



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH

natural resources district

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Memorandum

Date: August 15, 2025
To: Water Resources Subcommittee
From: Drew Ratkovec, Projects Coordinator *DR*
Subject: Water Resources Subcommittee Meeting Minutes – August 2025

The Water Resources Subcommittee met on August 11, 2025, at the NRD office, at 5:30 pm to take action on 4 items. Subcommittee members who participated included Don Jacobson- committee chair, Melissa Baker, Gary Hellerich, Luke Peterson, Larry Ruth, Anthony Schutz, and Mark Spangler. Subcommittee member Eagan was absent. Others participating included NRD Staff David Potter, Steve Herdzina, and Drew Ratkovec. Tyler Martin, Madeline Johnson, Brendan Aure from DWEE, and Mike Rezac were also in attendance. Director Jacobson called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. A quorum was present for the meeting.

A. Consideration to Waive Policy G-5 Competitive Bidding to Purchase the Janssen Road Structure Spillway and Drawdown Pipe. [ACTION]–

Ratkovec provided background information on an HDPE pipe for the Janssen Road Structure that the district currently has on hold from Industrial Sales. This will allow the district to purchase the principal spillway and drawdown pipe in advance to minimize any delays. Industrial Sales was the closest and quickest manufacturer to purchase the pipe from. The road structure is currently eroding due to a separated pipe structure, causing an urgency to get it rehabilitated as soon as possible. The pipe will cost \$35,530.50. Questions were discussed on the type of pipe and the urgency of the project.

- Deliverables: HDPE Pipe is being bought in advance to avoid any delays during construction.
- Funding: 75% NRD/25% Seward County
- Proposal: \$35,530.50
- Budget: Included in FY 26
- Payers, Players, & Partners: NRD, Seward County, Industrial Sales

It was moved by Hellerich, seconded by Baker, and approved (6 yes, 1 Abstain) by the Water Resources Subcommittee to recommend that the Board of Directors Waive Operating Policy G-5 Competitive Bidding and Purchase the Janssen Road Structure Principal Spillway and Drawdown Pipe from Industrial Sales for \$35,530.50

B. Consideration of Bids for the Janssen Road Structure Spillway Replacement [ACTION]–

Ratkovec provided background information on the Janssen Road Structure that is located in Seward County, south of Garland. In the 2025 annual inspection, the structure was found to have a separated pipe. NRD staff met with Seward County officials and discussed a plan moving forward. Staff from both agencies agree this pipe needs to be fixed as quickly as possible and have signed a supplement agreement identifying the project and responsibilities.

Houston Engineering was hired to provide engineering and design for the rehabilitation. The project was put out to bid with a bid opening on August 11th at 2:00 pm. The low bid was from Tim Sisco Construction for \$122,114.85. Please see the attached recommendation letter from Houston Engineering. Tim Sisco is currently working with the district and has performed satisfactory work now and on several projects in the past.

- Work Type: Construction-Road Structure Rehabilitation
- Deliverables: Rehabilitated Road Structure
- Permits: USACE 404 Nationwide, NDNR Permit
- Funding: NRD 75%, Seward County 25%
- Proposal: \$122,114.85
- Bid Using Quantity and Unit Prices
- Budget: Included in FY 26
- Access: No Concerns
- Start: Upon Board Approval and DWEE Dam Safety Permit/August 2026
- Completion: December 2026
- Payers, Players, & Partners: NRD, Seward County, Houston Engineering, Tim Sisco Construction
- Legal Counsel Review: Ongoing

It was moved by Hellerich, seconded by Ruth, and approved (7 yes, 0 no) by the Water Resources Subcommittee to recommend that the Board of Directors approve the low bid of \$122,114.85 from Tim Sisco Construction for the Janssen Road Structure Spillway Replacement Project.

C. Consideration to Grant Mike Rezac for the Proposed Class 3 Well Variance Request #018
[ACTION]–

Herdzina reviewed Variance Request #018 submitted by Mike Rezac. The variance request is to allow for a new well (Class 3 well in the Remaining Area of the District) to be located within 600 feet of existing registered wells with the same or higher preference of use. Mike Rezac was in attendance to offer additional background information and answered questions regarding the location of the well, the functionality of the ponds, and other site-specific questions. The subcommittee discussed the application, well logs, water use, possible implications on adjacent wells, and options. Herdzina answered questions of the subcommittee regarding well permit applications, potential water availability, and the options if this variance is not granted.

It was moved by Jacobson, seconded by Peterson to recommend that the Board of Directors grant a variance to Mike Rezac for the proposed Class 3 well, specifically allowing them to locate this well within 600 feet of existing wells with the same or higher preference of use (Section C, Rule 10.a). The motion failed (3 yes, 4 no).

This item will still be an action item for the August Board meeting agenda even without a subcommittee recommendation, as the LPSNRD Groundwater Rules and Regulations state “All variance requests shall be acted upon by the Board of Directors” (page 36, Section P, Rule 4, (b)).

D. Review and Consideration of the 2024 Annual Integrated Management Plan Report **[ACTION]–**

Potter, Herdzina, Johnson, and Martin gave a detailed presentation on the 2024 Annual Integrated Management Plan Report. The Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (LPSNRD) and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR), now called the Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (DWEE), jointly adopted a voluntary Integrated Management Plan (IMP). The IMP became effective on May 15, 2014, with the goal of jointly managing groundwater and surface waters within the LPSNRD to sustain a

balance between water uses and supplies for the long term. This Annual Report covers the progress made toward Voluntary IMP implementation for both the LPSNRD and DWEE in the 2024 calendar year. It is consistent with Chapter 9 of the IMP, which outlines the procedures for review and potential modification of the Voluntary IMP. In this review process, the LPSNRD and DWEE provide an annual report on data collected, a report on new groundwater or surface permits and uses, and reviews progress made toward achieving the goals and objectives. Questions were asked and answered throughout by Directors, staff, and DWEE.

It was moved by Ruth, seconded by Hellerich, and approved (7 yes, 0 no) by the Water Resources Subcommittee to recommend that the Board of Directors accept the 2024 Annual Integrated Management Plan Report.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35

Enclosures:

Cc: Bob Andersen
Corey Wasserburger