

PLATTE BASIN COALITION

MEETING MINUTES

June 4, 2020, 1:00 p.m.

Meeting conducted via Zoom conference

CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE (*ATTACHMENT A*)

Shelly Meyer	NeDNR	Dan Sternkopf	NeDNR
Melissa Mosier	NeDNR	John Thorburn	TBNRD
Kent Miller	TPNRD	Ann Dimmitt	TPNRD
Rod Horn	SPNRD	Jennifer Schellpeper	NeDNR
John Berge	NPNRD	Jessie Winter	NeDNR
Travis Glanz	SPNRD	Barb Cross	NPNRD
Brandi Flyr	CPNRD	Jesse Bradley	NeDNR
Ryan Kelly	NeDNR	Ryan Reisdorff	SPNRD

The meeting agenda is *ATTACHMENT B*.

1. **WELCOME:** The meeting was opened by chair, Kent Miller, at 1:00 p.m.

2. **PUBLICATION OF MEETING NOTICES (*ATTACHMENT C*)**

- A. Sidney Sun Telegraph: 5/20/2020 & 5/27/2020
- B. North Platte Telegraph: 5/21/2020
- C. Grand Island Independent: 5/20/2020
- D. Kearney Hub: 5/20/2020
- E. Scottsbluff Star Herald: 5/20/2020

3. **APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA (*Attachment B*):**

MOTION: To approve the June 4, 2020, PBC meeting agenda.

- Thorburn motioned. Horn seconded.
- Agenda approved with all ayes.

4. **APPROVAL OF APRIL 3, 2020 PBC MEETING MINUTES (*ATTACHMENT D*):**

MOTION: To approve the April 3, 2020, PBC meeting minutes.

- Schellpeper motioned. Flyr seconded.
- Minutes approved with all ayes.

5. **BUDGET UPDATE (NeDNR)**

A. **GENERAL UPDATES (*Attachment E*)**

i. *YEARS 4-6*

Meyer reported there were no updates.

ii. *YEARS 7-9*

Meyer reported that NeDNR has been working on the SPNRD budget proposal and other contracts. Meyer also reported on the NET Grant memo describing how the NET 18-107 grant years 7-9 will come to an end on June 30th, 2020 and that NeDNR will be requesting the transfer of the remaining NET 18-107 money in April for grant year 9, whereupon NeDNR would like all dedicated funds to be obligated (*ATTACHMENT F*). The remaining obligations for years 7-9 displayed below:

The NRD unobligated funds for the NET 18-107 grant:

Central Platte NRD	=	\$930,714.68
North Platte NRD	=	\$284,829.02
South Platte NRD	=	\$665,033.57
Tri Basin NRD	=	\$185,239.88

- iii. *STUDIES*
No updates.

B. NEW OBLIGATIONS/ FUNDING REQUESTS

- i. *EPIC 2020 (NPNRD)*

Berge discussed a memo requesting funds for the EPIC Program in FY 2021, which provides producers \$15 per acre-inch to buy-down their allocation, as well as a potential bonus payment, if qualified. (*ATTACHMENT G*).

BUDGET FOR EPIC 2021

NPNRD	\$54,466.20
<u>NeDNR</u>	<u>\$81,699.30</u>
TOTAL	\$136,165.50

MOTION: To approve EPIC Program funding request.

- Horn motioned. Thorburn seconded.
- Funding request approved with all ayes.

- ii. *WESTERN ID 5-YEAR MOA BUDGET INCREASE (SPNRD/TPNRD)*

Horn discussed a memo that described a budget increase and amendment to the Western ID 5-year MOA, where the NRD split will be revised to reflect 60% to TPNRD and 40% to SPNRD. Additionally, a flat rate fee of \$31 per af recharged through the canal will be the payment the Western Irrigation District Board will receive for the calculated credit. (*ATTACHMENT H*).

In a recent discussion, the TPNRD and SPNRD decided that the budget for the Western Irrigation District's 5-Year MOA #1010 needs to be increased with a revision to the split between the two NRDs (revised NRD split: 60% TPNRD and 40% SPNRD). The changes are reflected below:

Current Budget:		New Budget:	
SPNRD	\$18,000	SPNRD	\$72,000
TPNRD	\$42,000	TPNRD	\$108,000
DNR	\$90,000	DNR	\$270,000
Total	\$150,000	Total	\$450,000

MOTION: To approve SPNRD and TPNRD's requests related to budget increases with the Western ID 5-year MOA.

- Schellpeper motioned. Berge seconded.
- Request approved with all ayes.

C. INVOICES

i. CONSERVATION STUDY PHASE 3 – TOTAL AMOUNT: \$10,500 (INVOICE 20-2566)

Meyer discussed the invoice related to contract #1153 (ATTACHMENT I) and the corresponding budget spreadsheet (ATTACHMENT J).

Conservation Study Phase III - #1153	\$	11,895.67			\$	11,895.67	\$	11,895.67	\$	35,687.00	\$	35,688.00	\$	71,375.00
Flatwater - Focused Eval of Tillage Practices	CPNRD		NPNRD	SPNRD	TBNRD	TPNRD	NRD Total	NeDNR	Total					
Invoice # 20-2566	\$	1,750.00			\$	1,750.00	\$	1,750.00	\$	5,250.00	\$	5,250.00	\$	10,500.00

MOTION: To approve invoice 20-2566 from The Flatwater Group for services provided related to Phase III of the Conservation Measures Study.

- Thorburn motioned. Flyr seconded.
- Invoice approved with all ayes.

