

PLATTE BASIN COALITION (PBC) MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 30, 2025, 3:00 p.m. Central Time

Ruby 7, Younes Conference Center South
416 Talmadge St, Kearney, NE 68845

MINUTES

1. Welcome/Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by John Thorburn at 3:00 PM. As directed by state statute, the Open Meetings Act was displayed during the meeting.

2. Roll Call (3:00 pm)

PBC ILCA Representatives

Kent Miller, TPNRD	Scott Schaneman, NPNRD
John Thorburn, TBNRD	Lyndon Vogt, CPNRD
Galen Wittrock, SPNRD	Jennifer Schellpeper, DWEE

Others in Attendance*

Jack Mensinger, DWEE	Caitlin Kingsley, DWEE	Travis Preston, NPNRD
Nolan Little, TBNRD	Jesse Mintken, CPNRD	Katie Hickle, DWEE
Ryan Kelly, DWEE	Dan Ross, DWEE	Sam Capps, DWEE
Ryan Reisdorff, NPNRD	Kari Burgert, DWEE	

*Shaded areas indicate online attendees.

3. Publication of Meeting Notices (*Attachment 3*)

- *North Platte Telegraph*: September 18, 2025
- *Sidney Sun-Telegraph*: September 18, 2025
- *Grand Island Independent*: September 18, 2025
- *Kearney Hub*: September 18, 2025
- *Scottsbluff Star Herald*: September 18, 2025

4. Agenda Review and Approval (*Attachment 4*)

MOTION: *To approve the September 30, 2025, agenda.*

Move: Lyndon Vogt

Second: Scott Schaneman

Discussion: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Review and Approval of the August 7, 2025, Minutes (*Attachment 5*)

MOTION: *To approve the August 7, 2025, minutes.*

Move: Scott Schaneman

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Second: Jennifer Schellpeper

Discussion: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. Budget Updates

A. Budget

i. FY 2025-2026 (*Attachment 6Ai*)

Caitlin Kingsley (DWEE) stated there had been no changes from the prior meeting.

ii. Studies (*Attachment 6Aii*)

Caitlin stated that there were new invoices from ARI and TFG for Parcel Based Modeling, and there are two invoices from HDR for drought plan development.

B. Invoices for Approval

i. ARI Invoice for Parcel-Based Modeling Contract #1524 (*Attachment 6Bi*)

ii. TFG Invoice for Parcel-Based Modeling Contract #1535 (*Attachment 6Bii*)

iii. TFG Invoice for Conservation Study Tillage Survey Update Contract #1574 (*Attachment 6Biii*)

iv. *HDR Invoices for Drought Plan Development Contracts #1287 and #1377*

a. Invoice #1200734415 (*Attachment 6Biva*)

b. Invoice #1200744457 (*Attachment 6Bivb*)

MOTION: *To approve all invoices as presented.*

Move: Lyndon Vogt

Second: Galen Wittrock

Discussion: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

v. Other invoices

No other invoices were presented.

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C. New Budget Requests

i. Other budget requests

No new budget requests were received.

7. **Ongoing Project Activities/Operations**

A. DWEE

Caitlin reported on a brief period of excess flows for Tri-County and Dawson from September 15-19. Tri-County Canal was open to divert up to 350 cfs and Dawson County Canal up to 100 cfs.

B. CPNRD

Lyndon Vogt (CPNRD) stated that the BOR has awarded 3 WaterSMART grants with matches from the Department. Two grant projects involve canal automation efficiency improvements, including 4 gates at 30-Mile, 10 gates at Cozad, and a single headgate at Southside. The final grant is to install 100 flow meters. The NRD staff have encountered obstacles convincing irrigators to install meters. Twenty of the one hundred meters had been installed.

C. TBNRD

John Thorburn (TBNRD) stated augmentation wells are not currently being operated. The net recharge tool is nearly complete with final reports coming up.

D. TPNRD

No update.

E. NPNRD

Scott Schaneman (NPNRD) reported that Enterprise recharge had concluded and the project worked as designed. The first retention pond was full all summer, and the second barely had water at all. NPNRD continues to work on its ARP agreement with Enterprise. John asked if there were sediment issues with the first pond. Scott agreed that it may be occurring.

F. SPNRD

No update.

8. **Public Comment**

No public comment was provided.

9. **2025 Meetings:**

- a. December 4, 2025 – virtual only.

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10. Wrap-up & action items

The Department will distribute invoices via ShareFile.

11. Adjourn (3:07)