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## PLATTE BASIN COALITION ILCA MEETING

Thursday June 16, 2022, 1 p.m. Central Time  
Twin Platte Natural Resources District Office  
Interstate Bank Building, 111<sup>th</sup> Dewey Street,  
North Platte, NE 69101

### MEETING MINUTES

1. **Welcome** by Kent Miller at approximately 1 p.m. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is present.

2. **Roll Call of the PBC ILCA Representative**

Kent Miller*, TPNRD	Jennifer Schellpeper*, NeDNR
Galen Wittrock*, SPNRD	Brandi Flyr*, CPNRD
John Thorburn*, TBNNRD	Scott Schaneman*, NPNRD

*\* PBC ILCA voting representatives*

Others in Attendance

Ryan Kelly, NeDNR	Ann Dimmit, TPNRD
Jean Eichhorst, NeDNR	Jesse Bradley, NeDNR
Ryan Reisdorff, SPNRD	Shelly Julian, NeDNR
John Engel, HDR	Caitlin Kingsley, NeDNR

*Shaded areas indicate online attendees.*

3. **Publication of Meeting Notices** (*Attachment 3*)

- *North Platte Telegraph*: Thursday June 2, 2022
- *Sidney Sun Telegraph*: Wednesday June 1, 2022
- *Grand Island Independent*: Wednesday June 1, 2022
- *Kearney Hub*: Thursday June 2, 2022
- *Scottsbluff Star Herald*: (not published)

4. **Agenda approval** (*Attachment 4*)

**MOTION:** *To approve the June 16, 2022, agenda.*

*Move: Scott Schaneman; Second: Galen Wittrock*

*Discussion: none*

*Motion passed.*

5. **Approval of the April 15, 2022, Minutes** (*Attachment 5*)

There were no corrections for the April 15, 2022, meeting minutes.

**MOTION:** *To approve the April 15, 2022, minutes.*

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Move: John Thorburn; Second: Scott Schaneman

Discussion: none

Motion passed.

**ACTION: NeDNR will distribute the approved April 15, 2022, minutes and post on the DNR website. 1**

## 6. Budget Update (NeDNR)

### A. General Updates

#### i. Years 7-9 ([Attachment 6Ai](#))

**MOTION:** Release unspent funding from the Years 7-9 budget to the NeDNR for use on other qualifying projects.

Move: John Thorburn; Second: Brandi Flyr

Discussion: Funds could be applied other eligible Water Resources Cash Fund projects.

Motion passed.

#### ii. Years 10-12 ([Attachment 6Aii](#))

Jennifer Schellpeper and Jesse Bradley reiterated the importance of the group members' support for upcoming legislation that could impact water sustainability projects around the state. The NeDNR has developed an online StoryMap that illustrates and explains how the Water Resources Cash Fund legislation and funding have benefited the state. The legislature is the primary audience and a version of the StoryMap will be sent to this group for review and comment before becoming public.

**ACTION: NeDNR will provide the PBC members access to the WRCF StoryMap for review and comment prior to making it publicly available. 2**

#### iii. Studies

##### a. CropSIM Contract ([Attachment 6Aiiia](#))

**MOTION:** To approve and sign the CropSIM contract.

Move: Scott Schaneman; Second: Galen Wittrock

Discussion: none

Motion passed.

**ACTION: Kent Miller will sign the CropSIM Contract on behalf of the PBC. 3**

### B. Invoices

None

### C. New Budget Requests

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- i. NPNRD, Temporary Water Retirement funds request (*Attachment 6Ci*)  
The temporary retirement will benefit local municipalities that draw water from the area.

**MOTION:** *To approve NPNRD's request for temporary groundwater retirement funding.*

*Move: John Thorburn; Second: Brandi Flyr*

*Discussion: Jennifer reminded everyone that the PBC does have a protocol document describing how Project Proposals should be drafted and provides a template.*

*Motion passed.*

**ACTION:** *NeDNR will send members the Project Benefit Protocol document that should be used for project proposals. 4*

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

- A. CPNRD: no updates.
- B. TBNRD: The augmentation wells were tested without any problems.
- C. TPNRD: no updates.
- D. NPNRD:

The Enterprise Canal Project ran for 6 days before it was shut off due to lack of water in the river. Although the water sent to the recharge pit did not raise the water elevation, it did seep into the aquifer.

Jesse Bradley, NeDNR, added that surface water transfer examples including acreage reserves, pilot exchanges, and transfers are available to interested parties who may want to pursue efficient surface water use beyond traditional irrigation practices.

- E. SPNRD: no updates.
- F. NeDNR

Jennifer Schellpeper provided a visual from the DSS (Decision Support System) dashboard with current irrigation (up) and excess flow (none) conditions. These are as expected for the season.

The J-2 contract with CNPPID was discussed. A draft from CNPPID is expected shortly and an agreement needs to be put in place before the end of 2022.

Jesse Bradley spoke about the SWIIF program—Surface Water Irrigation Infrastructure Fund. Approximately 60 irrigation districts across the state

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are eligible for projects that focus on critical surface water irrigation infrastructure. A 2-page assessment is available on the department's website. Successful districts receive \$9 for every \$1 spent.  
<https://dnr.nebraska.gov/surface-water-irrigation-infrastructure-fund>

**8. Other Priority Items**

None

**9. Public Comment**

None

**10. 2022 Scheduled Meetings:**

- August 5, 2022, 1p.m. Central Time—TPNRD Office
- October 4, 2022, 1p.m. Central Time—TPNRD Office
- December 15, 2022, 1p.m. Central Time—virtual

**11. Wrap-up, questions, action items, next steps**

**12. Adjourn** at approximately 1:39 p.m.

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. *NeDNR will distribute the approved April 15, 2022, minutes and post on the DNR website*
2. *NeDNR will provide the PBC members access to the WRCF StoryMap for review and comment prior to making it publicly available.*
3. *Kent Miller will sign the CropSim Contract on behalf of the PBC.*
4. *NeDNR will send members the Project Benefit Protocol document that should be used for project proposals.*

**APPROVED MOTIONS**

- *June 16, 2022, agenda. (4)*
- *April 15, 2022, minutes. (5)*
- *Release unspent funding from the Years 7-9 budget to the NeDNR for use on other qualifying projects. (6Ai)*
- *Approve and sign the CropSIM contract. (6Aiii)*
- *NPNRD's request for temporary groundwater retirement funding. (6Ci)*