

Operations Committee Meeting
Thursday, March 28, 2024 9:00 AM
Lower Platte North NRD Office
P.O. Box 126
Wahoo, NE 68066

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

We do not have any unfinished business.

2. WILD NE AND OTHER PROGRAMS

Pruss Excavating has finished the excavation of the Wanahoo Wetland area. A final inspection by DU and the NRD was Friday, March 22nd. We are asking for As-built plans and waiting on an invoice from DU.

M.E. Collins is currently excavating sediment from the Cat Paws on the west side of the Wanahoo wetland complex. Depositing the material at the soil borrow area.

We have a signed contract & documents with NRCS to have the Wanahoo Pheasants Forever/Snitly parcel burned this Spring. NRCS covers the cost.

3. OPERATION & MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS

The O & M crew continues to cut trees on many of our project areas. Check our recreation areas, maintaining vehicles, equipment and rearranging and cleaning up our equipment shed.

3.A. Rehabilitation of Cottonwood 21-A, NRCS & HDR

HDR is working on the economics of the study. We are awaiting a date and time for a 60% study completion meeting.

3.B. Intersection Hwy 77 & 109 Round-About

The electrical contractor, Cable Communication Services, for the City of Wahoo, has mobilized and will take approximately 6 weeks to install new service around the Wanahoo dam embankment, remove the old or abandoned cable and fill any conduits through the embankment with flowable grout.

The contractor for NDOT will perform the filter systems around the Windstream lines, gas, and any others. John Petersen of JEO has an approved filter system and an estimate for material quantities and cost.

3.C. Lower Platte Weed Management Interlocal Agreement

We will pay our annual interlocal agreement payment of \$30,000 to the Missouri-Papio NRD. These funds are used by the Lower Platte Weed Management group in controlling Phormites and Purple Loosestrife along the Platte, Elkhorn Rivers and tributaries.

Our Interlocal between LPN, LPS and Papio NRD's is being updated with an Amendment to the Second Amended Interlocal agreement to incorporate "Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAV's or Drones) application" (see attachment). The former amended agreement specified helicopter applications.

Papio NRD is also requesting bids (for the Weed Group) from Drone contractors to

have an approved list the County Weed Superintendents and NRD's can use at set prices. It's hoped that 3-7 drone contractors can be listed to cover the region.

3.D. Equipment for Sale

We can sell our JD CX-15 flex wing rotary shredder. It was purchased for \$15,350 in December 2015. We are starting at \$15,000 and have it open for bids until noon April 30th.

3.E. Haying NRD Recreation Areas

We will advertise haying our recreation areas, Wanahoo, Czechland and Homestead Lakes. The acres to hay are approximate; Wanahoo 173, Czechland 36.5 and Homestead 26.5 acres. Bids will be approved at the May Board meeting.

4. ROCK AND JETTY

We have not received any applications or requests for payment. There have been some inquiries.

5. LAKE WANAHOO

5.A. Lake Wanahoo Permit Sales

For the month of February, the District received \$4,720.00 in annual park permit revenue. The year by year break down is listed below.

Month	Monthly Total	YTD
February 2024	\$4,720.00	\$18,240.50
February 2023	\$3,852.50	\$73,017.50
February 2022	\$3,825.00	\$75,262.50
February 2021	\$7,935.00	\$85,656.85
February 2020	\$6,070.00	\$96,317.50
February 2019	\$9,677.50	\$82,252.50

5.B. Lake Wanahoo Camping Revenue

For the month of February, the District received \$3,787.16 in camping revenue. The year by year comparison is below.

Month	Month Total	YTD
February 2024	\$3,787.16	\$6,991.22
February 2023	\$4,267.89	\$127,792.00
February 2022	\$3,540.62	\$129,922.83
February 2021	\$6,189.12	\$118,152.11
February 2020	\$1,929.90	\$134,027.78
February 2019	\$1,607.00	\$93,337.36

5.C. Clint Johannes Education Building

The Clint Johannes Education Building at Lake Wanahoo was rented 21 times with 3 NRD events. Revenue for the month was \$1,425.

