

Operations Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 2, 2024 8:30 AM
Lower Platte North NRD Office
P.O. Box 126
Wahoo, NE 68066

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
We have nothing to consider for unfinished business.
2. WILD NE AND OTHER PROGRAMS
M.E. Collins continues to remove dirt from the Cat Paws on the Wanahoo wetland complex, (pictures attached).

Also, a picture of the wetland renovation after the rains.

3. OPERATION & MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS
The O & M crew removed many trees on the Wanahoo wetland renovation area. We packaged and delivered trees to the NRCS offices. We've planted 5 out of 10 sites but, that is only 15% of what we have to plant.
 - 3.A. Rehabilitation of Cottonwood 21-A, NRCS & HDR
The engineering firms, HDR and Hazard Engineering reviewed with staff the alternatives in their study for the rehabilitation of Cottonwood 21-A. One alternative creates an auxiliary spillway to the east rather than flowing over the county road. The other alternative uses the same footprint of the existing auxiliary spillway with an increase in size. Quantities of soil to be moved are close to equal for either alternative, and we will be purchasing land and easements also. The firms need to confirm and finalize some items with NRCS before they present their 60% completion results to the NRD and NRCS.
 - 3.B. Intersection Hwy 77 & 109 Round-About
The City of Wahoo's electrical contractor continues work on the rerouting of power around the dam. The contractors are on site to start the Round-About project. We have obtained a Right-of-way permit for the filtering systems to be installed by NDOT's contractor.
 - 3.C. Lower Platte Weed Group
Drone Contractors submitted bids to the Papio-Missouri NRD which were due Friday, April 12.
Papio received six bids from drone companies out of Lincoln, Dunbar, Ashland, Nebraska City, Gresham and Union, NE. The Ashland company was eliminated for not providing a NDA Certificate.
The County Weed Departments and NRD's can use any of the five drone contractors. Their prices vary is some regard.
 - 3.D. Equipment for Sale
The District has advertised our JD CX15 mower for over a month. Bids were due Tuesday, April 30 at noon. We did not receive any bids.
We will continue to try and sell the mower by re-posting it on Facebook Market Place. We are asking \$15,500.

3.E. Haying NRD Recreation Areas

Bids for haying NRD recreation areas were due on Tuesday, April 30th, at 4:00 pm. We received hay bids from 8 different people. The bid tally sheet is attached. The high bid for Wanahoo and Czechland is Matt Sullivan and the high bid for Homestead is Dan Kadavy.

3.F. Behrens' request to replace a house at Thomas Lakes

Vance Behren's residence at 648 S. River Road in Thomas Lakes was washed away by the March 2019 flood. He is now requesting to rebuild the house on the same lot 47 (letter attached). The Clear Creek levee was restored by the Corps of Engineers in 2020 and the area of the Behrens lot was restored with rip-rap extending upstream.

A mitigation plan and flowage easements were developed in 2006 by the District and COE for this area due to the significant flood hazard and risk of property damage and life loss.

The District can make its own decision since the flowage easements are not a feature of the WSCC Project and the cost of the easements were not credited to the Sponsors' (NRD) cost-share for the Project. With that said, the COE does not recommend any new structure construction which is contrary to the intent of the Mitigation Plan of 2006. (See COE Letter attached). It's suggested to read both letters thoroughly for a decision next month.

Mr. Behrens states that "if we were allowed to build, I am looking at the potential of a concrete structure supported on large drilled piers that are 30 or 36 inches in diameter with the floor line well above the BFE. The design of the foundation system would be based upon the recommendations of a geotechnical investigation and would allow floodwaters to flow under the structure".

Two pictures are attached of the Behren home before and after it was taken by the Platte River.

4. ROCK AND JETTY

We have not received any applications or requests for payments.

5. LAKE WANAHOO

5.A. Lake Wanahoo Permit Sales

For the month of March, the District received \$3,432.50 in annual park permit revenue. The year by year break down is listed below.

Month	Monthly Total	YTD
March 2024	\$3,432.50	\$19,942.50
March 2023	\$4,355.00	\$73,017.50
March 2022	\$5,720.00	\$75,262.50
March 2021	\$9,980.00	\$85,656.85
March 2020	\$5,357.50	\$96,317.50
March 2019	\$4,455.00	\$82,252.50

5.B. Lake Wanahoo Camping Revenue

For the month of March, the District received \$6,630.14 in camping revenue. The

year by year comparison is below.

