

WATER WELL STANDARDS & CONTRACTORS' LICENSING BOARD MEETING

February 9, 2026

Scott Grosch, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. with roll call. The meeting was held at the Crown Plaza, 707 West Talmadge St, Rm Bronze #3, Kearney, NE. Copies of the agenda were emailed to board members and other interested parties prior to the meeting. The meeting was advertised on the Water Well Standards and Contractor's Licensing Board webpage on the Nebraska Department of Water, Energy and Environment website. The Open Meetings Act was posted at the front entrance of the room.

Item 1. Roll Call

PRESENT:	Jeff Ironshell	Laura Johnson
	Daniel Mackin	Tara Wulfekoetter
	Mike Thompson	Lynn Webster
	Scott Grosch	Jim Remmenga
	Sue Lackey	Cody Christensen

ABSENT:

OTHERS: Dave Miesbach, Bill Allen, Dan Egeland, Tim Sizer, Kyle Knight, Valentina Ita, Pam Miller.

Item 2. Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Mackin moved to adopt the agenda. Mr. Remmenga seconded the motion. Voting yes: Scott Grosch, Dan Mackin, Jeff Ironshell, Lynn Webster, Sue Lackey, Laura Johnson, Cody Christensen, Jim Remmenga, Mike Thompson, Tara Wulfekoetter. Voting no: none. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

Item 3. Consideration of Minutes of Board Meeting – October 29, 2025

Ms. Lackey noted that the word “new” should be changed to “the” in the first bullet point on page four of the UNL-Conservation and Survey Report. Mr. Webster moved to adopt the October minutes with the noted amendment. Ms. Lackey seconded the motion. Voting yes: Dan Mackin, Jeff Ironshell, Lynn Webster, Sue Lackey, Laura Johnson, Jim Remmenga, Mike Thompson, Tara Wulfekoetter, Scott Grosch. Voting no: none. Abstain: Cody Christensen. Motion carried.

Item 4. Consideration of Minutes of Special Board Meeting – January 12, 2026

Mr. Thompson moved to adopt the January minutes. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion. Voting yes: Jeff Ironshell, Lynn Webster, Sue Lackey, Laura Johnson, Cody Christensen, Jim Remmenga, Mike Thompson, Tara Wulfekoetter, Scott Grosch, Dan Mackin. Voting no: none. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

The recorder malfunctioned and did not record the first 4 items of this meeting.

Item 5. Continuing Education Requests

- 1- Monitoring and Remediation Retreat, Lincoln, NE, by DWEE was held May 15, 2025; Stacey Stricker
Requests: 3.5 hrs. Recommended: 3.5 hrs.
- 2- Lorentz, Xylem, Yaskawa Training, Grand Island, NE, by Roberts Pump was held November 6, 2025; Matthew Roberts
Requests: 7.0 hrs. Recommended: 7.0 hrs.
- 3- Thein Well In-House Training, Spicer, MN, by Thein Well Co was held January 20, 2026; Michael Thein
Requests: 8.0 hrs. Recommended: 9.0 hrs.
- 4- Nitrogen Management Tools for Irrigated Lands Workshop, Sidney, NE, by South Platte NRD was held December 3, 2025; Ryan Reisdorff
Requests: 3.25 hrs. Recommended: 3.5 hrs.
- 5- South Dakota/North Dakota Well Drillers Conference, Deadwood, SD, by South Dakota/North Dakota Well Drillers Assc. was held March 3-4, 2025; Mike Whitesel
Requests: 8.0 hrs. Recommended: 7.0 hrs.
- 6- CWWCA 2025 Mid-Year Conference, Breckenridge, CO, by Colorado Water Well Contractors Assoc. was held July 11-12, 2025; Mike Brown
Requests: 9.5 hrs. Recommended: 5.0 hrs.
- 7- Groundwater Monitoring Demonstration, West Point, NE, by Nutrient Advisors was held November 11-12, 2025; Allen Kampschnieder
Requests: 4.0 hrs. Recommended: 4.0 hrs.
- 8- Fundamentals of Solid Waste/Landfills in Nebraska, Lincoln, NE, by DWEE was held October 29, 2025; Stacey Stricker
Requests: 2.0 hrs. Recommended: 2.0 hrs.
- 9- NPNRD Ag Symposium, Gering, NE, by NPNRD will be held February 10, 2026; Travis Preston
Requests: 3.0 hrs. Recommended: 3.0 hrs.
- 10- Northeast Nebraska Ag Conference, Norfolk, NE, by Bazile Groundwater Management Area was held December 16, 2025; Joslynn VanDerslice
Requests: 5.0 hrs. Recommended: 5.0 hrs.
- 11- NRD Water Programs Conference, Kearney, NE, by NARD will be held March 3, 2026; Jennifer Swanson
Requests: 6.0 hrs. Recommended: 6.0 hrs.
- 12- Water Programs Update, Lexington, NE, by CPNRD will be held February 10, 2026; Marcia Lee
Requests: 3.0 hrs. Recommended: 3.0 hrs.