5.D. Potential Amphitheater Located on Wanahoo Property

Lonny Hansen is requesting to work with LPNNRD to construct an amphitheater on the west side of our Wanahoo property. Plans would be for the NRD to provide the location and minimum landscaping maintenance and Mr. Hansen's trust would provide construction, management and maintenance of the facility. Mr. Hansen would like to know if LPNNRD will work with him on this project before he proceeds any further.

6. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

6.A. Information

6.A.1. Radio & eAds

The KTIC radio ads and Wahoo newspaper e-ads during March featured limited trees and shrubs availability. April ads will feature the recreation areas.

6.A.2. Analytics

The LPNNRD Facebook/Twitter pages, and the website are some of the fastest ways to get information out to the public. Tracking analytics are a way to see how many people are seeing the information. Sometimes a decrease in reach or impressions can mean there is an error with the Facebook/Twitter pages or the website. Facebook and Twitter posts range from 10 - 15 posts per month. If you are on Facebook or Twitter, please like, follow, share, or retweet the Lower Platte North NRD posts!

Total reach/impressions show how many people saw the post/tweet. Engagements include likes, comments, shares/retweets and link clicks.

FACEBOOK	Total Reach	Engagements	Followers
March 1-26	6,755	6,106	1,550
February	8,395	8,208	1,531
January 2024	13,669	1,078	1,513
December 2023	2,381	135	1,501
November 2023	4,072	138	1,501

Twitter is in the process of updating analytics still. Some of this data may not be measured the same as it was in the previous months.

TWITTER	Total impressions	Engagements	Followers
March 1-26	656	56	426

February	1,033	34	416
January 2024	1528	86	417
December 2023	711	51	411
November 2023	682	16	411

Top Posts on Facebook and Twitter:

- Bees and Brews flyer
- NRD Recreation Exploration program has begun
- Still have trees available
- Community Partnership Program signing with Wahoo and Nebraska National Guard
- National Groundwater Awareness week

WEEK	Users	Traffic Channel Changes	Top Pages	Devices
March 1-26	1,489	Organic -8.51% Direct -32.94% Referral -47.5% Social -16.67%	Lake Wanhoo Home Czechland Forestry Staff	Desktop 48.9% Mobile 48.8% Tablet 2.3%
February	1,838	Organic 0.8% Direct -9.6% Referral 64.3% Social -61.8%	Home Lake Wanhoo Forestry Downloads Czechland	Desktop 52% Mobile 45.8% Tablet 2.2%
January 2024	1,718	Organic 51.06% Direct 1.06% Referral 63.3% Social 937.5%	Home Lake Wanhoo Downloads Czechland Staff	Desktop 51.4% Mobile 47.3% Tablet 1.3%
December 2023	1,075	Organic -20.26% Direct 3.1% Referral -2.27% Social -81.58%	Home Lake Wanhoo Downloads Staff Czechland	No data
November	1,332	Organic -32.42% Direct -25.96% Referral -42.86% Social -81.58%	Lake Wanhoo Home Czechland Lake Staff Downloads	Desktop Mobile Tablet

2023				
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Traffic channels: organic traffic means they use a search engine then choose an option that includes lpnnrd.org, direct traffic means they type in lpnnrd.org directly (or have it bookmarked), and referral traffic is any other traffic not from a search engine or social (such as a link from another site). As of mid-September changes for traffic channels and devices will show increase or decrease for the month.

Top referral clicks from: nrdnet.org 39, visitnebraska.com 10, 1011now.com 1, Wahoo newspaper website (LPNNRD digital ad) 0.

Clicks from Facebook: 27.

Clicks from Twitter: 0.

6.A.3. County Fair Sponsorships

The Lower Platte North NRD received sponsorship information from Dodge County and Saunders County.

Dodge County sponsorship levels range from \$250-\$10,000+. Last year we donated \$250. The full sponsorship levels are attached. The Dodge County fair runs July 31 - August 4.

Saunders County sponsorship levels range from \$1-\$5,000+. Last year we donated \$500. The full sponsorship levels are attached. There is an opportunity for an indoor booth this year-TBD depending on staff availability. The Saunders County fair runs July 28 - August 4.

6.B. Education

6.B.1. Shell Creek Watershed Scholarship

Shell Creek Watershed Scholarship Applications

The Lower Platte North Natural Resources District offers **three \$1,000 scholarships** for graduating seniors in the Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Program who plan to pursue higher education relating to science or natural resources.

