

**NORTH PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

June 11, 2026
3:00 P.M.

1. Call Meeting to Order

This meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Roger Eirich. Notice of the meeting was given to the public by publishing a legal notice on June 4, 2026, in the Scottsbluff Star Herald.

2. Inform Public of Open Meetings Act

Eirich informed the meeting attendees that this meeting would be conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, which is posted by the door for public inspection.

Attendance

Board Members Present: Kent Andreas, Lane Darnall, Dave Deines, Roger Eirich, Pete Lapaseotes, Ryan Reuter, Dan Weinreis, Mark Westphal

Board Members Absent: Chuck Henkel

Others Present:

Members of the Public:

North Platte NRD Staff: Travis Preston, Lydia Hendrickson, Ken Ridgeway, Craig Uhrig, Kyle Ann Hopkins, Seth Popp, Kirstee Moore, Todd Filipi

NRCS: Georgette Jordening

Adaptive Resources, Inc. (ARI): Thad Kuntz

Simmons Olsen Law Firm: Megan Dockery, Steve Smith

Documentation Provided

The following documents were made available at the meeting for the Board of Directors and public review:

1. Agenda
2. Minutes of the May 14, 2026, Board of Directors meeting
3. Treasurer's Report & Accounts Payable
4. Manager's Report
5. 2026 Static Water Level Report
6. Memorandum Concerning Possible Change to Audit Company

4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes of May 14, 2026, regular Board meeting.

A motion was made by Andreas, seconded by Weinreis, to approve the minutes of May 14, 2026, regular monthly meeting. Motion passed.

Aye: Andreas, Darnall, Deines, Eirich, Lapaseotes, Reuter, Weinreis, Westphal

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Henkel

5. Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable

Ryan Reuter reviewed the monthly expenses from the Treasurer's Report with the Board.

A motion was made by Reuter, seconded by Weinreis, to accept the Treasurer's Report, excluding the \$100 payment to Warner Farms Inc, and pay the bills. Motion passed.

Aye: Andreas, Darnall, Deines, Eirich, Lapaseotes, Reuter, Weinreis, Westphal

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Henkel

6. Comments from the Public

Georgette Jordening informed the board of current activities at NRCS. The state conservationist came and toured the wildfire burn area. It is beginning to come back but there are still areas that still need time.

7. Manager's Report

Scott Schaneman presented the manager's report to the board.

On May 20th Travis, Kirstee, and I had the opportunity to have a discussion with Pat Heath and Annie Foulk from the City of Gering regarding ongoing drought conditions and possible partnerships with education and outreach programs. The drought is a major concern with city officials not only with water quantity but water quality as well. The city was very open to work with us on a potential urban water conservation campaign.

The Permanent Maintenance Committee for the Gering Valley Watershed had their annual tour and meeting on May 27th and 28th. Once again, the inspectors documented several issues with infrastructure and general maintenance. Trees, brush, weeds continue to be the largest problem with main drains and trickle channels. Several washouts and erosion were also noted in the inspection surveys. At the meeting, plans were made to hire contractors to fix the most immediate needs due to both Gering Ft.

Laramie Irrigation District and Scotts Bluff County not being able to complete the maintenance like they have done in the past. Creating a sinking fund for specific repair was discussed and an affirmative vote was taken to begin establishing that fund.

All Department managers have completed their annual proposed department budgets for FY-27 and have returned them to me for review. Travis, Danielle, and I have been through all the department budgets now and Danielle is putting together the first draft of the complete fiscal year proposed budget to review. It is my hope to have the Budget and Personnel Committee in for our first budget meeting in late June or early July.

Travis and I attended the June Managers meeting on June 3rd that was held in Holdredge and hosted by the Tri-Basin NRD. A couple agenda items worth mentioning was a proposal from DWEE regarding staff support reimbursements for NRD staff working with producers interested in signing up for One-Red programs. Each NRD would be eligible to receive an annual

reimbursement payment through September of 2029. The Partnership Committee reported that they are making progress with discussions with DWEE for the NRD's to take over and manage the chemigation program.

Travis and I have had a couple of meetings and corresponding emails with Swanson Russell Marketing and Advertising Agency to see what it would cost to build a marketing campaign that would be consistent with our drought plan. A proposal has been sent from them for our review, and they have built in several different options for us to consider. The campaign could be built with a minimal amount of marketing assistance to an option where the entire campaign would be managed by Swanson Russell. We will continue our discussion with them and come back with a proposal for consideration.

The quarterly Governance Committee meeting of the Platte River Recovery and Implementation Program (PRRIP) will be held in Cheyenne on June 9th and 10th. I expect the agenda to be lengthy as we consider the implications of ongoing drought and river operations of the Platte. I will have an update from the meeting on Thursday at our monthly Board meeting

8. Water Resources Committee Report

Scott Schaneman covered the agenda items discussed in the WRC meeting.

9. Discussion and Consideration Regarding Transfer TA-23-001 Naomi S. Loxterkamp Trust & Kenneth J. Loxterkamp Family Trust Transfer Issues

A. Drilling Additional Wells to Meet Irrigation System Capacity Needs

A motion was made by Andreas, seconded by Deines, to allow Loxterkamp to decommission or convert one more well at the original certified location to allow for a second well at the new certification location. Motion passed.

Aye: Andreas, Darnall, Deines, Eirich, Lapaseotes, Reuter, Weinreis, Westphal

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Henkel

10. Discussion and Consideration Drafting a Letter for Groundwater Only Irrigators Seeking a Preventative Planting Option Through Crop Insurance

*A motion was made by Lapaseotes, seconded by Darnall, to **not** provide a letter to the operator further explaining the position of the NRD concerning preventative plant. Motion Passed.*

Aye: Andreas, Darnall, Deines, Eirich, Lapaseotes, Reuter, Weinreis, Westphal

Nay: None

Abstain: None
Absent: Henkel

11. Discussion and Consideration to Contract with RJ Meyer and Associates to Complete the FY-26 Audit

Danielle Madden presented on the background of why the NPNRD was looking at other auditors. The proposal from RJ Meyer was included. Scott Schaneman explained some of the difficulties he has faced with the current auditing company.

A motion was made by Reuter, seconded by Westphal, to change auditors to RJ Meyers for FY26. Motion passed.

Aye: Andreas, Darnall, Deines, Eirich, Lapaseotes, Reuter, Weinreis, Westphal
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Henkel

12. Discussion Regarding 2026 Enterprise Recharge Facility Operations

Scott Schaneman informed the board that the NPNRD is required to run the recharge facility.

13. 2026 Spring Water Levels Presentation – Lynn Okicki

Lynn Okicki presented the 2026 spring water levels to the board.

14. Robust Review Educational Website – Thad Kuntz

Thad presented on the aquifer saturated thickness and storage. Presented the WWUMM educational website and current development.

15. Adjourn

There being no further business, the Chairman called for a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Reuter, seconded by Weinreis, to adjourn the meeting at 4:24pm. Motion Passed.

Aye: Andreas, Darnall, Deines, Eirich, Lapaseotes, Reuter, Weinreis, Westphal
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Henkel