

**North Platte Natural Resources District
Water Resources Committee
100547 Airport Road, Scottsbluff, Nebraska
June 11, 2026**

1. Call Meeting to Order

This meeting was called to order by Kent Andreas at 1:30p.m. Notice of the Meeting was given to the public by publishing a legal notice on June 6, 2026, in the Scottsbluff Star Herald.

2. Inform Public of Open Meetings Act

Kent Andreas 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

Committee Members Present: Andreas, Darnall, Deines, Eirich, Lapaseotes

North Platte NRD Staff: Scott Schaneman, Travis Preston, Danielle Madden, Kyle Ann Hopkins, Craig Uhrig

Adaptive Resources, Inc. (ARI): Thad Kuntz
Simmons Olsen: Megan Dockery, Steve Smith

Documentation Provided

The following documents were made available at the meeting for the Committee Members and public review:

1. Agenda
2. Minutes of February 5, 2026, Water Resources Committee Meeting
3. Transfer Permit Application TA-23-001
4. Excerpt From NPNRD Board of Directors Meeting December 12, 2024

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

The committee reviewed the minutes of February 5, 2026, Water Resources Committee meeting. *A motion was made by Eirich, seconded by Darnall, to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2026, Water Resources Committee meeting. Motion passed.*

Aye: Andreas, Darnall, Deines, Eirich, Lapaseotes

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

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

Scott Schaneman explained to the committee the issues Ned Loxterkamp is asking about. Scott reintroduced the transfer to the committee. Ned Loxterkamp has not been able to find an adequate water supply in the new location.

Megan Dockery explained there is nothing in the rules prohibiting the drilling of more than one well. In the past there have been previous situations in which the NRD has not allowed additional wells due to historical use and capacity. There were three wells certified and four that were registered in TA-23-001.

Thad Kuntz explained that the study was done using the capacity of the wells at the original location where acres would be transferred from.

Craig Uhrig explained there have been test holes drilled. Craig has asked Ned Loxterkamp if he would try to drill a third well if a second well does not meet the necessary GPM. Loxterkamp's response was that he would likely not try to drill a third well.

A. Drilling Additional Wells to Meet Irrigation System Capacity Needs

A motion was made by Deines, seconded by Lapaseotes, to recommend to the full board allowing 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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

B. Irrigating Acres Associated with the Original Groundwater Certification

Scott Schaneman presented the question of whether Ned Loxterkamp can continue operating the original certification until he has water available at the new location. The committee feels he can continue to irrigate at the original certification location until transfer process is complete.

C. Effective Date and Time Limitations on Transfer Conditions

Scott Schaneman explained the question of whether a time limit is necessary for the completion of a transfer. There was discussion on using expiration dates in future transfers.

5. Discussion Regarding Secondary Acres

Scott Schaneman explained that there have been calls concerning taking water from a well associated with a certification and putting it on other acres. Previously, this was called secondary acres in the 2014 rules. Under those rules, owners were required to come into the office and register those secondary acres. Additional allocation was not added to the original certification. Due to the difficulty of getting information from landowners and approval of DNR(DWEE) of the practice, the rule was removed. Scott asked the thoughts of the committee.

Megan Dockery explained there are two questions. What do we do with this right now? What do we do long term? For the initial question she suggested sending a letter. For long term it was suggested to discuss adding secondary acres back into the rules. Steve Smith provided an opinion on what the initial letter to landowners should say. Thad Kuntz asked if the letter was necessary considering where we stand within the Basin. Lane Darnall commented if the NRD should be considering annual allocations and not allowing banking if pumping carry forward could result in drying up wells. Scott Schaneman explained those landowners have managed their allocation to provide themselves with the carryforward. Below Lake McConaughy there is no allocation and landowners are allowed supplemental wells.

6. Discussion Regarding Surface Water Registrations and Soil and Water Sampling Compliance

Scott Schaneman presented some numbers on where the NPNRD stands on surface water registrations. 1,782 registrations have been mailed out and 1,032 have been returned. This is a 57.91% return rate. Staff are asking what the thoughts of the committee are concerning what to do with these kinds of return rates. Staff is considering if the information was delivered to the correct person. Is it up to the staff to track down those who have not responded? Steve Smith explained the ability to go to court to get records if it comes to that. Megan Dockery explained the surface

water only acres would have to be subject to civil penalty, which would require taking landowners to court. Lane asked about the acres that have been returned and whether it is worth continuing to ask for information if the information shows there is no problem with the practices happening on the land? Scott explained what happened with LOL concerning the enforcement and record retrieval. Thad Kuntz spoke about Lower Niobrara NRD sending letters informing landowners of cease and desist and compliance increased.

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

Scott Schaneman informed the Committee about a landowner call in which the crop insurance company did not accept the letter we sent concerning preventative plant and asked for a new letter supporting preventative plant for a specific operator. There is concern about interference with adjacent residents and drawing down of their domestic wells allegedly due to the groundwater irrigation. Insurance is saying that is not a justifiable claim. Scott explained the details of what the insurance company would consider acceptable to have in a new letter.

In this instance the well is being used to flood irrigate. Scott explained the letter would say that the NRD is concerned with efficiency of water usage. However, the land is certified and the allocation is available. The landowner is allowed to irrigate. There was concern that there would be a continual change of the requirements for these kinds of requests.

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

Aye: Andreas, Darnall, Deines, Eirich, Lapaseotes

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

8. Adjourn

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

A motion was made by Eirich, seconded by Lapaseotes, to adjourn at 2:57p.m. Motion Passed.

Aye: Andreas, Darnall, Deines, Eirich, Lapaseotes

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

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