To qualify for a scholarship, applicants must:

- Be a graduating senior at Newman Grove High School, Schuyler Central High School, or Columbus Lakeview High School
- Have completed at least one year as a member of the Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Program
- Be enrolled in an accredited two-year or four-year college or university
- Plan to pursue a major or course of study relating to science and/or natural resources

The NRD received 4 scholarship applications (attached) for the Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Group Scholarship:

Christyan Anderson, Newman Grove - participated in the Shell Creek Watershed monitoring program for multiple years. Future plans: Exercise Science at University of Nebraska-Kearney.

Hannah Ogan, Lakeview - participated in the Shell Creek Watershed monitoring program for 4 years. Future plans: Rangeland Management at Chadron State College.
Trenton Patzel, Newman Grove - participated in the Shell Creek Watershed monitoring program for 7 years. Future plans: Animal Science/Veterinary Science at Midland University.

Austin Wiese, Newman Grove - participated in the Shell Creek Watershed monitoring program since 7th grade. Future plans: Agribusiness at University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Staff was directed to review the Newman Grove applicants' essays and bring forth two applicants to the Board for final decision. The third scholarship will be offered to the Lakeview student.

A motion will be needed at Board Meeting to award the three Shell Creek Scholarships.

6.B.2. Past Events

March 4th: Snakes of Nebraska (repeated Coffee Lakeside topic), 2 attended.

March 6th: Linden Elementary (Fremont) Kindergartners. Three classrooms learned about the flora and fauna of the prairies.

March 7th: Coffee Lakeside, Bees of Nebraska.

March 13th: Bees and Brews event; 26 people attended.

March 19th: North Bend fourth graders learned about wildlife CSI.

March 20th: North Bend fifth graders learned about watersheds, groundwater, and how they are connected.

March 26th & 27th: I & E Meeting Hastings.

March 27th: Survival Club

6.B.3. Upcoming events

April 4th: St. Wenceslaus Pre-K classroom visit.

April 11th: Coffee Lakeside with Paula Hoppe.

April 17th: Survival Club

April 18th: Fremont Ecofair

Arbor Day and Earth Day Presentations TBD + Field Trips

6.B.4. Spring Conservation Sensation

Our annual Spring Conservation Sensation is coming up on May 1st. We are always looking for extra volunteers to help with different stations throughout the day. If you are interested in more information or want to volunteer, please email me: sabbott@lpnrd.org

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

7.A. Rural Water Operations

The RWD received our 2023 Annual Water Quality Report and Consumer Confidence Report from NDEE. The RWD will have the reports available to customers as required by state policy.

The RWD continues to work on the lead service line inventory that is due to EPA by October 16, 2024. The inventory will be used to track any existing lead service lines within public water systems (PWS) and is a federal requirement for all PWS.

It was a routine month for both Colon and Bruno RWDs; coliform sampling completed, and bills will be mailed 3/29.

Elliott attended the NeRWA annual conference 3/11-13 in Kearney.

7.B. Colon System

7.C. Bruno System

7.D. Other

LOWER PLATTE NORTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

**AMENDMENT TO THE SECOND AMENDED INTERLOCAL COOPERATION ACT
AGREEMENT**

LOWER PLATTE RIVER PHRAGMITES MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

THIS AMENDMENT (hereinafter referred to as "this **AMENDMENT**") is entered into by and between the **LOWER PLATTE NORTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**, the **LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**, and the **PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT** (referred collectively as the "CONTRACTING NRDS") the pursuant to the authority provided in the Nebraska Interlocal Cooperation Act (§§13-801, R.R.S., 1943, et seq.)

