



Lower Platte River
CORRIDOR ALLIANCE

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QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 19th, 9:00 a.m.

Lower Platte North NRD

511 Commercial Park Road

Wahoo, NE 68066

1. Call to Order / Introductions: The meeting was called to order by Meghan Sittler at 9:19 a.m. The meeting was delayed slightly due to inclement weather.
2. Proof of Legal Notice/Publication: The meeting was publicized in the Omaha World Herald on January 6, 2016
3. Adoption of Agenda [**ACTION**]: The agenda was adopted by consensus
4. Approval of LPRCA Minutes from October 27, 2015 Meeting [**ACTION**]: The minutes were adopted by consensus
5. Monitoring a Fish and Macroinvertebrate Response to Side Channel Reconnection on the Platte River—Caleb Uerling, UNL School of Natural Resources
Caleb Uerling, a graduate student at the UNL School of Natural Resources discussed his project focused on monitoring the diversity of fish and macroinvertebrate species within the two reconstructed chutes at Camp Ashland.
6. Water Quality Monitoring Network Agreement Renewal and Potential Expansion—Meghan Sittler; Matt Moser, USGS: Meghan Sittler and Matt Moser discussed the renewal of the agreement with USGS for operation of three water quality monitoring sites on the Platte and Elkhorn Rivers as well as Salt Creek. Additionally, the possibility of adding a site in the Platte River at Leshara was discussed. The LPRCA and USGS met with both MUD and Lincoln Water System about potentially partnering in the operation of the site. MUD has given preliminary approval but LWS has not to date. LPRCA members agreed that if additional partners can be found, the additional site at Leshara would be of interest and beneficial.
7. Lower Platte River Recreation Plan Update: Meghan Sittler provided a brief update of the LPR Recreation Plan. The LPRCA is working with NGPC, NPS and the local stakeholders to set up three public meetings in Ashland, Fremont and Columbus. Sittler also reviewed the goals and recommendations of the plan.
8. Lower Platte River Summit: Meghan Sittler discussed the initial planning for the LPR Summit this fall. Sittler is looking at locations in the upper portion of the Corridor and hopes to have a location identified in early February. Sittler also asked for volunteers to serve on the steering committee for the Summit. The format will most likely be the same as the past several Summits with speakers in the morning and then a tour of projects, communities etc in the surrounding area.

9. LPRCA 20th Anniversary Year: Sittler also discussed that this is the 20th year of LPRCA partnership. She plans to tie that into events including the Summit. Discussion also was held on the possibility of doing another event/gathering for LPRCA members and former directors/staff. She asked for ideas and input from the LPRCA members.
10. Ice Update: Marlin Petermann provided an update on ice conditions. There were very limited ice conditions through the season thus far. An ice jam did occur on the Central Platte but little to no ice buildup occurred on either the Platte or the Elkhorn.
11. NRD Integrated Management Plans Updates & Lower Platte River Basin Plan Update: Each NRD provided brief updates of their IMP process. Lower Platte North has a draft plan ready to be presented to the Board of Directors but they have held it until the Basin Planning effort has a complete draft plan ready to ensure that the plans are congruent. Lower Platte South is continuing in the initial phases of implementing their plan. Pappio-Missouri River NRD will be meeting with DNR to discuss the possibility of expanding their completed IMP to cover the entire District and include elements of their groundwater management plan.
12. WRDA Authorized Project Updates
 - a. Deadman's Run: Glenn Johnson provided an update on Deadman's Run. They are still in the 205 study phase and hope to have the preferred alternative from the Corps in the upcoming weeks.
 - b. Sand Creek: Sand Creek is complete. The O&M manual is being completed by the Corps.
 - c. Fremont & Schuyler 205: Fremont study is anticipated to be completed in September 2016. The Corps and Department of Roads are investigating different modeling data showing different levels of impact to portions of Fremont from the levee and Hwy 30 realignment. In Schuyler the Shell Creek levee is complete and LPNNRD is just waiting on the O&M manual from the Corps for the project to be complete.
 - d. Western Sarpy Clear Creek: The Sarpy side of the levee is complete and is awaiting the development of the O&M manual. The fuse plug redesign is still underway as are remaining punch list items on the Saunders County side.
 - e. Lower Platte River Watershed Authority: The LPRCA continues to work with the Corps and the delegation on initiating the Watershed program.
13. Next Meeting Date **[ACTION]**: The next meeting date will be Tuesday, May 3rd at 9:00 a.m. at LPSNRD in Lincoln
14. Public Comment: none
15. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned by Sittler at 11:21 a.m.

NOTES

- **To be removed from/ added to our mailing or e-mailing list**, please contact the LPRCA at (402) 476-2729 or via e-mail at msittler@lpsnrd.org.
- **Meeting information (past and present)** will be kept up to date at: http://www.lowerplatte.org/what_we_do/quarterly_meetings.html