



**LOWER PLATTE SOUTH**  
natural resources district

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## Memorandum

**Date:** September 13, 2024  
**To:** Water Resources Subcommittee  
**From:** Drew Ratkovec, Projects Coordinator *DR*  
**Subject:** Water Resources Subcommittee Meeting Minutes – September 2024

The Water Resources Subcommittee met on September 12, 2024, at the NRD office, at 5:30 pm to take action on 5 items. A sixth item was discussed with no action. Subcommittee members who participated included Susan Seacrest- committee chair, Bob Andersen, Melissa Baker, Deborah Eagan, Gary Hellerich, Luke Petersen, and Larry Ruth. Others participating included NRD Staff Mike Sousek, David Potter, Dick Ehrman, Steve Herdzina, and Drew Ratkovec. Travis Hazard and Kyle Reents from Hazard Engineering, Ryan Winkel from Houston Engineering, Tyler Martin and Madeline Johnson from NeDNR, and Mike Ekert from Civil Design Group also were in attendance. Director Seacrest called the meeting to order at 5:31 am. A quorum was present for the meeting.

### **A. Review of the 2023 Annual Integrated Management Plan Report [ACTION]–**

Potter, Ehrman, and Johnson gave a detailed presentation on the 2023 annual integrated management plan report. The Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (LPSNRD) and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR) 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 NeDNR in the 2023 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 NeDNR provide an annual report on data collected, an annual 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 NeDNR.

**It was moved by Hellerich, seconded by Eagan, and approved 7-0 by the Subcommittee to recommend that the Board of Directors accept the 2023 Annual Integrated Management Plan Report.**

### **B. Consideration of Changes to Groundwater BMP Cost-Share [ACTION]–**

Dick Ehrman, Water Resources Coordinator discussed staff proposed changes to several existing cost-share programs for groundwater protection. These changes are in line with the general guidance provided by the Board at the February retreat. They will also provide value to all groundwater on the same level to make cost-share more uniform throughout the district. Questions were answered and several directors expressed their appreciation for the proposed changes.

**It was moved by Andersen, seconded by Peterson, and approved 7-0 by the Subcommittee to recommend that the Board of Directors approve the new rates for groundwater program best management practices cost-share effective immediately.**

### **C. Consideration of a Professional Services Agreement With Houston Engineering Inc.–**

#### **Weeping Water 5K Rehabilitation [ACTION]–**

Drew Ratkovec, Projects Coordinator discussed that NRD staff annually inspects all 190+ dams that are located within the district. During these inspections, the Weeping Water 5K structure, which is located approximately at the corner of 334<sup>th</sup> Street and Fletcher Ave. was experiencing continued shoreline and stilling basin erosion that needed to be addressed. This structure was constructed in the 1990s and originally designed as a vegetated berm. Staff discussed with Houston Engineering Inc. that riprap would need to be laid to armor the dam from shoreline wave erosion. Houston has provided the NRD with a Professional Services Agreement proposal for Project management/Project Direction, Design, Permitting, Bid Phase, and Construction Phase. The NRD has a satisfactory working relationship with Houston on several projects past and present.

- Work Type: Professional Services – Dam Structure
- Budget: Included in FY 25 Budget
- Funding: NRD
- Proposal: \$40,958.00 – Houston Engineering Inc.
- Start: Upon Board Approval
- Completion: End of FY25/Upon Construction Completion
- Bid Using Budget/List of Consultant's Hourly Rates
- Delays: weather, permitting
- Permits: USACE 404 Permit, NDNR Permit
- Access: No Concerns
- Payers, players, & Partners: NRD, Houston
- Legal Counsel Review: YES
- Deliverables: Project management/Project Direction, Design, Permitting, Bid Phase, and Construction Phase.

**It was moved by Andersen, seconded by Ruth, and approved 7-0 by the Subcommittee to recommend that the Board of Directors approve the Professional Services Agreement of \$40,598.00, by Houston Engineering Inc., for the Weeping Water 5K Rehabilitation.**

### **D. Consideration of Professional Services Agreement with Hazard Engineering – Upper Salt 18-8 Rehabilitation & Upper Salt 38-3 Rehabilitation [ACTION]–**

Drew Ratkovec, Projects Coordinator discussed an agreement between the NRD and Hazard Engineering for Professional Services on the Upper Salt 18-8 and 38-3 flood control structures. See below for a summary of each project.

