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## PLATTE RIVER BASIN COALITION ILCA MEETING

Friday, December 10, 2021 1 p.m. CST

Twin Platte Natural Resources District

111 South Dewey Street, North Platte, NE 69101 and via Zoom conference call

### MEETING MINUTES

The meeting agenda is Attachment A.

- 1. Welcome**, by Kent Miller, Twin Platte NRD, chair, at approximately 1:05 p.m. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is present in the Twin Platte NRD office.
- 2. Open Meeting Publication** (*Attachment B*)
  - *North Platte Telegraph*: November 30, 2021
  - *Sidney Sun Telegraph*: December 1, 2021
  - *Grand Island Independent*: November 27, 2021
  - *Kearney Hub*: December 1, 2021
  - *Scottsbluff Star Herald*: November 28, 2021

### 3. Agenda approval

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda.

Move: Jennifer Schellpeper, NeDNR

Second: John Thorburn, TBNRD

Discussion: None.

Motion passes with all ayes.

### 4. Roll call

 (Ryan Kelly, NeDNR) of the ILCA Representative (*Attachment C*)

Kent Miller*, TPNRD	Jennifer Schellpeper*, NeDNR
Galen Wittrock*, SPNRD	Lyndon Vogt*, CPNRD
John Thorburn*, TBN NRD	John Berge*, NPNRD

\* voting representatives during the meeting; shaded areas are online attendees

Others in Attendance

Ann Dimmit, TPNRD	Brandi Flyn, CPNRD	Mike Drain, CNPPID
Ryan Reisdorff, SPNRD	Shelly Meyers, NeDNR	Scott Dicke, CNPPID
Ryan Kelly, NeDNR	Justin Ahern, NeDNR ??	Jean Eichhorst, NeDNR

## 5. Approval of the June 2021 minutes

Kent asked for any corrections or additions to the electronically provided June 2021 minutes. There were none.

**MOTION:** To approve the June 2021 minutes

Move: Lyndon Vogt, Central Platte NRD

Second: Jennifer Schellpeper, NeDNR

Discussion: None.

Motion passes with all ayes.

## 6. Budget Update

- General Updates
  - *Years 7-9 and Years 10-12*

Jennifer Schellpeper, NeDNR, reported that the group is nearing the end of the one-year extension, June 30, 2022. \$10 million dollars remain to be spent by that date. Agenda Attachment A (*Minutes Attachment D*) has more details.

If any NRD has a project that can be completed by that date, they should submit it to the group for approval. Projects need to fit within the ILCA and WRCF agreement and management goals.

Yet to be determined is what Nebraska Environmental Trust money may carry-over to the next period/fiscal year. Further, Shelly Meyer, NeDNR, reminded the group that \$3.3 million will be coming for Years 10-12.

Lyndon Vogt, CPNRD, might have a project, but they will need to check the Unified Plan to see how the two may accommodate each other and fit within the timeline.

John Berge, NPNRD, contacted the NeDNR earlier in the week with a few projects that may qualify for some of these funds.

- Studies
  - *2023 Robust Review*

Jennifer noted that the Western Water Use Management Model group has submitted a cost draft/proposal that the NeDNR received today. NeDNR will review the draft/proposal and have comments ready for the February 2022 meeting.

- *Contract extension for NeDNR Contract #1153 – Phase III of the Soil and Water Conservation Measures Study Project. See Agenda Attachment B. (Minutes Attachment E).*

Jennifer reminded the group that it is an extension in time not cost and that costs are split among the NRDs and the DNR for the conservation work.

**MOTION:** Invoice #21-2740: \$3,100 to The Flatwater Group with payments coming from Central Platte, Twin Platte, and Tri-Basin NRDs in the amount of \$516.66 each and a payment from the Nebraska DNR in the amount of \$1,555.02.<sup>1</sup>

Move: John Thorburn, TBNRD

Second: Jennifer Schellpeper, NeDNR

Discussion: None.

Motion passes with all ayes.

- HDR WaterSMART Grant

Ryan Kelly, NeDNR, reiterated that \$100,000 each will come from the NeDNR and the NRD once all the signatures have been received. The grant, focused on drought mitigation measures, will have two phases. According to the Bureau of Reclamation, qualified Phase 1 activities will be able to access grant monies before the official November 15, 2022 start date.

John Engel at HDR is our contact and will be working with Ryan. Ryan anticipates a work plan will be ready by the next PBC meeting. Task Force members should be identified by January's end and group members should expect an email detailing its' purpose and role.<sup>2</sup>

Jennifer reminded the group about the grant's connection to the Unified Plan and that it should also meet some of the drought plan requirements. She emphasized a coordinated approach.

- New obligations/Funding requests

There were none for this meeting.

## **7. Ongoing Project Activities/Operations Update—Obligated and Remaining Expenditures**

- CPNRD—Lyndon Vogt
  - No updates at this time.
- TPNRD—Kent Miller
  - No changes.

- NPNRD—John Berge
  - A proposal for future expenditures related to on-going projects and waiting for a permit.
  - EPIC was assessed this year and will probably be again next fiscal year, so they will be requesting financial assistance.
- TBNRD--John Thorburn
  - Work with the Platte River Recovery Augmentation Wellfield project is nearly completed. All pipelines have been laid, the 5<sup>th</sup> well was being drilled today, and powerlines should be done by the end of the year.
- SPNRD--Galen Wittrock
  - None at this time.
- NeDNR--Jennifer Schellpeper
  - The J-2 Water Service Agreement for 2023 will to be discussed and updated with CNPPID.<sup>3</sup>
  - The updated Upper Platte Decision Support System (DSS) page should be nearly complete, so that completing the annual excess flow permit application forms will be easier. Information provided in a prior year's application will be automatically pulled into the current year's application.

Members stated that Jeremy [Gehle] does a good job communicating with the NRDs.

## **8. Other Priority Items**

- None

## **9. Public Comment**

Scott Dickie, CNPPID complemented Jeremy [Gehle]'s great communication skills and appreciates his efforts.

## **10. 2022 Upcoming Meetings**

- February 1, 2022
- April 15, 2022
- June 16, 2022
- August 2, 2022
- October 4, 2022
- December 13, 2022

Jennifer Schellpeper, NeDNR, note that per state law, 50% of the meetings must be held in person. February and December will be virtual meetings. As needed, one additional meeting slot is available as a virtual meeting.

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**11. Adjourned** at approximately 1:30 p.m.

***Action Items***

- <sup>1</sup> Approved The Flatwater Group (TFG) invoice – NeDNR needs to follow-up with invoices to each NRD to pay TFG directly
- <sup>2</sup> WaterSMART grant Task Force purpose and member composition suggestions email
- <sup>3</sup> J-2 2023 service water agreement discussions with CNPPID