



**Lower Platte River Basin Water Management Plan Coalition
Management Committee Meeting
February 19, 2015, 10:00 – 12:00
Offices of Lower Elkhorn NRD
601 E. Benjamin Ave., Suite 101, Norfolk, NE**

Meeting Summary

Present: K. Hatfield Edstrom (HDR), A. Williams (HDR), J. Engel (HDR), D. Schueth (UENRD), P. Woodward (PMRNRD), J. Miyoshi (LPNNRD), G. Johnson (LPSNRD), R. Wozniak (LENRD), M. Bushnell (LENRD), C. Becker (LENRD), A. Baum (ULNRD), D. Wilcox (NARD), M. Sousek (LENRD), D. Kracman (TFG), S. Rock (HDR), J. Bradley (NDNRD), B. Koehlmoos (LLNRD), P. Hartman (JEO)

- I. Water banking workshop: John Engel led the group through the presentation given by David Kracman at the last technical committee meeting. Discussion included the following:
 - a. Emphasize local control
 - b. Emphasize this is voluntary participation but a consistent framework to work within will be established
 - c. Examples of how a water bank would work

- II. **Purpose/Needs of water bank:** John Engel led a discussion of the list of purpose and needs of water banks that were generated at the last technical committee meeting. Discussion included the following:
 - a. Lower Loup retires acres and “banks” the water but ultimately that water recharges to the river and is recaptured downstream. There needs to be a way for that credit to be given to Lower Loup for those banking efforts or there is no reason to bank the water instead.
 - b. How does Central Platte NRD sell water upstream?
 - c. Inter Local Agreement: metrics, targets, tools, etc.
 - d. Central Platte lease program with Twin Platte & Tri-Basin NRDs
 - e. How to protect water as it moves?
 - i. If storage water, it would need a water use permit (DNR protect water)
 - ii. DNR cannot protect natural recharge accretions to the river
 - iii. Could pump groundwater to surface water, then DNR can issue a conduct water permit
 - f. Advantages of a basin wide approach with agreed upon accounting methods was discussed versus individual districts and inter local agreements.
 - g. Rules and regulations addressing individual trans-district transfers were discussed.
 - h. How the Republican basin accounting works
 - i. How the Upper Platte basin accounting works
 - j. How to prevent a water grab upstream



- III. **Basin wide accounting/banking concept:** John Engel led a discussion of the basin wide accounting/banking concept that was discussed at the technical committee meeting including proportioning supplies and demands.
- IV. **Unappropriated flow analysis update:** John Engel provided an update on the unappropriated water analysis including the presentation that was given to the technical committee.
- V. **Information/Education approach:** It was discussed whether a fact sheet would be beneficial for the state legislature. HDR will coordinate with NARD to work with the management committee on development of the fact sheet. A second fact sheet for landowners was discussed.
- VI. **Schedule Update:**
 - a. Water Banking Workshop I
 - i. March 10, 2015, 1:00 – 3:00 pm at Central Community College
 - b. Next Technical Committee meeting
 - i. April 2, 2015 at LENRD in Norfolk, NE
 - ii. Topics will include the 2nd Water Banking Workshop & Unappropriated Water Analysis
 - c. Next Management Committee meeting
 - i. April 16, 2015 at LPNNRD in Wahoo, NE 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
- VII. **Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 pm.