



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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Memorandum

Date: September 19, 2018

To: Platte River Subcommittee

From: Paul D. Zillig, General Manager

RE: Platte River Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

The Platte River Subcommittee met at 5:30 pm on Monday, September 17, 2018 in the NRD Large Conference Room in Lincoln. Subcommittee members present included Karen Amen, Richard Bolte, Don Jacobson, Bruce Johnson, and Ron Svoboda (Chelsea Johnson was unable to attend but did join the meeting via conference call). Other Directors present included Greg Osborn, Anthony Schutz, and Larry Ruth. Others present included Steve Seglin, Dan Schulz, Dick Ehrman, and myself.

Karen Amen called the meeting to order, and gave a brief welcome. The only agenda item was to discuss the proposed Platte Republican Diversion Project that is being proposed by the Lower Republican and Tri-Basin NRDs and the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District. The applicants have filed for an Application for Variance (claiming there is available water in a moratorium/stay area) and an interbasin transfer of water addendum-permit to appropriate water.

Amen reviewed the attached summary she prepared concerning the project overview, process to date (review and approval for Water Sustainability Funds – WSF from the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission), and some subcommittee considerations.

I reviewed the project and reported that the North Platte NRD, Central Platte NRD, Lower Loup NRD, NPPD, Cozad Ditch Company, Loup River Public Power District, and Audubon Society have filed as Objectors to the application with DNR. The applicants have until September 26th to respond to the Objector's comments. The process will then follow DNR's contested case rules.

I reported that there are nearly 100 letters of concern (including LPSNRD and the City of Lincoln) and 3 letters of support that were filed with DNR prior to August 16th. The subcommittee also reviewed the attached project site map and letters of concern submitted by the LPSNRD and City of Lincoln.

The subcommittee discussed the need/benefits of the project and concerns about impacts to Lincoln's water supply, the definition of excess flows, the benefits of excess flows/floods, the WSF approval & obligation of funds, legal issues, and environmental concerns.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

PDZ/pz

Encl. 4

cc: Larry Ruth
Greg Osborn
Anthony Schutz
Ray Stevens
Steve Seglin