Journal Star.

ITEM 3. CONSIDERATION OF DIRECTORS' ABSENCES

Andersen stated that a request for an excused absence was received from Lisa Lewis for the March 26, 2025 Board of Directors meeting.

It was moved by Landis and seconded by Yoakum to approve the request for excused absence from Lisa Lewis for the March 26, 2025 Board of Directors meeting. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Lewis

ITEM 4. ADOPT AGENDA

It was moved by Eagan and seconded by Seacrest to adopt the Agenda.

It was moved by Hawkins and seconded by Spangler to add "Discussion on the Cass County Board of Commissioners March 25, 2025 actions regarding the MoPac East – Lied Connector Trail and the status of the MoPac East – Lied Connector design and engineering study as an emergency item".

Legal Counsel Corey Wasserburger answered questions of the Board regarding the addition of emergency items to the agenda.

The motion failed.

AYE: Hawkins and Spangler

NAY: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NOT PRESENT: Lewis

The original motion to adopt the Agenda was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Hawkins and Spangler

NOT PRESENT: Lewis

ITEM 5. APPROVAL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

It was moved by Seacrest and seconded by Hassebrook to approve the Minutes of the February 19, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Lewis

ITEM 6. REPORT OF THE FINANCE & PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Chris Barber, Administration and Finance Manager, stated that the Finance and Planning Subcommittee met on March 11, 2025.

Barber stated that the financial reports for the period July 1, 2024 through February 28, 2025 had been distributed.

It was moved by Matejka and seconded by Eagan to approve the financial reports for the period of July 1, 2024 through February 28, 2025 and publish the expenditures for February 2025.

Mike Sousek, General Manager and Chris Barber, Administration and Finance Manager, answered questions from the Board regarding the financial reports.
The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum
NAY: None
NOT PRESENT: Lewis

Barber stated the Finance & Planning Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve and adopt the schedule for the development of the Long Range Implementation Plan and the presentation and consideration of approving the Fiscal Year 2026 LPSNRD budget. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum
NAY: Aldridge
NOT PRESENT: Lewis

ITEM 7. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Andersen stated that the Executive Subcommittee met on March 13, 2025.

Andersen moved the Executive Subcommittee's recommendation to the Board of Directors that the board meeting times for the remainder of the calendar year and beyond will be held at 5:30 p.m. starting in April of 2025.

It was moved by Aldridge to add "; except that no change in the 1730 start time now established shall be allowed prior to CY 2099". The motion failed for lack of a second.

It was moved by Hawkins and seconded by Spangler to change the 5:30 time to 7:00. The motion failed.

AYE: Aldridge, Hawkins, Jacobson, Peterson, Schutz and Spangler
NAY: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hellerich, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum
NOT PRESENT: Lewis

Legal Counsel Corey Wasserburger answered questions of the Board.

The original motion that the meeting times for the remainder of the calendar year and beyond will be held at 5:30 p.m. starting in April of 2025 was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hellerich, Lamberty, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum
NAY: Aldridge, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Peterson and Spangler
NOT PRESENT: Lewis

ITEM 8. REPORT OF THE URBAN SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Landis stated that the Urban subcommittee met on March 12, 2025.

Landis moved the Urban Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve the Agreement for Professional Services with Houston Engineering for Oak Creek Drainage Structure Rehabilitation for \$29,569.00, pending Legal Counsel review. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum
NAY: Aldridge
NOT PRESENT: Lewis

Landis stated that two bids were received for the Antelope Valley Sediment Pile Removal project.

Contractor	Bid
Brandt Excavating	\$27,693.00
Gana Excavating	\$28,968.36

Landis moved the Urban Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve the low bid from Brandt Excavating for \$27,693.00 for the Antelope Valley Sediment Pile Removal.

Mike Sousek, General Manager, Drew Ratkovec, Projects Coordinator, and Corey Wasserburger, Legal Counsel, answered questions of the Board regarding removal of the soil.

It was moved by Hellerich and seconded by Seacrest that soil borings and testing be done prior to any soil being removed. The motion and second were withdrawn.

It was moved by Yoakum and seconded by Jacobson to delegate this action to the Executive Subcommittee to decide. The motion failed.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Jacobson, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest and Yoakum
NAY: Aldridge, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson, Spangler and Vogel
NOT PRESENT: Lewis

The original motion to approve the low bid from Brandt Excavating for \$27,693.00 for the Antelope Valley Sediment Pile Removal was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum
NAY: Hellerich and Spangler
NOT PRESENT: Lewis

ITEM 9. REPORT OF THE RECREATION, FORESTRY & WILDLIFE SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Hawkins stated that the Recreation, Forestry & Wildlife Subcommittee met on March 6, 2025.

Hawkins moved the Recreation, Forestry & Wildlife Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to sign the grant contract agreement with the Nebraska Environmental Trust for funds awarded to the Lower Platte South NRD for our "Tallgrass Prairie Health via Grazing Management" project, pending legal counsel review. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Lewis

ITEM 10. REPORT OF THE WATER RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Steve Herdzina, Water Resources Compliance Specialist, gave a presentation on the 2024 Groundwater Management Plan Annual Review.