Mr. Thompson, CEU Committee Chair, submitted the recommendations for board approval of CEU hours as stated. Voting yes: Sue Lackey, Laura Johnson, Cody Christensen, Jim Remmenga, Mike Thompson, Tara Wulfekoetter, Scott Grosch, Dan Mackin, Jeff Ironshell, Lynn Webster. Voting no: none. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

Item 6. Proctor Applications

Mr. Webster moved to approve Mr. Bower, Ms. Casey and Mr. Hadenfeldt as exam proctors. Mr. Remmenga seconded the motion. Voting yes: Laura Johnson, Cody Christensen, Jim Remmenga, Mike Thompson, Tara Wulfekoetter, Scott Grosch, Dan Mackin, Jeff Ironshell, Lynn Webster, Sue Lackey. Voting no: none. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

Item 5. Program Report

Mr. 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.
- Title 178 Chapters 1-5, the final proposal was reviewed.

Mr. Mackin moved to approve final proposal of regulations as written. Ms. Lackey seconded the motion. Voting yes: Cody Christensen, Jim Remmenga, Mike Thompson, Tara Wulfekoetter, Scott Grosch, Dan Mackin, Jeff Ironshell, Lynn Webster, Sue Lackey, Laura Johnson. Voting no: none. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

Item 6. Legislative Report

None

Item 7. Agency Reports

A. UNL – Conservation & Survey – Sue Lackey

- Introduction of Valentina Ita, CSD North Platte Service Office.
- Nebraska Groundwater Level Program: Spring 2025 Maps (Handouts)
- ENWRA 2025 Project (WSF) – Knox County Focus Area Cretaceous Bedrock Surface Map (Some handouts)
- Planning to drill 3 test holes & design wells for LPNNRD community areas by the end of June.
- At least one test hole is planned for UBB NRD. We will also be designing observation wells for the site near Giltner.
- Planning to run tTEM (towable EM equipment) surveys for both LPN and LENRD with ENWRA agreement. (April – weather dependent)
- Lower Big Blue 2025 AEM flights report coming spring 2026.
- ENWRA added phosphorus to GW sample analyses in 2025 (Oakland, Ashland, & Firth).

- My Plans:
 - a. Retirement April 30, 2026. Requested emeritus status.
 - b. I hope to continue helping CSD part time. Some free & some as on-call an employee.
 - c. I requested Katie Cameron replace me on the Board and Dr. Joeckel agreed.

B. Department of Water, Energy and Environment – Mike Thompson

- Handouts of statistical registration reports were reviewed by the Board.
- One entity registered 668 livestock wells in December
- Fee legislative bill will increase well registrations from \$40 to \$200. If bill is passed then new language in Neb. Rev. Stat. 46-606 will help to fund registration and WWS programs.

C. DWEE-Drinking Water Program – Laura Johnson

- PFAS - update Court is requiring EPA to maintain the Hazard Index and is requiring EPA to provide all proposed changes
- LCRI - moving forward, current administration re-allocated unspent lead funds back to us and increased our Lead funds
- Perchlorate NPDWR in FR - comments due March 9

D. HHS – Division of Public Health – Tara Wulfekoetter

- No new updates with the lab

E. Natural Resources Districts – Lynn Webster

- Very nervous about upcoming Spring static water levels
- Extremely dry winter will be reflective in groundwater and irrigation levels
- Nitrogen projects for water quality are ongoing

Item 8. Public Comment

None

Item 9. Adjourn

Ms. Lackey moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

Mike Thompson

2/17/2026

Mike Thompson, Board Secretary

Date