March 2024	\$6,630.14	\$13,621.36
March 2023	\$4,754.57	\$127,792.00
March 2022	\$5,232.26	\$129,922.83
March 2021	\$10,462.19	\$118,152.11
March 2020	\$2,369.23	\$134,027.78
March 2019	\$2,119.08	\$93,337.36

5.C. Live Well Go Fish Building

After meeting with the board of Live Well Go Fish, they would like to proceed with their grant application to secure funds for building a storage structure for their boat and equipment at Lake Wanahoo. They would like to build an addition to the existing Wahoo FD building located north and west of the Wanahoo boat docks. Discussion and direction is requested to notify Live Well Go Fish if it is LPNNRD's intention to work with them allowing this project to proceed.

5.D. Wanahoo East Side WiFi / Camera Installation

In order to provide a more secure park, we have been looking into a security camera to be placed on the light pole located at the NW corner of the parking lot at the education building. Diode Technologies (which supports our current building camera system and internet service) has submitted an estimate to provide wifi access to the camera and light pole. Once service is provided, we can explore a range of cameras to meet our security needs.

5.E. Clint Johannes Education Building

The Clint Johannes Education Building at Lake Wanahoo was rented 23 times with 3 NRD events. Revenue for the month was \$2,547 (this includes 2 half-price rentals for a church event).

6. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

6.A. Information

6.A.1. Radio & eAds

The KTIC radio ads and Wahoo newspaper e-ads during April featured the three recreation areas. The May ads will feature the upcoming chemigation permits deadline.

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
April 1-29	7,565	8,361	1,592
March	8,024	9,151	1,557
February	8,395	8,208	1,531
January 2024	13,669	1,078	1,513
December 2023	2,381	135	1,501

TWITTER	Total impressions	Engagements	Followers
April 1-29	810	59	423
March	803	75	426
February	1,033	34	416
January 2024	1528	86	417
December 2023	711	51	411

Top Posts on Facebook and Twitter:

- Set Your Sites at Wanahoo now available
- Earth day teacher flyer
- Happy Earth day
- Coffee Lakeside flyer
- NRD Recreation Exploration

WEBSITE	Users	Traffic Channel Changes	Top Pages	Devices
April 1-29	1,958	Organic 6.3% Direct -2.35% Referral -6.73% Social 0%	Lake Wanahoo Home Czechland Outdoor Recreation Forestry	Mobile 57% Desktop 41.5% Tablet 1.5%

March	1,489	Organic -8.51% Direct -32.94% Referral -47.5% Social -16.67%	Lake Wanahoo 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 Wanahoo 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 Wanahoo 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 Wanahoo Downloads Staff Czechland	No data

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 36, visitnebraska.com 14, Wahoo newspaper website (LPNNRD digital ad) 1.
Clicks from Facebook: 31.
Clicks from Twitter: 0.

6.A.3. Butler County Fair

The Butler County Fair will be held Thursday, July 11 - 14. A single booth option is 8 foot x 10 foot for \$130. There are other sponsorship opportunities available full details attached.

- Purple Ribbon sponsor: \$50-\$250 (name on schedule flyer)
- 1st in Class sponsor: \$500 (name on schedule flyer, logo on large banner, name on advertisement poster)
- Champion sponsor: \$1000 (same as previous, plus 2 tractor pull tickets and 2 concert tickets)

6.B. Education

6.B.1. Past events

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

- **April 11th:** Coffee Lakeside with Paula Hoppe. Close to 30 people attended this event talking about the sparrows of Nebraska.
- **April 17th:** Survival Club had a guest speaker, John Miyoshi, to give an introductory fishing lesson. 12 students attended.
- **April 18th:** Fremont Ecofair. Over 300 4th grade students from Fremont schools attended. Our station talked about pollinators and how important they are; we also handed out trees. Big thank you to John Goldsberry and Tom McKnight for helping out!
- **April 19th:** 85 students from Wahoo Elementary's kindergarten class learned about arbor day.
- **April 21st:** Schuyler 4-H group learned about Earth Day.
- **April 22nd:** 85 students from Wahoo Elementary's kindergarten class learned about Earth Day in the morning. And 40 students from North Bend's 5th grade class learned about Earth Day in the afternoon. Big thank you to Andrew Tonnie for his help in the classroom!
- **April 24th:** 45 7th graders from North Bend middle school learned about Earth Day.
- **April 25th:** 25 students from Archbishop Bergan Early Childhood center learned about the 'world below our feet: soil and earth worms.'