ITEM 11 REPORT OF THE PLATTE RIVER SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Hellerich stated that the Platte River Subcommittee met on March 10, 2025.

Hellerich moved the Platte River Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors, pending Omaha Fish & Wildlife Club agreeing to fulfill all project sponsor responsibilities, approve the Cooperative Agreement between the Department of the Army, Omaha Fish & Wildlife Club and the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District for the 2025 Levee Rehabilitation of the Omaha Fish & Wildlife Club Platte River Right Bank Cedar Creek Levee Project (PL84-99), subject to legal counsel review.

David Potter, Assistant General Manager, David Hanson, Omaha Fish & Wildlife Club and Fred Lad, Omaha Fish and Wildlife Club, answered questions of the Board regarding the Omaha Fish & Wildlife Club project.

The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Lewis

Hellerich moved the Platte River Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve the five-year Supplemental Joint Funding Agreement between USGS and LPSNRD for Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance Water Quality Monitoring in the Platte River Corridor at Louisville in the Platte, at Ashland in Salt Creek, and at Waterloo in the Elkhorn River.

David Potter, Assistant General Manager, and Matt Moser, USGS, answered questions of the Board regarding the funding agreements and the monitoring.

The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Lewis

Hellerich moved the Platte River Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve the five-year Joint Funding Agreement between PMRNRD and LPSNRD for LPRCA water quality monitoring in the Platte River Corridor at Louisville in the Platte, at Ashland in Salt Creek, and at Waterloo in the Elkhorn River. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Lewis

Hellerich moved the Platte River Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve the Supplemental Joint Funding Agreement between USGS and LPSNRD for Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance Continuous Water Quality Monitoring in the Platte River at Leshara.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Lewis

Hellerich moved the Platte River Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve the four joint funding agreements between Metropolitan Utilities District and Lower Platte South NRD (LPSNRD), Lincoln Water System and LPSNRD, Lower Platte North NRD and LPSNRD, and Papio-Missouri River NRD (PMRNRD) and LPSNRD for Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance water quality monitoring in the Platte River at Leshara. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Lewis

ITEM 12. ITEMS REQUIRING CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Green and seconded by Yoakum that the Board of Directors go into closed session at 7:49 p.m. in order to protect the public interest during discussion of pending litigation in the Barry v. Lower Platte South NRD matter. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Lewis and Spangler

It was moved by Green and seconded by Yoakum to return to open session at 8:29 p.m. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

ABSTAIN: Lamberty and Seacrest

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Lewis

It was moved by Vogel and seconded by Jacobson to follow Strategy 1 with regard to Barry v. Lower Platte South NRD. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

ABSTAIN: Lamberty and Seacrest

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Lewis

It was moved by Green and seconded by Yoakum that the Board of Directors go into closed session at 8:32 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Lewis

It was moved by Green and seconded by Landis to return to open session at 9:37 p.m. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Lewis and Matejka

It was moved by Green and seconded by Landis that the Board of Directors go into closed session at 9:39 p.m. in order to protect the public interest during discussion of pending litigation in the Meyer v. Lower Platte South NRD matter. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

ABSTAIN: Spangler

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Lewis and Matejka

It was moved by Green and seconded by Landis to return to open session at 10:05 p.m. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

ABSTAIN: Spangler

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Lewis and Matejka

It was moved by Landis and seconded by Hassebrook to authorize Counsel to develop and execute a joint defense agreement with Cass County in the Meyer v. LPSNRD case. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

ABSTAIN: Spangler

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Aldridge, Hellerich, Lamberty, Lewis and Matejka

It was moved by Green and seconded by Landis that the Board of Directors go into closed session at 10:09 p.m. to protect the public interest during discussion of litigation in the Lohmeier v. Lower Platte South NRD matter. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lewis and Matejka

It was moved by Green and seconded by Baker to return to open session at 10:13 p.m. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Hellerich, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Lewis and Matejka

ITEM 13. NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS (NARD) REPORT

John Yoakum stated that the next NARD Board meeting is scheduled for June 8 - 9, 2025. He stated that the annual NRD Basin Tour would be at that time also (June 9 – 10).

ITEM 14. PERMIT AND PROGRAM APPROVALS

A report of permit and program approvals was distributed.

ITEM 15. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

A schedule of upcoming events and activities was mailed out.

ITEM 16. FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Various memos were mailed out.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m. The undersigned, the duly elected and acting Secretary of the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (the "District"), hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the District held on March 26, 2025 that all of the matters and subjects discussed at the meeting were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the principal office of the District during normal business hours, and except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda was not altered later than twenty-four (24) hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the above minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurred earlier; and, that reasonable efforts were made to provide all news media requesting notification of the meeting and of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

Christine Lamberty, Secretary

/dr