RECITALS:

WHEREAS the CONTRACTING NRDS entered into an Interlocal Cooperation Act that was executed in September and October of 2009 by the CONTRACTING NRDS which outlined the various tasks and obligations of the CONTRACTING NRDS in order to implement a Phragmites Management Program on the Lower Platte River;

WHEREAS the CONTRACTING NRDS entered into an Amended Agreement that was executed in July of 2014 which outlined changes to the various tasks and obligations of the CONTRACTING NRDS in order to implement a Phragmites Management Program on the Lower Platte River;

WHEREAS, the CONTRACTING NRDS entered into a Second Amended Agreement that was executed in 2016 which clarified the process of how contracts were to be awarded and increased cost-sharing contributions among the CONTRACTING NRDS, among other things, for the Phragmites Management Program on the Lower Platte River; and

WHEREAS, the CONTRACTING NRDS desire to amend the Second Amended Agreement to incorporate the utilization of technology for the application of herbicide meeting the criteria set forth in the Second Amended Agreement through this **AMENDMENT**.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing recitals and their mutual covenants hereinafter expressed, the CONTRACTING NRDS agree to amend the Second Amended Agreement as follows:

1) The paragraph (c) under Program Plan titled **AERIAL APPLICATION AND MECHANICAL REMOVAL** shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

(C) Aerial Application and Mechanical Removal: Upon receipt of such designations, and using written plans and specifications and other contract documents prepared by the P-MRNRD (collectively, the "**CONTRACT DOCUMENTS**"), the P-MRNRD shall i) advertise for sealed bids for a contractor (the "**PROGRAM APPLICATOR**") to provide helicopter application and/or Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAV) application (the "**AERIAL APPLICATION**") of the herbicide designated by the trade name of "Habitat" upon TARGET VEGETATION on lands in the FLOOD CHANNELS within the respective AFFECTED COUNTIES that CONTRACTING NRDS have approved for the AERIAL APPLICATION or ii) advertise for sealed bids for a contractor (the "**PROGRAM MECHANICAL CONTRACTOR**") to provide mechanical removal of TARGET VEGETATION in the FLOOD CHANNELS within the AFFECTED COUNTIES that CONTRACTING NRDS have approved for mechanical clearing.

Except as modified by this AMENDMENT, the Second Amended Agreement is ratified and confirmed in all respects.

[SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW]

THIS AMENDMENT is executed by the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District on this ____ day of _____, 2024 pursuant to resolution duly adopted by its Board of Directors.

LOWER PLATTE NORTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

By _____
General Manager

THIS AMENDMENT is executed by the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District on this ____ day of _____, 2024 pursuant to resolution duly adopted by its Board of Directors.

LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

By _____
General Manager

THIS AMENDMENT is executed by the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District on this ____ day of _____, 2024 pursuant to resolution duly adopted by its Board of Directors.

PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

By _____
General Manager

SEEDLING HANDPLANTS: \$1.25 PER TREE OR SHRUB

Species may be limited.
Please contact LPNNRD for
availability at 402-443-4675
before ordering.



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District

SEEDLING HANDPLANTS: \$1.25 PER TREE OR SHRUB

Species may be limited. Please contact LPNNRD for availability at 402-443-4675 before ordering.



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District

Levels of Sponsorship

- **Dodge County Fair Corporate Sponsor**
This sponsorship will include:
 - ❖ 2024 Dodge County Fair Sponsor- \$25,000
 - ❖ 2024 Concert Sponsorship
 - Main Act-\$15,000
 - Stage- \$10,000
 - ❖ Tractor Pull
 - Pull- \$5,000
 - Sled- \$3,000
 - ❖ Demo- \$7500
 - ❖ All options above allow for naming rights when announcing/advertising
 - Example: "Concert brought to you by....."

- **Overall Champion Level - \$10,000+**
 - ❖ Supreme Champion Level plus the following
 - ❖ Two banners with your business logo and name displayed during the fair
 - ❖ 20 Event Tickets (Events of sponsors choice) **Indicate your ticket preferences below*

- **Supreme Champion Level - \$5000-\$9999**
 - ❖ Grand Champion Level plus the following
 - ❖ 20 Event Tickets (Events of sponsors choice) **Indicate your ticket preferences below*
 - ❖ Radio and newspaper recognition

- **Grand Champion Level - \$2500-\$4999**
 - ❖ Purple Ribbon Level plus the following
 - ❖ 10 Event Tickets (Events of sponsors choice) **Indicate your ticket preferences below*
 - ❖ Vendor/Booth space on fairgrounds
 - ❖ Ability to provide Ag Society with your marketing/recruitment giveaways to be shared at chosen event

- **Purple Ribbon Level - \$1000-\$2499**
 - ❖ Full Pull Level plus the following
 - ❖ 4 Event Tickets (Events of sponsors choice) **Indicate your ticket preferences below*
 - ❖ Sponsor name on printed fair materials,