6.B.2. Upcoming

May 1st: Spring Conservation Sensation
 May 2nd: St. Wenceslaus Pre-K field trip
 May 6th: Wahoo 4th grade field trip PM
 May 7th: Wahoo 3rd grade AM & North Bend 2nd grade PM
 May 8th: North Bend 1st grade PM
 May 9th: Coffee Lakeside
 May 13th: Wahoo 2nd graders field trip PM
 May 14th: Ashland Greenwood Water Day
 May 17th: Survival Club camp out at Lake Wanahoo - overnight
 May 18th: Fishing Derby Fremont State Lakes
Take a deep breath
 May 31st: Nocturnal night

6.B.3. Land Judging Location

We will be hosting the East Central land judging competition this fall, October 2nd, and are currently looking for a location to host it. Attached is a map of how the contests are broken up. If you would be willing to host, or know of any landowners in these counties, who may be open to hosting or at least getting more information, please reach out to me. We would like to secure a location sooner rather than later.

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

7.A. Rural Water District Operations

The 2023 water quality reports and consumer confidence reports (CCR) were

distributed as per state policy. Public notices were posted at both villages, as well as our website, and notice was included in bills.

The RWD is actively looking for software alternatives to our existing WaterWorks billing program. We continue to experience glitches and errors that "can't be explained" by PWG. The past few months of billing have been particularly cumbersome for staff, and also for HBE oversight. The RWD plans to have a recommendation by start of FY25.

Work continues on the lead service line inventory (LSLI), the RWD has sent out multiple notices to customers and has received ~25% response. The RWD will have to personally contact and possibly personally verify service connections if customers are unwilling to verify, or request RWD assistance. Below is an example of the LSLI that will be submitted to EPA by 10/14/24:

PWS Name: Bruno Rural Water District

PWS ID: NE31-21171

Operator Signature:

Date:

Locational Identifier	System-Owned Classification	Method of Determination	Customer-Owned Classification	Method of Determination	Lead Bearing Material Present
1530 35 1/2 Road, David City, NE, 68632	non-lead: plastic	Installation of water service - development of RWD	Non-lead: copper	Owner certified	None

7.B. Colon System

Routine monthly sampling completed, meters read and bills mailed 5/1.

7.C. Bruno System

The Bruno RWD was notified that David City will be changing out the 4" meters in master meter vault in the coming month. The vault contains a transmission main bypass that will allow for uninterrupted service to our customers.

Routine monthly sampling completed, meters read and bills mailed 5/1.

7.D. Other







Wanahoo Hay Bids 2024

Bid for Areas on Wanahoo

<u>Name Bidder</u>	Wildlife "A"	Wildlife "B"	Wildlife "C"	Czech.	Homestead
Meduna Family Farms	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00		
Dan Kadavy		\$116.50	\$ 95.00	\$127.50	<u>\$127.50</u>
Matt Sullivan	<u>\$147.00</u>	<u>\$146.00</u>	<u>\$110.00</u>	<u>\$139.00</u>	
Ken Cejka	\$102.00			\$ 88.00	
Skyler & Clint Ratkovec	\$ 86.50	\$ 86.50	\$ 86.50	\$ 86.50	\$ 86.50
Bryan Machovec	\$ 80.00				
Chuck Andel					\$ 59.00
Dan Ourada				\$ 81.50	

High Bids for the areas are Underlined.

January 22, 2024

Mr. Bob Heimann
 O & M Manager
 Lower Platte North Natural Resources District
 5111 Commercial Park Road
 Wahoo, NE 68066

RE: **648 South River Road – Ashland, Nebraska 68003**

On March 19, 2019 our home located at 648 S River Road, Ashland, Nebraska 68003 was swept down the Platte River when the home’s foundations were undermined due to the coincidence of several extreme weather conditions and failure of the systems flood control. As time passed, the river continued to scour the bank and erode our property.

Contractors began to restore the river’s bank in late May 2020 and the reclamation project was completed in early September. The bank of the river was restored as illustrated in their submission shown below. Conversations with the contractor from Louisiana indicated that he had been restoring river banks in this manner for the last 40 years and has yet to be called back to repair a failed bank or shoreline constructed or restored in this manner.

