

Operations & Education Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 27, 2017 8:30 AM
Lower Platte North NRD Office
P.O. Box 126
Wahoo, NE 68066

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Tabled motion from September 11 board meeting. To have FYRA Engineering continue with a weather modeling policy/procedures in operating the current gate system on the Wanahoo Dam.

2. WILD NE/CREP REPORT

To pay on a CREP contract for Mohrman Farms in Platte County, 6.1 acres. The annual payment is \$111.58. The 2016 payment was lost so this payment will be \$223.16. This is the final payment as this contract expires.

3. OPERATION & MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS

The O & M staff will finish shredding the Clear Creek levee. We are cutting volunteer trees on the Wanahoo areas and finished spraying Black Locust at Czechland. Replaced the west buoy line on Lake Wanahoo and the retaining wall at the kiosk was also finished. Moved the remaining dirt piles at the dump station and filled erosion areas.

3.A. Lake Wanahoo Lake Level

The Lake Level Committee met at 7:30 a.m. on September 27th at the Lower Platte North NRD office. The agenda and last months minutes are attached. The Lake Level Committee recommended to take the tabled FRYA motion off the table and take it back to the Board. FYRA Engineering submitted an invoice of \$19,250.66 for the work they have completed on the Reservoir/Gate Operation Policy (attached). This contract was previously Board approved and the invoice will be paid. The remaining amount on the contract is \$2,719.34.

3.B. Lake Wanahoo SRA

Attached are the most current revenue and expense reports from Game & Parks for the Wanahoo Recreation area.

Heimann met with Eagle Scout Josh Varner on site to discuss the Monofilament container locations. Josh has collected most of his sponsors for each container. The installation date is set for October 28th.

The five director subcommittee met with Game & Parks Administration (Jim, Bob, Bill) on Monday, September 25th to review the Lake Wanahoo SRA Inter-local agreement. Some discussion items were, clarification on the timing of staffing the park, revenue and expense differences, add camping sites and upgrading to all 50 amp service, raise camping rates (proposed for 2019) and vendor concessions.

3.C. Lake Wanahoo Wildlife Areas

Heimann met with Scott Luedtke of Game & Parks, Brian Teeter and Rob Gray of Pheasant Forever to discuss the O & M of the entire Wanahoo Wildlife Areas (PATH Program Areas). There is much concern in controlling invasive volunteer trees on areas such as CS-15, 12, 14 and WD-5 (see attached map). Haying has helped and burning just puts back the growing points of the trees. Suggested tree control efforts in: CS-15 and northern 2/3 of WD-5 (mast planting area) Pheasants Forever would organize a volunteer day to walk CS-15 and WD-5 to wick herbicide on to the bark. On CS-14 and 12 the District is using it's Bobcat turbo saw to cut and treat stumps. On the southern 1/3 of WD-5 we need a dozer for a forest of Elm (roughly 4 acres). If all these are accomplished we would prescribe burn these areas in 2018. We would like to utilize monies generated from hay sales to clear this patch of Elm. In 2016 hay sales generated over \$14,000 and in 2015 it was greater. We have not received hay payment for the 2017 season. We will attempt to get a bid estimate on dozer work by Board meeting.

Did you know, there are 3 Sandhill Cranes occupying the area this summer.

3.D. Fremont GI Study

We have a new COE Project Manager, Chris Fassero, on the Fremont Study. Since Committee meeting, Mountford and Heimann met with Chris Fassero, Greg Johnson and Dave Goedeken on Thursday, October 5 to be introduced and given an update. The Corps Divisional Office is recommending that the Fremont Study be moved from a GI (General Investigation) to CAP (Continuing Authorities Program) in Section 205. In doing so, an amendment to the agreement will be produced by the Corps. Going through CAP the Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) which is the Nonstructural Plan, doesn't have to go through Corps Headquarters but only the Divisional Office in Omaha. They also believe the study cost will decrease approximately \$50,000 and that construction could start in 2019, whereas if in GI it could be 2022. The Nonstructural Program would be open to the community for 8-10 years.

3.E. Rawhide Land Partnership - Paul Gifford

Lausterer put together a global agreement between the NRD, City of Fremont and Paul Gifford to pay Mr. Gifford \$73,800 for a proposed box culvert. The City would reimburse the District \$18,400 for what was proposed by Mr. Gifford as engineering services. The City Attorney (Paul Payne) is taking a hard stance against the amount of \$18,400. At one point we had an estimate to construct a box culvert for \$65,800, 15% of that for engineering is \$9,870. On Tuesday, September 26, Lausterer had discussion with Brian Newton, Paul Payne and Brad Holtorf. Brad is going to produce various records to Paul Payne identifying that liability acknowledged verbally or otherwise by the City to Paul Gifford. Paul Payne questions the liability the City has to Paul Gifford. Lausterer advised everyone that our position is established that we either need a direct agreement with Gifford for \$55,400 or a global settlement with all for \$73,800 with the City paying \$18,400 of that. It may just come down to building the box culvert.

3.F. Dump Trailer Replacement

The District's current dump trailer (purchased in 2012) is at capacity when hauling the Bobcat and attachments, 14,000 lbs and 14' in length. We have had issues with the brakes, springs and bearings the past couple years. We have budgeted \$9,000 for a triple axle dump trailer that

would be rated for 21,000 lbs and 16' in length to better accommodate hauling the backhoe attachment. Mitch O'Reilly has put together specs and a list of potential trailer dealers. Staff would like to advertise for a new trailer and sell the current trailer after the purchase. It's estimated that the old trailer could sell for around \$5,000.

3.G. Wanahoo Dirt/Sand Sales

M.E. Collins submitted a payment of \$1,480 Sept. 18th. The total since June, 2012 is \$218,994.

4. ROCK AND JETTY

New application from Sharon Cody on the Platte River in Saunders County for river bank repair.

5. EROSION & SEDIMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

6. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

6.A. Information

6.A.1. Radio & eAds

The KTIC Radio ad and the Wahoo Newspaper eAd promoted the LPNNRD recreation areas from September 16th-30th. In October, the ads will promote grass drill rentals. The September ads are attached.

6.A.2. Website RFP

We would like to re-design our website to offer an updated look, easier navigation, and a different option for staff to make changes and updates. We currently host the site from our office and wish to have it hosted by an outside source.

TePoel has visited with other NRDs who have recently updated their websites and has reached out to recommended companies. We would like to begin advertising and sending out RFPs on Thursday, September 28th. The suggested deadline for proposals is October 27th and a final decision will be made during the Board of Directors meeting on November 13th.

The RFP is attached.

6.A.3. FY2017 Long Range Plan

Staff are currently making updates and providing additions for the FY2017 Long Range Plan.

6.B. Education

6.B.1. Wonderful World of Water

On Wednesday, September 20th TePoel attended the Wonderful World of Water hosted by the Upper Elkhorn NRD and Lower Elkhorn NRD. Approximately 65 students participated in Wildlife CSI during TePoel's sessions.

6.C. Computer

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

New Rural Water manager introduction/report.

7.A. Colon System

Bills to go out this week.

Meters will be read, samples to be tested later this week.

RW dept was notified of small leak on Spruce St., we will investigate ASAP.

7.B. Bruno System

Bills to go out this week.

Water testing and meters to be read later this week.

7.C. Other

8. Adjournment