- **Full Pull Level - \$500-\$999**
 - ❖ Showmanship Level plus the following
 - ❖ One banner with your business logo and name displayed during the fair
 - ❖ 4 Event Tickets (2 for the Outlaw Tractor Pull, 2 for the Demo)

- **Showmanship Level - \$250-\$499**
 - ❖ Announcer recognition at events
 - ❖ Recognition on donation boards located on the fairgrounds during the fair and on the fair website

Ticket Requests # ____ Concert ____ Outlaw Tractor Pull ____ Demo Derby

Sponsor Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Make check payable to:
Dodge County Agricultural Society
P.O. Box 58
Scribner, NE 68057

Email Company logo to dodgecountyfairne@gmail.com

Please complete this form and send it with your payment to the above address.

* To allow print time for banners, logos need to be received by July 19th. Thank you!



2024 Saunders County Fair

-Sponsorship Opportunities-

Platinum Level \$5,000+

- Motorsports Event Tickets (50)
- Concert Tickets (24)
- Wine Tasting Tickets (12)
- One (1) Complimentary facility rental at Fairgrounds
- 3x5 Business Banner *(provided by SCAS)*
- 2x7 Arena Crow's Nest Sign *(provided by SCAS)*
- Equipment Showcased *(optional)*
- Logo on fair Website
- Interview with Saunders Co Online Radio
- Social Media Recognition
- Business Name on Large Thank You Banner
- Mentions during three (3) Motorsports Events

Gold Level \$2,500

- Motorsports Event Tickets (25)
- Concert Tickets (12)
- Wine Tasting Tickets (6)
- 3x5 Business Banner *(provided by SCAS)*
- Equipment Showcased *(optional)*
- Logo on fair Website
- Social Media Recognition
- Business Name on Large Thank You Banner
- Mentions during three (3) Motorsports Events

Silver Level \$1,000

- Motorsports Event Tickets (10)
- Concert Tickets (6)
- Wine Tasting Tickets (4)
- 3x5 Business Banner *(provided by SCAS)*
- Equipment Showcased *(optional)*
- Logo on fair Website
- Social Media Recognition
- Business Name on Large Thank You Banner
- Mentions during two (2) Motorsports Events

Bronze Level \$500

- Motorsports Event Tickets (6)
- Concert Tickets (2)
- Wine Tasting Tickets (2)
- 3x5 Business Banner *(provided by SCAS)*
- Logo on fair Website
- Social Media Recognition
- Business Name on Large Thank You Banner
- Mentions during one (1) Motorsports Events

Fair Level up to \$499

- Motorsports Tickets (2)
- Business Name on Large Thank You Banner
- Social Media Recognition
- Mentions during one (1) Motorsports Event

Contact: Linne Vavrina, Fair Manager

fairmanager@saunderscountyfair.com (402) 480-4905

*Banners will be included in sponsorship package for Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum. Please email logo or design to fair manager no later than July 1, 2024, to allow for banners to be made and advertising to be scheduled.

Applications must be received by the LPNDRD Office no later than March 15th for consideration for the fall term.

SHELL CREEK WATERSHED MONITORING PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

1. ACADEMIC YEAR – Indicate the academic year for which you are applying for scholarship assistance: 2024

2. MAJOR/COURSE OF STUDY – Indicate the major or course of study you will be pursuing:
I will be pursuing Exercise Science as my academic major.

3. COLLEGE – Indicate the accredited two-year or four-year college or university you will be attending:
I will be attending the University of Nebraska-Kearney

4. PERSONAL DATA

Applicant Name (<i>First MI Last</i>): <u>Christyan L. Anderson</u>			
Primary Residence:			
Address <u>401 County Line Rd.</u>			
City <u>Newman Grove</u>	State <u>NE</u>	ZIP <u>68758</u>	
Primary Phone <u>402-741-9155</u>	Email <u>clnosredna24@gmail.com</u>		
Parent/Guardian Name(s) <u>Mandy and Jason Anderson</u>			

5. PERSONAL ESSAY – On one separate sheet of paper provide an essay stating your chosen major/course of study, how it relates to science and/or natural resources, and how you believe your experience with the Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Program will help you achieve your academic goals. Please do not exceed one page.

