



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MAY 21, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District met at the Lower Platte South NRD Office on Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. Directors participating were Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum. Andersen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Andersen welcomed those in attendance, and the pledge of allegiance was recited. He noted that the public meetings law is posted in the room and that carrying concealed weapons is prohibited at board meetings and on District property. He requested all cell phones be put on silent mode. He reminded everyone a recording of the meeting will be on the NRD website. Andersen requested anyone wishing to speak on an agenda item to provide their name on the sign-in sheet and which agenda item they wished to speak on. An opportunity for the public to speak to non-agenda items was given.

ITEM 1. ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

Seventeen Directors were present upon roll call.

ITEM 2. PUBLICATION OF LEGAL NOTICE OF MEETING

Andersen reported that the legal notice of the Board Meeting was published on May 7, 2025 in the Lincoln Journal Star and on the Lincoln Journal Star & Nebraska Press Association Websites.

ITEM 3. CONSIDERATION OF DIRECTORS' ABSENCES

Andersen stated that requests for excused absences were received from Gary Hellerich and Christine Lamberty for the May 21, 2025 Board of Directors meeting.

It was moved by Landis and seconded by Eagan to approve the requests for excused absences from Gary Hellerich and Christine Lamberty for the May 21, 2025 Board of Directors meeting. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

ITEM 4. ADOPT AGENDA

It was moved by Matejka and seconded by Seacrest to adopt the Agenda. The motion was approved..

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum
NAY: None
NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

ITEM 5. APPROVAL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

It was moved by Landis and seconded by Lewis to approve the Minutes of the April 16, 2025 Board of Directors' Meeting. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum
NAY: None
NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

ITEM 6. REPORT OF THE FINANCE & PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Lewis stated that the Finance and Planning Subcommittee did not meet prior to the Board meeting.

Lewis stated that the financial reports for the period July 1, 2024 through April 30, 2025 had been distributed.

It was moved by Lewis and seconded by Jacobson to approve the financial reports for the period of July 1, 2024 through April 30, 2025 and publish the expenditures for April 2025. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum
NAY: None
NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

ITEM 7. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Andersen stated that the Executive Subcommittee met on May 14, 2025.

Andersen moved the Executive Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve a 3.4% cost of living adjustment to salaries for all classifications of employees that will take effect on July 1, 2025. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum
NAY: None
NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

Andersen moved the Executive Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve \$31,750.00 for fiscal year 2026 merit raises. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum
NAY: None
NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

Andersen moved the Executive Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve changes to G-3: Procedure for Hiring Consultants for Professional Services policy. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum
NAY: Aldridge
NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

Andersen moved the Executive Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve and have the General Manager sign the 2026 Operational Agreement between Lower Platte South NRD and USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum
NAY: None
NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

ITEM 8. REPORT OF THE LAND RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Vogel stated that the Land Resources Subcommittee did not meet prior to the Board meeting. He reported that two cost-share applications have been received for installing water quality improvement practices for the NRD's Summer Conservation Program. The applications were reviewed by the Eastern and Western Review Groups and meet the criteria for the Cost-Share Program.

Applicant Name	SEC	TWN	RNG	County	Practice	Amount
Dwaine & Rose Potter	17	13	5	Saunders	Terraces	\$20,000.00
Bornemeier Bros. LLC	17	10	9	Cass	Terraces	\$20,000.00
					TOTAL	\$40,000.00

It was moved by Vogel and seconded by Jacobson to approve the two identified Surface Water Quality BMP cost-share applications for summer work totaling \$40,000.00. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum
ABSTAIN: Spangler
NAY: None
NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

ITEM 9. REPORT OF THE INFORMATION & EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Seacrest stated that the Information & Education Subcommittee met on May 8, 2025.

Seacrest moved the Information & Education Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve financial support, up to \$5,000.00, for Pioneers Park Nature Center and Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center to provide guided prairie field trips for 7th grade students from two middle schools during the 2025/2026 school year.

Jodi Delozier, Communications Coordinator / Adult Environmental Education, answered questions of the Board regarding the 7th grade field trip pilot program.

The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

Seacrest moved the Information & Education Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve financial support for Unanimous to develop, design, and deliver a 2-minute, 30-second, and 15-second animated video series promoting Lower Platte South NRD programs and increase public awareness of the District's role in conservation.

Jodi Delozier, Communications Coordinator / Adult Environmental Education, answered questions of the Board regarding the animated video and content of video.

The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge, Hawkins and Spangler

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

ITEM 10. REPORT OF THE WATER RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Jacobson stated that the Water Resources Subcommittee met on May 14, 2025. He stated that there was not a quorum in attendance.

It was moved by Jacobson and seconded by Matejka that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to sign the University of Nebraska Conservation and Survey Cooperative Agreement Amendment #2 for accomplishing test-hole drilling geophysical measurements, and/or hydrogeologic services in the amount of \$45,000.00.

Katie Cameron, Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assessment (ENWRA) Project Coordinator, answered questions of the Board regarding how the information from the testing will be used.

The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

It was moved by Jacobson and seconded by Baker that the Board of Directors approve the Professional Services Agreement with Houston Engineering for the Janssen Road Structure Spillway Replacement for \$43,785.00. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

VOTING "PRESENT": Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

ITEM 11. ITEMS REQUIRING CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Green and seconded by Jacobson that the Board of Directors go into closed session at 6:10 p.m. in order to protect the public interest during discussion of pending litigation in the Barry v. Lower Platte South NRD matter. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

It was moved by Green and seconded by Landis to return to open session at 6:47 p.m. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

VOTING "PRESENT": Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Baker, Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

It was moved by Yoakum and seconded by Jacobson to support legal counsel advice regarding Barry v. Lower Platte South NRD. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Baker, Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

It was moved by Green and seconded by Landis that the Board of Directors go into closed session at 6:50 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Green, Hassebrook, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Eagan, Hawkins, Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

It was moved by Green and seconded by Lewis to return to open session at 8:16 p.m. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

It was moved by Landis and seconded by Jacobson to follow Strategy A. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Spangler, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Lamberty, Peterson and Schulz

ITEM 12. NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS (NARD) REPORT

John Yoakum reminded directors that the NARD 2025 NRD Tour – Niobrara River Basin is scheduled for June 9th and 10th and that the NARD Board meeting will be June 11th in Valentine, NE.

ITEM 13. PERMIT AND PROGRAM APPROVALS

A report of permit and program approvals was distributed.

ITEM 14. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

A schedule of upcoming events and activities was mailed out.

ITEM 15. FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Various memos were mailed out.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m. The undersigned, acting Secretary of the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (the "District"), hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the District held on May 21, 2025 that all of the matters and subjects discussed at the meeting were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the principal office of the District during normal business hours, and except for items of an

emergency nature, the agenda was not altered later than twenty-four (24) hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the above minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurred earlier; and, that reasonable efforts were made to provide all news media requesting notification of the meeting and of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

Donna Reid, Acting Secretary

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