



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH

natural resources district

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Memorandum

TO: Board of Directors
DATE: August 10, 2020
FROM: David Potter, Assistant General Manager
SUBJECT: Integrated Management Subcommittee meeting minutes.

The Integrated Management Subcommittee met virtually on Thursday, August 6, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. via Go-To Meeting. Members present included Sarah Wilson, Bob Andersen, Gary Hellerich, Bruce Johnson, Chelsea Johnson, Greg Osborn, Luke Peterson and Mark Spangler. Others present were Larry Ruth, Paul Zillig, Dan Schulz, Dick Ehrman, and David Potter, all with LPSNRD; Melissa Mosier, Jennifer Schellpeper, Jesse Winter, and Beth Eckles, all with NeDNR; and Dustin Wilcox with the NARD serving as the liaison between NeDNR and the NRDs. The meeting was called to order at 5:33 by Chair Wilson.

The first agenda item was the 2019 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 in order to sustain a balance between water uses and supplies for the long-term. This Annual Report covers the progress made towards Voluntary IMP implementation for both the LPSNRD and NeDNR in 2019. 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 provides an annual report on data collected, annual report on new groundwater or surface permits and uses, and reviews progress made toward achieving the goals and objectives. The Annual Report and power point presentation was provided to the subcommittee and the adopted IMP can be found on the LPSNRD website.

Melissa Mosier and David Potter presented a power point and briefly reviewed the contents of the draft IMP Report, noting the changes from last year, highlighting the joint actions, and stating the report will be made available to the public for review. It was noted that no amendments are needed to the Integrated Management Plan at this time but some potential amendments by NeDNR in the future were mentioned. All potential (and needed) amendments to the plan should be compiled and handled at the same time. With the subcommittee's recommendation, the 2019 Report will be provided to the Board and the public at the Board meeting on August 26st beginning at 7:00 p.m. Discussion was held on the draft report by staff and the Directors. A couple needed changes were noted and have been incorporated into the final report.

It was moved by Osborn, seconded by B. Johnson and unanimously approved to accept and present the 2019 Annual Integrated Management Plan Report to the Board of Directors.

The second item was consideration of an amendment to the Lower Platte River Consortium Interlocal Agreement. In August 2016, the District entered into an Interlocal Agreement with Lower Platte North NRD, Papio-Missouri River NRD, City of Lincoln-water, Metropolitan Utilities District (MUD), and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR) to form the Lower Platte River Consortium. The agreed upon purpose of the Consortium is to study the long-term water supplies available to the Lower Platte River sub-basin to enhance stream flows or aquifer storage to support during times of drought. The study conducted by the Consortium has led to the development of a Drought Contingency Plan. The Lower Platte River Drought Contingency Plan was approved by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) on September 30, 2019 as a requirement of their Water Smart Grand funding and approved by LPSNRD on December 18, 2019 on behalf of the Consortium. Funding was also obtained through the Water Sustainability Fund (WSF). The complete Plan can be found on the LPSNRD website at <https://www.lpsnrd.org/lower-platte-river-consortium>. A professional services agreement with HDR for a drought workshop was recently approved and is tentatively scheduled for September 2020.

The duration of the Consortium Interlocal Agreement was for three (3) years beginning September 27, 2016. In 2019, the agreement was amended to extend the duration to September 27, 2020. With more work planned by the Consortium, including a table-top exercise/workshop, the agreement needs to once again be amended. The purpose of the Amendment to the Lower Platte River Consortium is to extend the duration of the agreement for one (1) additional year, to September 2021. The proposed amendment was provided to the subcommittee.

It was moved by Andersen, seconded by Hellerich and unanimously approved to recommend the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to approve an Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement for the Platte River Consortium with LPSNRD, LPNNRD, PMRNRD, City of Lincoln, MUD, and NeDNR extending the agreement for one year, subject to legal counsel review.

The final agenda item was review of the FY20 measurable goal(s) and recommendation of the FY21 goal(s) for the subcommittee to Finance and Planning for inclusion in the FY21 LRIP. As directed 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. The measurable goal for the IM subcommittee for FY20 was to approve the Drought Contingency Study. The plan was approved by the Board in December 2019. The goal for FY21 is to complete the Drought Contingency Study Table Top Exercise/Workshop. This is tentatively scheduled for September 2020.

It was moved by Osborn, seconded by Andersen and unanimously approved to approve the identified measurable goal as part of the FY21 Long Range Implementation Plan.

With no further business, the subcommittee meeting adjourned at approximately 6:25 p.m.