6. HIGH SCHOOL GRADES - Provide a copy of your most recent high school grades/transcript, including GPA.

7. SAT/ACT SCORES - If available, provide a copy of your SAT or ACT results.

Continued on next page

8. PROOF OF ENROLLMENT - Provide proof of enrollment (ie. letter of acceptance, tuition statement, or class schedule) from the college/university you will be attending.

PLEASE SUBMIT ONLY ONE APPLICATION. Completion of items 1 through 8 above is mandatory. If the information requested does not apply, enter N/A. Applications should be sent to: **Lower Platte North NRD, PO Box 126, Wahoo, NE 68066**, or emailed to **lpnnrd@lpnnrd.org**

ELIGIBILITY – To be eligible, an applicant must satisfy the following requirements:

Be a graduating senior at Newman Grove High School, Schuyler Central High School, or Columbus Lakeview High School.

Have completed at least one year as a member of the Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Program.

Be enrolled in an accredited two- or four-year college or university.

Plan to pursue a major or course of study relating to science and/or natural resources.

All applications and supporting materials must be received by the LPNNRD Office no later than March 15th for consideration for the fall term.

Lower Platte North NRD staff and representatives from Newman Grove Public Schools, Schuyler Public Schools and Lakeview Community Schools will evaluate applications. The Lower Platte North NRD Board of Directors will make the final award decision.

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all information given on this application is true, correct, original and complete, and that I understand and will abide by the scholarship requirements if I am chosen as the recipient.

Applicant's Signature Christyann L. Anderson Date: 03/14/2024

After graduating from Newman Grove High School, I will be attending the University of Nebraska-Kearney and study Exercise Science. Now I chose Exercise Science, because then I can still help people especially with sports and I also get to work with the science aspect of it. Exercise Science is a mix of both athletics and human sciences. Having been in Shell Creek for a couple of years I have realized that it has helped me build connections with people, gain critical thinking skills, and get more science background. Being in Shell Creek has also helped me learn the fundamentals of both communication and just science in general. When I was in Shell Creek Watershed we would collect water samples from multiple people and test them for nitrates and other dangerous chemicals in the water. This helped me with responsibility and organization skills, without organization and responsibility I wouldn't have accomplished as much as I did in that class. I am so grateful for taking the Shell Creek class and being a part of such a great organization that our school has to offer. With being in the class we were learning more about the affects on our environment and the people in our community. This is where my major comes into play, you see with me learning how different things affect people it will make it easier for me to help others. Since I have gained so many different skills from being in Shell Creek I feel like it is a great opportunity for students to take advantage of, they will learn so much about the environment and what effect we have on it and the people around us.

1-4: Personal Data

Applications must be received by the LPNNRD Office no later than March 15th for consideration for the fall term.

SHELL CREEK WATERSHED MONITORING PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

1. **ACADEMIC YEAR** – Indicate the academic year for which you are applying for scholarship assistance: 2024-2025

2. **MAJOR/COURSE OF STUDY** – Indicate the major or course of study you will be pursuing:
Rangeland Management

3. **COLLEGE** – Indicate the accredited two-year or four-year college or university you will be attending:
Chadron State College

4. PERSONAL DATA

Applicant Name (First MI Last):

Hannah D. Ogan

Primary Residence:

Address 703 Pine St.

City Creston State NE ZIP 68631

Primary Phone 402-270-6513 Email hdonebraska@gmail.com

Parent/Guardian Name(s) Aaron and Melissa Ogan

5: Personal Essay

My plans after high school is to attend Chadron State College and pursue a degree in Rangeland Management. Natural resources are important in the field of Rangeland Management. My career in this field will have me analyze natural resources, study and provide ways to implement conservation, and teach others how to take care of the land. This is all very important for future generations. We only have so much land to use, and the world is constantly growing. Knowing how to utilize and care for natural resources properly will be very essential. Through Rangeland Management, I plan on learning how to care for natural resources and sharing my knowledge with others.

