

Item 5. Election of Executive Secretary

Executive Secretary

The floor was open for nomination of Executive Secretary of the Board.

Dan Mackin nominated Jaiden Dufek to be elected as Executive Secretary of the Board. Jeff Ironshell seconded the motion. Voting Yes: Jeff Ironshell, Lynn Webster, Sue Lackey, Andy Kahle, Jim Remmenga, Mike Thompson, Tara Wulfekoetter, Scott Grosch, Dan Mackin. Voting No: none. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

Exam Proctor

The floor was open for nomination of Exam Proctor.

Lynn Webster nominated Jaiden Dufek to be approved as an Exam Proctor. Jim Remmenga. seconded the motion. Voting Yes: Sue Lackey, Andy Kahle, Jim Remmenga, Mike Thompson, Tara Wulfekoetter, Scott Grosch, Dan Mackin, Jeff Ironshell, Lynn Webster. Voting No: none. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

Item 6. Continuing Education Requests

- 1- Open House Training 2026, Omaha, NE, by Hydro Pump was held March 26, 2026; Andy Kettlehut

Requests: 5 hrs.

Recommended: 5 hrs.

- 2- South-Central Water Conference, Holdrege, NE, by Tri-Basin, Lower Republican NRDs was held February 5, 2026; Sasha Hahn

Requests: 3 hrs.

Recommended: up to 3.5 hrs.

- 3- On-site demonstration of casing perforation, enhanced decommissioning and well grout augmentation, Ashland, NE, by NWDA, will be held June 27, 2026; Lee Orton

Requests: 2 hrs.

Recommended: up to 2 hrs. provisional with request for additional documentation of the agenda by the provider.

- 4- NeRWA Annual Conference, Kearney, NE, by NRWA, was held March 9-11, 2026; Patrick Petersen

Requests: 10.25 hrs.

Recommended: 10hrs.

- 5- IT demonstration, Lincoln, NE, by DWEE, was held February 18, 2026; Kris Guthrie

Requests: 1 hrs.

Recommended: 1hr.

6- NRD Legislative Conference, Lincoln, NE, by NARD, was held January 27-28, 2026; Jennifer Swanson

Requests: 3 hrs.

Recommended: 3hrs.

7- Iowa Water Well Association Annual Convention, Prairie Meadows Altoona, IA, by IWWA, was held January 29-30, 2026; Klint Gingerich

Requests: 11 hrs.

Recommended: up to 8 hrs. board found 10 hrs. of content, but due to concurrency of classroom activities only 8 is achievable by one individual with documentation.

Mike Thompson submitted the recommendations for board approval of CEU hours as stated. Voting Yes: Andy Kahle, Jim Remmenga, Mike Thompson, Tara Wulfekoetter, Scott Grosch, Dan Mackin, Jeff Ironshell, Lynn Webster, Sue Lackey. Voting No: none. Abstain: none. Motion Carried.

Item 7. Program Report

Dave Miesbach presented the program report that was included in the Board Packet. It outlined the declaratory orders/pre-notifications, violations, licensure information and testing information.

- Review of the Program Report
- Success in NRD training toward Exam results
- Young Worker Waivers Discussed
- A public hearing will take place to review regulation changes for review and comment. A public hearing will take place before July 1, 2026.
- Proposed changes to Policy 14 to remove the word “webinar” and replace it with “on-demand”

Jeff Ironshell made a motion to approve Policy 14 changes to remove the word “webinar” and replace it with “on-demand.” Sue Lackey seconded the motion. Voting Yes: Jim Remmenga, Mike Thompson, Tara Wulfekoetter, Scott Grosch, Dan Mackin, Jeff Ironshell, Lynn Webster, Sue Lackey, Andy Kahle. Voting No: none. Abstain: none. Motion Carried.

Item 8. Legislative Report

Lee Orton gave an overview of legislation.

Item 9. Agency Reports

A. Natural Resources Districts – Lynn Webster

- Spring water levels have been completed and are low due to dry winter, revealing that 5 out of 6 groundwater management sub-areas water levels have decreased on average 1ft to 1.5ft.

- 1 groundwater management sub-areas water levels have remained level
- B. Department of Water, Energy and Environment (DWEE)– Mike Thompson**
- Agency bill has been signed by governor and has removed the discrepancy of describing composition of the board as ten members, but only explicitly describing nine. Chief of Water officer is a member of the board and will officially appoint someone.
 - Handouts of statistical registration reports were reviewed by the Board.
 - De-watering wells have been a focus in the eastern part of the state recently. Program staff are coordinating with NRDs.
 - Large projects like Lincoln installing the last two of their collector wells.
 - Other significant dewatering efforts in construction that have lasted longer than 90 days requiring project managers to register the wells.
 - Construction of sandpit housing in Waterloo and Valley area using dewatering wells to facilitate land excavators to excavate lakes and may be reducing the water level in previously constructed lakes.
- C. UNL – Conservation & Survey – Sue Lackey**
- 2025 water level report is out
 - R.M. Joeckel has been successful in getting a UNL hiring freeze waiver for Sue Lackey’s position, and candidates are currently being sought to get final permission to hire them
 - Sue Lackey’s last day fulltime is April 30, 2026 and she will be reassigned to an On-call employee
 - Spring Water levels are nearly complete. Current findings are showing no significant increase or decrease to ground water levels likely due to the heavy moisture in the summer counteracting the dry winter.
 - Katie Cameron, Matt Joekel and Valentina Ita have been assisting the NRCS with recording a pumping demonstration video
 - CSD is looking for a drillers helper so test drilling in Giltner is not happening on the 20th and may be moved to May if helper is found by then.
 - Scheduling observation wells in Valentine for the USGS and Game and Parks
 - Sue Lackey will be On-Call if helper cannot be found
 - Most drilling recorded in February
 - Upper Big Blue test hole drilling for NRD is tentatively scheduled for May
 - Aiming for Lower Platte North test hole drill at the end of the fiscal year
- D. DWEE-Drinking Water Program – Andy Kahle**
- PFAS will continue to be an issue for the program administratively
 - New Lead and Copper rule will be a challenge for the organization
 - A lot of the last year and a half was dedicated to getting systems to identify lead service lines with our technical service contract with Midwest assistance program to assist systems.

- The next phase is to develop the Replacement Plans to replace lead water service lines, identify how they will replace the lines, and how the replacements will be funded.
- A meeting will be held internally to discuss moving drinking water regulations from Title 179 to 194.
- Potential drought related groundwater level declines are looming on water system operator's minds.

E. HHS – Division of Public Health – Tara Wulfekoetter

- Program is dealing with a new computer system but they are hopeful for a smooth transition.
- Preparing for Lead and Coppers and the increased amount of samples
- Have been working with perchlorates rule

Item 10. Public Comment

Dan Mackin, on behalf of the Board, thanked Sue Lackey for her services in consideration of her impending retirement.

Item 11. Closed Session

None.

Item 12. Adjournment

Jim Remmenga moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:09 a.m. and Jeff Ironshell seconded the motion.

Mike Thompson

April 17, 2026

Mike Thompson, Board Secretary

Date