



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH

natural resources district

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Memorandum

Date: December 10, 2024
To: Water Resources Subcommittee
From: Dick Ehrman, Water Resources Coordinator
Subject: Water Resources Subcommittee Meeting Minutes – December, 2024

The Water Resources Subcommittee met via Zoom on December 9, 2024 at 12:00 noon. Subcommittee members present included Susan Seacrest (Chair), Bob Andersen, Deb Eagan, Gary Hellerich, Luke Petersen, and Mark Spangler. Other Board members present included Dave Landis. NRD staff present included Mike Sousek, David Potter, Steve Herdzina, Drew Ratkovec, and myself. Director Seacrest called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon, and a quorum was present for the meeting.

A. Consideration of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 for Ground Water Monitoring (ACTION)

Dick Ehrman provided a review of the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources' (NeDNR) utilization of ARPA funds to help NRDs expand their ground water monitoring activities. Currently, LPSNRD has a number of dedicated ground water monitoring wells across the District, and 18 of them have continuous water level monitoring devices (transducers) installed (see attached map). Five of those have telemetry units installed, which allows remote monitoring of those measurements through cell phone connections. District staff has worked with NeDNR to draft a contract to utilize ARPA funds to install telemetry units in the remaining 13 monitoring wells, thus expanding the District's water level monitoring capabilities. The cost for these 13 units will be \$12,891.45, and this entire amount will be reimbursed to LPSNRD from NeDNR. The two major conditions of the contract are that 1) LPSNRD will share the data gained through the project with NeDNR, and 2) LPSNRD will be responsible for the data subscription costs, which are estimated to be about \$5,200-6,500 per year. Staff anticipates that the equipment will be installed in late winter/early spring, and the cost for the data subscriptions will be included in the FY2026 budget.

It was moved by Andersen, seconded by Hellerich, and approved 5-0 that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to sign the grant contract with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$12,891.45 for ARPA funds to purchase additional telemetry equipment for ground water level monitoring.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:07 PM.

Enclosures

cc: Dave Landis
Corey Wasserburger