I have been a part of the Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Program for four years. In December of my freshman year, a group of FFA members went to the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources to learn about water testing. That summer following was the first year that Lakeview started water testing. Having a new program in our chapter was exciting, and I was proud to be a part of it. The first year, I learned how to properly collect samples and prepare them for accurate results. A few members and myself presented our data to a panel of members from LPNNRD. During my sophomore year, I made water testing my Supervised Agricultural Experience in FFA. I took the lead role in the program. This involved me creating schedules to collect samples, and coming back the next day to process results. I put together information for the LPNNRD. During Sophomore year, I created, "Test Your Well Night". This allowed members from the community to bring in well water samples to be tested for nitrates. The LPNNRD brought materials for this event. Without their help, it would not have been successful. During my Junior and Senior year, I began to get more underclassmen involved in this program. Having a program that has so much hands-on experience is a great way to get members involved. Over the last two years, "Test Your Well Night" has become successful. Many individuals from the community come in, and then later on thank us. This event has been able to inform multiple individuals about nitrates and how to lessen the amounts in their well water.

Being a part of the Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Program has benefited me in multiple ways. I have learned how to network with others. I have had to create schedules and contact LPNNRD with results from the samples. I have become a better leader. I have led underclassmen into becoming more involved in water testing. My Supervised Agricultural Experience in water testing has become very successful. I am a state finalist in the area of Environmental Sciences and Natural Resources. I have learned not to limit myself on what I can do. Being a part of this program has taught me skills that I will use throughout my career. Having hard work and time management skills will help me be successful in my academics and future career.

Signature:

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all information given on this application is true, correct, original and complete, and that I understand and will abide by the scholarship requirements if I am chosen as the recipient.

Applicant's Signature Hannah Ogan Date: 3-12-24

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SHELL CREEK WATERSHED MONITORING PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

1. ACADEMIC YEAR – Indicate the academic year for which you are applying for scholarship assistance: 2024-2025

2. MAJOR/COURSE OF STUDY – Indicate the major or course of study you will be pursuing:
Animal Science/Veterinary Science

3. COLLEGE – Indicate the accredited two-year or four-year college or university you will be attending:
Midland University

4. PERSONAL DATA

Applicant Name (First MI Last): <u>Trenton M Patzel</u>			
Primary Residence:			
Address <u>3261 170th St.</u>			
City <u>Newman Grove</u>	State <u>NE</u>	ZIP <u>68758</u>	
Primary Phone <u>402-928-0038</u>		Email <u>trento.patzel@icloud.com</u>	
Parent/Guardian Name(s) <u>Karla and Troy Patzel</u>			

5. PERSONAL ESSAY – On one separate sheet of paper provide an essay stating your chosen major/course of study, how it relates to science and/or natural resources, and how you believe your experience with the Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Program will help you achieve your academic goals. Please do not exceed one page.

6. HIGH SCHOOL GRADES - Provide a copy of your most recent high school grades/transcript, including GPA.

7. SAT/ACT SCORES - If available, provide a copy of your SAT or ACT results.

Continued on next page

8. PROOF OF ENROLLMENT - Provide proof of enrollment (ie. letter of acceptance, tuition statement, or class schedule) from the college/university you will be attending.

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ELIGIBILITY – To be eligible, an applicant must satisfy the following requirements:

Be a graduating senior at Newman Grove High School, Schuyler Central High School, or Columbus Lakeview High School.

Have completed at least one year as a member of the Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Program.

Be enrolled in an accredited two- or four-year college or university.

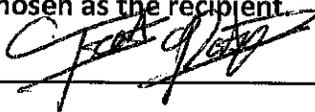
Plan to pursue a major or course of study relating to science and/or natural resources.

All applications and supporting materials must be received by the LPNNRD Office no later than March 15th for consideration for the fall term.

Lower Platte North NRD staff and representatives from Newman Grove Public Schools, Schuyler Public Schools and Lakeview Community Schools will evaluate applications. The Lower Platte North NRD Board of Directors will make the final award decision.

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all information given on this application is true, correct, original and complete, and that I understand and will abide by the scholarship requirements if I am chosen as the recipient.

