



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH

natural resources district

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Memorandum

Date: September 23, 2022
To: Board of Directors
From: Mike Murren, Projects Coordinator *MM*
Subject: Water Resources Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

The Water Resources Subcommittee met in person at the LPSNRD office on Wednesday September 21st at 5:30 pm. Members present included Susan Seacrest, Bob Andersen, Gary Hellerich, Chelsea Johnson, Christine Lamberty, Larry Ruth, and Ken Vogel. Others present were Dick Ehrman, Paul Zillig, Dave Potter, Steve Herdzina, Maclane Scott, Chris Witthuhn, and Mike Murren, all with the LPSNRD. Also present was Legal Counsel Corey Wasserburger and Steve Seglin, and Jon Mohr with LRE engineering. Attending via of zoom was Dave Hume, Mike Plante and Roscoe Sopiwnik with LRE and Jared Abraham with AquaGeo Frameworks. The meeting was called to order by Chair Seacrest at 5:30 p.m.

Agenda Item 1: 3-D Hydrogeologic Frameworks

Staff from LRE Water and AquaGeo Frameworks gave an update on LPSNRD's 3-Dimensional Hydrogeologic Framework project. This project makes use of the 4300 miles of airborne electromagnetic (AEM) data collected by LPSNRD from 2007-2018, as well as other information such as UNL test hole logs, registered well logs, etc. The project is supported by a \$247,500 grant from the Water Sustainability Fund (matched with \$165,000 of LPSNRD funds) and is scheduled to be completed by or before December 31, 2023.

LRE and AGF gave an overview of how the AEM and other data are being used to develop a 3-dimensional "model" of the geology and hydrogeology of LPSNRD, very similar to work that has been done in the Lower Elkhorn, Lower Platte North, and Papio-Missouri River NRDs. Products will include digital coverages and hardcopy maps of topography, geology, and hydrogeology, and the data will be entered into a viewing and manipulation software package called Leapfrog, which will allow LPSNRD personnel to "fly through" the subsurface geology of the District as well as generate geologic cross-sections anywhere in the District. The project will also prepare the AEM and other data for future use in numerical groundwater models and will provide recommendations for further actions utilizing the framework.

Agenda Item 2: Groundwater Rules and Regulations

Ehrman and Wasserburger briefly reviewed the proposed revisions to LPSNRD's Groundwater Rules and Regulations. The main proposals are to add/revise several of the definitions, revise the classifications for water well permits, especially the addition of a new Class 5 permit for large (mostly industrial or commercial) water users, and further define which actions will be taken by the Board and which will be handled administratively by the General Manager.

Most of the discussion centered around the water well permit classifications, and suggestions were made to clarify the process so permit applicants will have an easier time determining which class of permit they will need. Staff and legal counsel will take these comments and suggestions and incorporate them into the next draft of the proposed revisions and the Subcommittee will consider them in future meetings. In addition, Director Hellerich requested the District consider allowing an additional allocation in the DVB Special Management Area for landowners who wish to plant cover crops in the fall; other NRDs (specifically Lower Elkhorn) allow an additional allocation for this purpose. It was noted that such an action would either require a variance or changes in the rules and regulations, and the Subcommittee will consider such actions in the future.

With no further business, the subcommittee meeting adjourned at approximately 7:25p.m.

MM/mm