




LOWER PLATTE SOUTH
natural resources district

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Memorandum

Date: March 12, 2024
To: Water Resources Subcommittee
From: Drew Ratkovec, Projects Coordinator 
Subject: Water Resources Subcommittee Meeting Minutes – March 2024

The Water Resources Subcommittee met on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at the NRD Office, at 5:30 pm. Subcommittee members participating included Susan Seacrest- committee chair, Bob Anderson, Gary Hellerich, Luke Peterson, Larry Ruth, and Mark Spangler. Others participating included Board Chair David Landis, NRD staff Mike Sousek, David Potter, Mark Lindemann, Dick Ehrman, Steve Herdzina, Maclane Scott, Tyler Benal, and myself. Director Seacrest called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. There were two items the Subcommittee discussed with no items to take action on.

A. 2023 Groundwater Management Plan Annual Review [DISCUSSION]–

Steve Herdzina, Water Resources Compliance Specialist presented the annual Lower Platte South NRD Groundwater Management Plan Review for 2023. Herdzina, Ehrman-Water Resources Coordinator, and Groundwater Department Staff answered questions as the presentation was ongoing about different graphs and statistical data being shown on water quality and quantity within the district. Other relevant topics were cost-share programs and phase determinations. Highlights from different groundwater programs in 2023 were:

- 256 samples were collected from 246 different wells. Analysis included nitrate, pesticides, metals, and other analytes.
- 306 water levels were measured. Most wells showed declines in water levels.
- 4 wells were constructed out of 9 issued well permits.
- The district decommissioned 2 wells.
- There were 40 Chemigation Permits and no violations.
- 4 Water Meter Program cost-share applications completed.
- 2 Soil Sampling applications completed.
- 10 Fertilizer Meter Program applications completed.
- 6 Spring Nitrogen Application Program applications completed.

Refer to the 2023 LPSNRD Groundwater Management Plan Review for more information.

B. Allocation Amounts for Dwight-Valparaiso-Brainard Special Management Area (DVB SMA) [DISCUSSION]–

Steve Herdzina, Water Resources Compliance Specialist presented on the Dwight-Valparaiso-Brainard Special Management Area (DVB SMA) for 2023. Groundwater pumping in this area is subject to a rolling 3-year allocation of 21 inches not to exceed 9 inches in any one year. The current rolling allocation began

in 2020. For 2024, 56% of the systems have 9 inches or more remaining. Overall, three-quarters of the producers have at least 7 inches remaining. These statistics show the plan is being managed by producers well and balanced accordingly. Both Herdzina and Ehrman answered questions throughout the presentation regarding whether these amounts were appropriate and the history of the pumping activities for the allocation area.

Report:

David Potter, Assistant General Manager announced there is no longer an Integrated Management Subcommittee and that a program has been created within the Water Resources Subcommittee to advise the Integrated Management Plan. A quarterly meeting has been scheduled for March 29th at 10 am at the LPSNRD office.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Enclosures;

cc: Dave Landis

Corey Wasserburger