Applicant's Signature



Date:

3-13-24

I have wanted to become a veterinarian since I was young. I developed that passion by working with my Grandpa, Gary Patzel. He taught me how to work the farm and care for the animals. I truly gained a passion for our animals and caring for our environment. One wouldn't think they go hand in hand, but I have learned that caring for our water and land correctly enables our livestock to live healthier lives and produce higher gains when selling our livestock. I joined Newman Grove's Shell Creek Watershed Program in eighth grade. Mr. Seier asked me if I would be interested in joining because I was one of our school's high-ability learners. Mr. Seier gave me a greater understanding of Shell Creek, including water quality and its effects on our environment. After seven years of being in Shell Creek Watershed, I feel very educated about our Lower Platte Region and the effects positive and negative actions have on our water. The testing of our water at home and even well testing for our locals to find out their nitrate levels brought another level of seeing hands-on what chemicals and waste run-off can do to our water system.

The Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Program was a great experience and taught me the importance of the littlest things, which can be the most critical kind—for example, macroinvertebrates in Shell Creek. The macroinvertebrates help us by showing what type of living in the area is and are a good indicator of water quality. This helps us by showing if the water is habitable for the macroinvertebrates, which in turn shows us if the water is of good quality for consumption by animals or other living things. The Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Program Scholarship would help me tremendously in furthering my education financially. This scholarship would give me financial assistance to pay for books, room, and boarding and pay off student debt. My major can be very costly because I will go through 4 years of college at Midland University and then attend Veterinary School to become a vet. I have about seven years of total college years.

Applications must be received by the LPNDRD Office no later than March 15th for consideration for the fall term.

SHELL CREEK WATERSHED MONITORING PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

1. ACADEMIC YEAR – Indicate the academic year for which you are applying for scholarship assistance: 2024-2025

2. MAJOR/COURSE OF STUDY – Indicate the major or course of study you will be pursuing:
Agribusiness

3. COLLEGE – Indicate the accredited two-year or four-year college or university you will be attending:
University Nebraska Lincoln

4. PERSONAL DATA

Applicant Name (<i>First MI Last</i>): <u>Austin T. Wiese</u>	
Primary Residence:	
Address <u>726 W. Church St.</u>	
City <u>Albion</u>	State <u>NE</u> ZIP <u>68620</u>
Primary Phone <u>402-920-3663</u>	Email <u>awiese392@gmail.com</u>
Parent/Guardian Name(s) <u>Jason & Tami Wiese</u>	

5. PERSONAL ESSAY – On one separate sheet of paper provide an essay stating your chosen major/course of study, how it relates to science and/or natural resources, and how you believe your experience with the Shell Creek Watershed Monitoring Program will help you achieve your academic goals. Please do not exceed one page.

6. HIGH SCHOOL GRADES - Provide a copy of your most recent high school grades/transcript, including GPA.

7. SAT/ACT SCORES - If available, provide a copy of your SAT or ACT results.

Continued on next page

8. PROOF OF ENROLLMENT - Provide proof of enrollment (ie. letter of acceptance, tuition statement, or class schedule) from the college/university you will be attending.

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I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all information given on this application is true, correct, original and complete, and that I understand and will abide by the scholarship requirements if I am chosen as the recipient.

Applicant's Signature Austin Wiese **Date:** 3-13-24

The Shell Creek Watershed Program for me started in the summer of my 7th grade year. I was a part of (HAL), High Ability Learners and was given the opportunity to participate in the watershed if I chose to. After talking it over with my parents it was an opportunity that I believe would be fun, as well as a way to learn something new. I was correct, and am thankful for the opportunities that I have been able to experience, which helped me both in the classroom, as well as everyday life skills.

There have been countless things that I have learned, but a few stand out to me. The first one is when we went to Schuyler to present the information of the watershed over the past years. I was put on the job to test strangers' water for nitrates, and at first was nervous. I quickly learned there was nothing to be scared about, and ended up having a good time doing it, and meeting new people. Within my years in the program I also learned how to run various tests, and what they all represent, thanks to our advisor Mr. Mark Seier. Some of the tests that I have learned to run consist of testing nitrate levels, total solids, and phosphates.

I believe that the Shell Creek Watershed will help me reach my future goals of completing an Agribusiness degree. At UNL Agribusiness is under the college of CASNR (College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources). I believe that the Watershed has given me a step ahead in the natural resource classes that I will be enrolled in. The watershed specifically has done this by opening my eyes to see how much of an effect humans can have on the environment, as well as ways steps that people can take to help prevent the problems being caused.