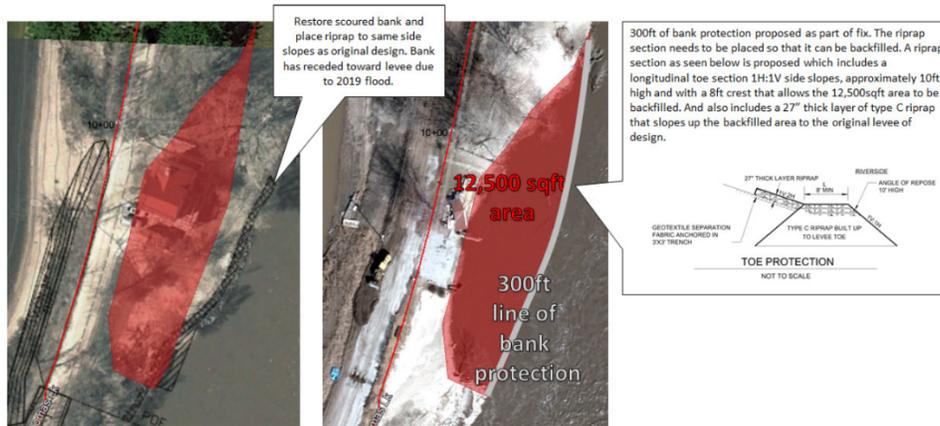


Figure 18. Sketch of the repair section between station TL 0+00 and TL 2+00.

Table 5. Rock quantities for bank protection from TL 0+00 and TL 2+00.

Length	Area	Volume	Mass	Mass w/ 15% Contingency
(ft)	(ft ²)	(yd ³)	(tons)	(tons)
300	231	2560	4223	4856

We are requesting permission from the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District and the Corps of Engineers to rebuild on the reclaimed land with the improved fortified riverbank.

Thank you for assisting us with this request and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions with regards to this request.

Sincerely,

Vance K. Behrens



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, OMAHA DISTRICT
1616 CAPITOL AVENUE
OMAHA, NE 68102-4901

April 10, 2024

Mr. Eric Gottschalk
General Manager
Lower Platte North Natural Resources District
P. O. Box 126
Wahoo, Nebraska 68066

Dear Mr. Gottschalk:

This is in response to the 22 January 2024 letter of request from Mr. Vance Behrens to Mr. Bob Heimann of your staff regarding Mr. Behrens' property at Lot 47 in the Thomas Lakes development. A copy of that letter was provided to Mr. Lowell Blankers, the Omaha District Levee Safety Program Manager. The request was to allow a new house to be constructed on the property to replace the house destroyed in the March 2019 flood. That property and several other lots located riverward of the South River Circle roadway are covered by permanent flowage easements obtained and administered by the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District (NRD) to meet the mitigation requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) for impacts from the Western Sarpy-Clear Creek (WSSC) Flood Risk Reduction Project.

The USACE has determined that the easements obtained to meet NFIP requirements were not features of the WSSC Project and proposed construction within the easements do not require Section 408 Permission or other USACE approval. Allowing structures to be built within the flowage easement is solely at the discretion of the Lower Platte North NRD.

However, the USACE does recommend that the NRD not allow any new structures on any of the flowage easements. In particular, additional habitable structures within the flowage easements, such as the house requested by Behrens, would result in significant additional risk of life-loss during a flood. The rapid bank erosion during the 2019 flood demonstrated that Lot 47 was a particularly dangerous location.

The USACE had extensive involvement with the WSSC Project Sponsors in identifying the adverse hydraulic impacts from the Project and developing the mitigation plan. The following provide additional details on the function of the easements relative to the NFIP.

The easements were a component of mitigation for increases in the Base Flood Elevations (BFE) of the Platte River resulting from the construction of the levees for the WSCC Project. In order for Saunders County and Sarpy County to remain in good standing with the NFIP a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) dated May 24, 2006 was obtained from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The Omaha District Flood Risk and Floodplain Management Section (FRFM) provided the technical information for the CLOMR submittal and engineer's sign-off by the FRFM Chief.

To obtain the CLOMR, the WSCC Project Sponsors (Lower Platte North NRD, Lower Platte South NRD and Papio-Missouri River NRD) were required to mitigate all structures affected by the higher BFE induced by the project in the area between the left bank and right bank levees. The purpose of the mitigation was to avoid increased flood risk to any structures that were eligible to be insured by the NFIP.

A Mitigation Plan was developed, which was provided to FEMA in the CLOMR application. FEMA accepted the proposed mitigation for the impacted structures, which allowed the property owners to select either purchase by the Sponsors and demolition or elevation to 2 feet above the with-project BFE. The then-owner of the Lot 47 property chose to have the residence on the lot elevated at NRD expense. The Mitigation Plan also provided for the NRD to acquire a permanent flowage easement on Lot 47 and on all the properties where mitigation was done to preclude future development, even if development would be allowed by state and local floodplain management regulations.

As previously stated, the flowage easements are not features of the WSCC Project and the costs of the easements (and other mitigation costs) were not credited to the Sponsors' cost-share for the Project. The Sponsors are responsible for the flowage easements including requests from owners for alterations or improvements on properties covered by the easements. Such requests may be approved or disapproved at the Sponsor's discretion.