D. NEW OBLIGATIONS/ FUNDING REQUESTS

Meyer discussed a memo highlighting SPNRD's budget reduction to \$210,000 for budget year 9 and the corresponding redistribution of funds (ATTACHMENT K).

<p>The Current SPNRD year 9 Budget is: \$ 348,266.67 NRD \$ 522,400.00 DNR \$ 870,666.67 Total</p> <p>The Proposed SPNRD year 9 Budget is: \$ 84,000.00 NRD \$ 126,000.00 DNR \$ 210,000.00 Total</p> <p>The year 9 budget to redistribute is: \$ 264,266.67 NRD \$ 396,400.00 DNR \$ 660,666.67 Total</p>						
DNR match proposed to be redistributed						
	CPNRD	NPNRD	SPNRD	TBNRD	TPNRD	Total NRD
Original % per NRD of budget	27.60%	2.80%	0.00%	4.70%	62.10%	97.20%
Adjusted % per NRD to Account for SPNRD	28.40%	2.90%		4.85%	63.85%	100.00%
Total DNR match to add to current Budget	\$ 112,577.60	\$ 11,495.60	\$ -	\$ 19,225.40	\$ 253,101.40	\$ 396,400.00
Total NRD match to add to current budget	\$ 75,051.73	\$ 7,663.73		\$ 12,816.93	\$ 168,734.27	\$ 264,266.67
Previous year 9 budgets						
	CPNRD	NPNRD	SPNRD	TBNRD	TPNRD	Total
NRD	\$ 480,533.33	\$ 348,266.67	\$ 348,266.67	\$ 358,400.00	\$ 664,533.33	\$ 2,200,000.00
DNR	\$ 720,800.00	\$ 522,400.00	\$ 522,400.00	\$ 537,600.00	\$ 996,800.00	\$ 3,300,000.00
total	\$ 1,201,333.33	\$ 870,666.67	\$ 870,666.67	\$ 896,000.00	\$ 1,661,333.33	\$ 5,500,000.00
New Year 9 Budget (Previous + Redistributed)						
	CPNRD	NPNRD	SPNRD	TBNRD	TPNRD	Total
NRD	\$ 555,585.06	\$ 355,930.40	\$ 84,000.00	\$ 371,216.93	\$ 833,267.60	\$ 2,200,000.00
DNR	\$ 833,377.60	\$ 533,895.60	\$ 126,000.00	\$ 556,825.40	\$ 1,249,901.40	\$ 3,300,000.00
total	\$ 1,388,962.66	\$ 889,826.00	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 928,042.33	\$ 2,083,169.00	\$ 5,500,000.00

MOTION: To approve the budget adjustment to reduce SPNRD/NeDNR budget for year 9 to \$210,000 and redistribute the budget difference to the remaining NRD's according to their percentage.

- Berge motioned. Horn seconded.
- Budget adjustment approved with all ayes.

6. APPROVAL OF PBC FUNDING PROTOCOL

Mosier reported that NeDNR will add a footnote to table 5 of the protocol and will slate the protocol for approval during August's PBC meeting.

¹ *NeDNR will add a footnote to table 5 of the PBC Funding Protocol.*

7. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

A. CPNRD RECHARGE PITS/DETENTION PONDS: No update.

- B. 2020 EPIC PROGRAM (NPNRD):** Berge reported that funding for the project was approved earlier in the meeting and NPNRD will be making payments out in September. NPNRD is working with NeDNR to get the contract drafted.
- C. SCHANEMAN RECHARGE PITS (NPNRD):** Berge reported that NPNRD had a productive call with NeDNR regarding the permitting application for the project. The pits are complete and the plumbing is in place. NPNRD is dealing with measurement device issues on the inlet, but the project is essentially ready to go.
- D. CERTIFIED ACRES REIMBURSEMENT (NPNRD):** Berge reported that all reimbursements have been received under contracts #1156 and #1157.
- E. RAINWATER BASIN JOINT VENTURE (TBNRD):** Thorburn reported that pipelines have been laid to all 5 wetlands. The newest wetland was constructed this spring and will receive water for the first time in the fall.
- F. TRI-BASIN NRD PHASE II AUGMENTATION - NORTH DRY CREEK (TBNRD):** No updates.
- G. TPNRD STREAMFLOW AUGMENTATION PIPELINE (N-CORPE):** Miller reported that TPNRD has yet to pump the north pipeline to the Platte River. Miller also reported no shortages to state protected flows have occurred yet in 2020 and that TPNRD is expecting a report soon from NeDNR regarding whether state protected flows were met in May. Miller anticipates pumping on June 7th and will, in total, pump 5,400 af of water throughout the rest of the calendar year.
- H. J-2 REGULATING RESERVOIR (NeDNR):** Schellpeper reported NeDNR has been discussing how to redirect funding for the project to another water service agreement by 2023.
- I. EXCESS FLOW DIVERSION UPDATES (NeDNR/ NRDs):** Schellpeper reported that excess flow diversions have been available this spring and that NeDNR will bring finalized dates that excess flows were taken to the August PBC meeting for approval.

² *NeDNR will prepare finalized Spring 2020 excess flow dates for the August PBC meeting.*

8. PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments.

9. NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 5, 2020, AT 1 P.M.

10. ADJOURN: 1:30 p.m. (CT)

ACTION ITEM LIST

¹ *NeDNR will add a footnote to table 5 of the PBC Funding Protocol.*

² *NeDNR will prepare finalized Spring 2020 excess flow dates for the August PBC meeting.*