The Upper Salt 18-8 dam structure near South 25<sup>th</sup> Street and Panama Road was completed in the 1950s. During the 2024 annual dam inspections, NRD Staff observed corrosion and holes allowing water to seep into the riser between the outlet and pipe support. Staff met with Hazard Engineering on-site to discuss repairs needed on the flood control structure. Since then, Hazard Engineering has provided the NRD with a Design, Permitting, and Construction Services proposal.

- Work Type: Professional Services – Dam Structure
- Budget: Included in FY25 Budget
- Funding: NRD
- Proposal (Exhibit A): \$38,000.00 – Hazard Engineering
- Start: Upon Board Approval
- Completion: End of FY25/Upon Construction Completion
- Bid Using Lump Sum
- Delays: weather, permitting

- Permits: USACE 404 Permit, NDNR Permit
- Access: No Concerns
- Payers, Players, & Partners: NRD, Hazard
- Legal Counsel Review: Yes
- Deliverables: Survey, Design, Permitting, Bidding Services, Construction Management, Construction Observation, and Construction certification

The Upper Salt 38-3 dam structure near South 148<sup>th</sup> Street and Stagecoach Road was completed in the 1960s. During the 2024 annual dam inspections, NRD Staff observed corrosion and holes allowing water to seep into the riser between the outlet and pipe support. Staff met with Hazard Engineering on-site to discuss repairs needed on the flood control structure. Since then, Hazard Engineering has provided the NRD with a Design, Permitting, and Construction Services proposal.

- Work Type: Professional Services – Dam Structure
- Budget: Included in FY25 Budget
- Funding: NRD
- Proposal (Exhibit B): \$38,000.00 – Hazard Engineering
- Start: Upon Board Approval
- Completion: End of FY25/Upon Construction Completion
- Bid Using Lump Sum
- Delays: weather, permitting
- Permits: USACE 404 Permit, NDNR Permit
- Access: No Concerns
- Payers, Players, & Partners: NRD, Hazard
- Legal Counsel Review: Yes
- Deliverables: Survey, Design, Permitting, Bidding Services, Construction Management, Construction Observation, and Construction certification

**It was moved by Eagan, seconded by Baker, and approved 7-0 by the Subcommittee to recommend that the Board of Directors approve the Professional Services Agreement proposal of \$76,000.00, by Hazard Engineering for the Upper Salt 18-8 and 38-3 Rehabilitation.**

#### **E. Fiscal Year 2025 Measurable Goals [ACTION]–**

David Potter, Assistant General Manager gave background information on the 2025 measurable goals. In the LPSNRD 2019 Master Plan, a list of measurable goals is to be developed for each subcommittee for the fiscal year and then those goals are to be reviewed each year to see what has been accomplished. It was noted this does not change the budget in any way.

**It was moved by Peterson, seconded by Ruth, and approved 7-0 by the Subcommittee to recommend that the Board of Directors approve the identified measurable goals and recommend them to the Finance and Planning Subcommittee for inclusion in the FY 25 Long Range Implementation Plan.**

#### **F. Consideration of a Partial Release of the Upper Salt 35-1 Access Easement [DISCUSSION]–**

Mike Ekert from Civil Design Group, Inc on behalf of SWG4 LLC presented the Directors and staff with a proposal to release part of the Access Easement for Upper Salt 35-1. This would be part of a development being designed north of the access easement. Currently, staff and contractors access the flood control structure of South 68th Street, just north of Hickman. If the NRD would grant this release, staff/contractors would have to access the dam by driving west down Woodland Blvd and then heading north through residential before returning to the access easement. Questions were asked by staff and directors with concerns about safety, obstacles, and if other

options were discussed. Directors expressed their concerns and the district's mission on the importance of access to the flood control structures. No motion was made, or action taken.

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.

Enclosures.

cc: Dave Landis  
Corey Wasserburger