Mr. Behrens letter mentions the restoration of the river bank at his property by a contractor. That work was part of the post-flood repairs following the 2019 event. The USACE restored the right bank in that area to its approximate pre-flood alignment and extended the Clear Creek Project riprap bank protection several hundred feet upstream from its pre-flood limit. The bank repair and riprap extension were installed to reduce the potential for erosion into the Clear Creek Project line-of-protection, which follows River Road in that area of Thomas Lakes.

The restoration of the river bank and adjacent ground at Lot 47 was incidental to the extension of the Clear Creek Project riprap and was not designed to reduce the risk of erosion damage to the private property adjacent to the river bank. The riprap extension cannot be considered to have eliminated the risk of damage or destruction to the structures along the riverbank or the potential for life loss during a flood.

In summary, approval of any construction on the flowage easements obtained for the May 24, 2006 CLOMR is solely at the discretion of the Lower Platte North NRD. However, the USACE recommends that no new structure be constructed on Lot 47, or any of the other flowage easements, due to the significant flood hazard and risk of property damage and life loss. Construction of any new structures within the flowage easements would also be contrary to the intent of the Mitigation Plan required for approval of the May 24, 2006 CLOMR.

If the NRD does allow the replacement of the house on Lot 47, the building footprint should be no larger than that of the original house. It will be the owner's responsibility to have a Professional Engineer determine whether the soil placed by the USACE at that location for the riprap construction would provide a suitable foundation. The construction would be within the critical area of the Clear Creek Project and so a technical review should be submitted to USACE once plans are finalized.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (402) 995-2349. Questions regarding the technical reviews for construction in the vicinity of the WSCC Project area should be addressed to Mr. Lowell Blankers, Omaha District Levee Safety Program Manager, at (402) 995-2323. Copies of this letter are being provided to the other WSCC Project Sponsors: Mr. John Winkler, General Manager of the Papio-Missouri River NRD, and Mr. Mike Sousek, General Manager of the Lower Platte South NRD.

Sincerely,



Kellie K. Bergman, P. E.
Chief, Hydrologic Engineering Branch
Engineering Division
Omaha District

cc:
John Winkler
Mike Sousek



PODS



Rediscover the Outdoors

Kick back and relax for a weekend getaway at one of three recreation areas near you! Czechland Lake near Prague, Homestead Lake near Bruno, or Lake Wanahoo near Wahoo.



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District

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LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District

CHEMIGATION PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Producers who are certified to
chemigate crops must have a
valid permit with
the NRD by **June 1st.**

Visit lpnnrd.org/downloads to
download a permit application
or call 402-443-4675.



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District

CHEMIGATION PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Producers who are certified to chemigate crops must have a valid permit with the NRD by **June 1st**.

Visit lpnnrd.org/downloads to download a permit application or call 402-443-4675.



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District

2024 Butler County Fair Sponsorship

Please mail this page prior to May 1st to allow us to get proper signage done before the fair. After the deadline may limit the amount of advertisement.



Purple Ribbon Sponsor (\$50 - \$250)

- Name listed on back of schedule flyer



1st In Class Sponsor (\$500)

- Name listed on back of schedule flyer
- Logo Shown on Large Banner
- Name on Advertisement Poster



Champion Sponsor (\$1,000)

- Name listed on back of schedule flyer
- Logo Shown on Large Banner
- Name on Advertisement Poster
- 2 Tractor Pull General Admission Tickets
- 2 Concert Admission Tickets



Grand Champion Sponsor (\$2,500)

- Name listed on back of schedule flyer
- Logo Shown on Large Banner
- Logo on Advertisement Poster
- Social Media Post
- Free Vendor Booth (Optional)
- 2 Tractor Pull General Admission Tickets
- 2 Concert Admission Tickets



Supreme Champion Sponsor (\$5,000+)

- Name listed on back of schedule flyer
- Logo Shown on Large Banner
- Logo on Advertisement Poster
- Social Media Post
- Free Vendor Booth (Optional)
- Banner at Entrance
- 4 Tractor Pull General Admission Tickets
- 4 Concert Admission Tickets
- 4 Beer Garden Tickets

Total Sponsorship \$_____

Additional Feature Options:

-Outlaw Tractor Pulls (Minimum of \$500) *Logo will be displayed during pull on big screen.* \$_____

-Concert (Minimum of \$500) *Logo will be at locations determined by amount donated.* \$_____

Business Name: _____

Check Enclosed: Check # _____ Checks Payable to: Butler County Ag Society
Mail form with payment to Butler County Fair, PO Box 6, David City, NE 68632.

