

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

July 9, 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 July 2nd, 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, Chuck Henkel, Ryan Reuter, Dan Weinreis

Board Members Absent: Pete Lapaseotes, Mark Westphal

Others Present:

Members of the Public:

North Platte NRD Staff: Travis Preston, Lydia Hendrickson, Todd Filipi, Kyle Ann Hopkins, Danielle Madden, Kirstee Moore, Ken Ridgeway

NRCS: Georgette Jordening, Chris Gauthier

Adaptive Resources, Inc. (ARI): Thad Kuntz

Simmons Olsen Law Firm: Megan Dockery

J.G. Elliot: Lex Larson

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 June 11, 2026, Board of Directors meeting
3. Treasurer's Report & Accounts Payable
4. Manager's Report
5. NARD 457 Deferred Compensation Plan In-Plan Roth Amendment

4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes of June 11, 2026, regular Board meeting.

A motion was made by Reuter, seconded by Darnall, to approve the minutes of June 11, 2026, regular monthly meeting. Motion passed.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: Henkel

Absent: Lapaseotes, Westphal

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 Weinreis, seconded by Henkel, to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills. Motion passed.

Aye: Andreas, Darnall, Deines, Eirich, Henkel, Reuter, Weinreis

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Lapaseotes, Westphal

6. Comments from the Public

Georgette Jordening informed the board of current NRCS activities and program status. Matt Nebraska Game and parks informed the board of a new program concerning cover crops.

7. Manager's Report

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

We have had a few nice opportunities to get in front of civic organizations along with a fantastic opportunity to spend some time with the Scottsbluff County Commissioners. On July 1st I was invited to speak to the Lion's Club during their monthly lunch meeting, and Lynn Okicki, Kirstee Moore, and myself presented to the Commissioners on July 6th at their monthly Board meeting. Both groups had several good questions and were very appreciative of us attending their meetings.

It is once again time for the Water Leaders Academy to visit and learn about the North Platte Irrigation Project, and with that visit I will be spending some time with the group talking about the North Platte NRD. On Thursday evening the Water Leaders will be having a picnic here at our office under the shelter and touring the Greenhouse with Kirstee. On Friday I will be presenting to the group along with Pat O'Brien from UNWNRD, Galen Wittrock from SPNRD and Thad Kuntz with ARI. This group always has a keen interest in this District and how surface water plays a big role in agriculture and ground water.

Also, on Thursday the 9th the annual NRCS working group meeting will be here in our office beginning at 1:30. Each year we get an opportunity to sit down with all our conservation partners to assess and prioritize how federal dollars allocated to NRCS are spent in this NRD District. This very important process is critical in making sure funding is matching up and spent on conservation projects with our highest priorities.

On July 17th, the Governor's Task Force ONE RED Committee will be meeting virtually to put the final touches on the ONE RED program prior to launch in September. As our Committee wraps up their work, I will be asking Alexa Davis from DWEE to visit with the Board and Staff about the program while also providing an opportunity to ask questions.

I will be attending a meeting in Lincoln with the Upper Platte Basin Managers and Don Blankenau regarding a variety of matters affecting the Upper Platte Basin. There will be more information available following that meeting which is scheduled for July 21st.

I recently accepted a position on the Board of Directors of the Water Futures Partnership, the parent organization of the Water Leaders Academy. This Board directs and manages the finances and operations of the Academy. I look forward to working with this group, the Academy has played a big role in my professional career along with many others on staff at the NPNRD.

The Upper Platte Basin-Wide Annual meeting will be held at the Twin Platte NRD office on August 6th beginning with POAC at 10:00 followed by the annual meeting at 12:00. If any of the Board members have interest in attending, please let me know.

8. Discussion and Consideration to Approve a Resolution to Amend the NARD 457 Deferred Compensation Plan to Include In-Plan Roth Rollover Contributions and Rollover Transfers Effective November 1st, 2026

A motion was made by Reuter, seconded by Darnall, to approve the resolution to amend the NARD 457 Deferred Compensation Plan to Include In-Plan Roth Rollover Contributions and Rollover Transfers Effective November 1st, 2026. Motion passed.

Aye: Andreas, Darnall, Deines, Eirich, Henkel, Reuter, Weinreis

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Lapaseotes, Westphal

9. Resource Conservation Department 2026 Tree Sales and Planting Report – Todd Filipi

Todd Filipi presented on recent activities of the Resources Conservation Department to include tree sales, plantings, windbreak renovations, reforestation within burn scar, education, Buffalograss program, noxious weed management and mapping, Riverside Discovery Center (RDC) grant activities, RDC Arboretum accreditation, aid to municipalities, solar wells, range health, drought, erosion, Morrill County flooding, and challenges with tree diseases and damage.

10. Morrill County Flood Damage Assessment and Inspection Report – Travis Preston

Travis Preston presented on the recent tour of damages with the Morrill County Roads Department, Pathfinder Irrigation District, and Farmers Irrigation District. Chris Gauthier spoke about grant opportunities through FSA and NRCS to assist with damages from flooding. The board had conversation concerning getting stakeholders together to develop a plan for responding to these kinds of disasters.

11. Adjourn

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

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

Aye: Andreas, Darnall, Deines, Eirich, Henkel, Reuter, Weinreis

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Lapaseotes, Westphal

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