



PAPPIO  
MISSOURI RIVER

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NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

## Long Range Implementation Plan Fiscal Year 2024

8901 South 154<sup>th</sup> Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68138-3621

Phone: (402) 444-6222

[www.PapioNRD.org](http://www.PapioNRD.org)

Approved by the Board of Directors: October 12, 2023

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## I. INTRODUCTION

In recognition of the need to orderly develop and manage the State's natural resources, the 80<sup>th</sup> session of the Nebraska Legislature enacted LB 1357 creating Natural Resources Districts (NRD). On July 1, 1972, over 150 special purpose districts were combined to form 24 NRDs covering the entire state (see Figure 1). These districts, bounded predominantly along hydrologic lines, are empowered to provide for effective planning, development, and management of natural resources.

The Papio-Missouri River NRD was created on January 5, 1989 when the Papio and Middle Missouri Tribes NRDs merged, leaving 23 NRDs in the state.

This Long Range Implementation Plan has been prepared according to state statutes (see below) to explain the District's programs and projects, activities planned for FY 2024, and activities planned for the next five fiscal years.

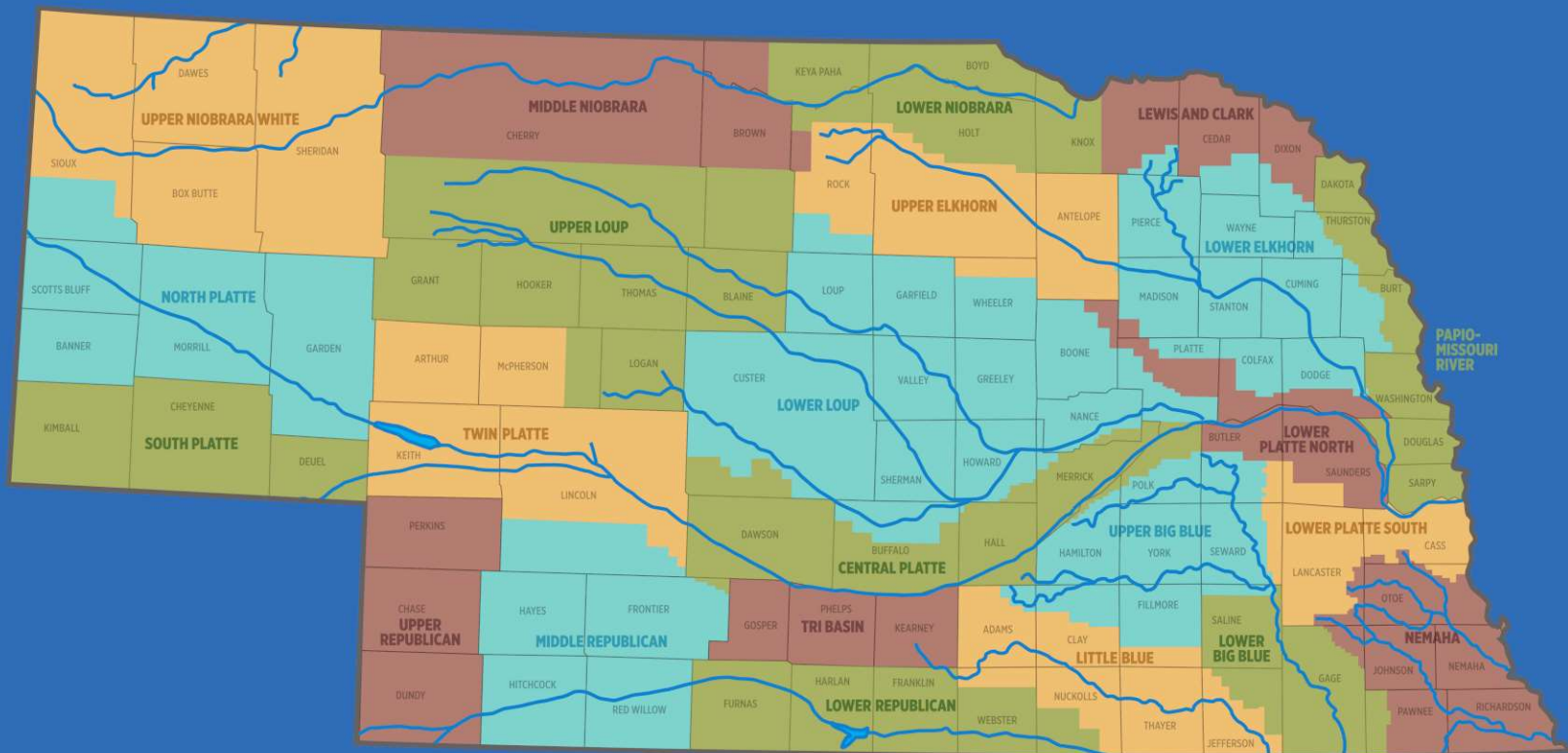
“2-3277        Districts; long-range implementation plans; prepare and adopt; contents; review; filing; department; develop guidelines. Each district shall also prepare and adopt a long-range implementation plan which shall summarize planned district activities and include projections of financial, personnel, and land rights needs of the district for at least the next five years and specific needs assessment upon which the current budget is based. Such long-range implementation plan shall be reviewed and updated annually. A copy of the long-range implementation plan and all revisions and updates thereto as adopted shall be filed with the department, the Governor's Policy Research Office, and the Game and Parks Commission on or before October 1 of each year. The department shall develop and make available to the districts suggested guidelines regarding the general content of such long-range implementation plans.

Source: Laws 1978, LB 783, §3; Laws 1979, LB 412, §3; Laws 2000, LB 900 §61. Operative date July 1, 2000.”

Figure 1

# NEBRASKA'S NRDS

23 Natural Resources Districts Established Along River Basins



## **II. DESCRIPTION OF THE DISTRICT**

Located in eastern Nebraska, the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District consists of all of Sarpy, Douglas, Washington, and Dakota Counties, the eastern two-thirds of Burt and Thurston Counties, and a small portion of southeastern Dodge County (see Figure 2). The District is bounded on the east by the Missouri River, and the Platte River forms the boundary on the south and a portion of the west. Three major river basins (Missouri, Platte, and Elkhorn) are represented.

### **1. Board of Directors**

The District is governed by an elected Board of Directors. There are currently 11 members on the Board representing 11 sub-districts (see Figure 3) each containing approximately the same number of people.

Current Board Members are:

|                           |                |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Ted Japp                  | Subdistrict 1  |
| Fred Conley               | Subdistrict 2  |
| Larry Bradley             | Subdistrict 3  |
| Tim McCormick, Vice Chair | Subdistrict 4  |
| Richard Tesar, Secretary  | Subdistrict 5  |
| James Thompson            | Subdistrict 6  |
| Josh Henningsen           | Subdistrict 7  |
| Tim Fowler, Treasurer     | Subdistrict 8  |
| Patrick Bonnett           | Subdistrict 9  |
| Kevyn Sopinski, Chair     | Subdistrict 10 |
| Phil Davidson             | Subdistrict 11 |

Figure 2 – Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District

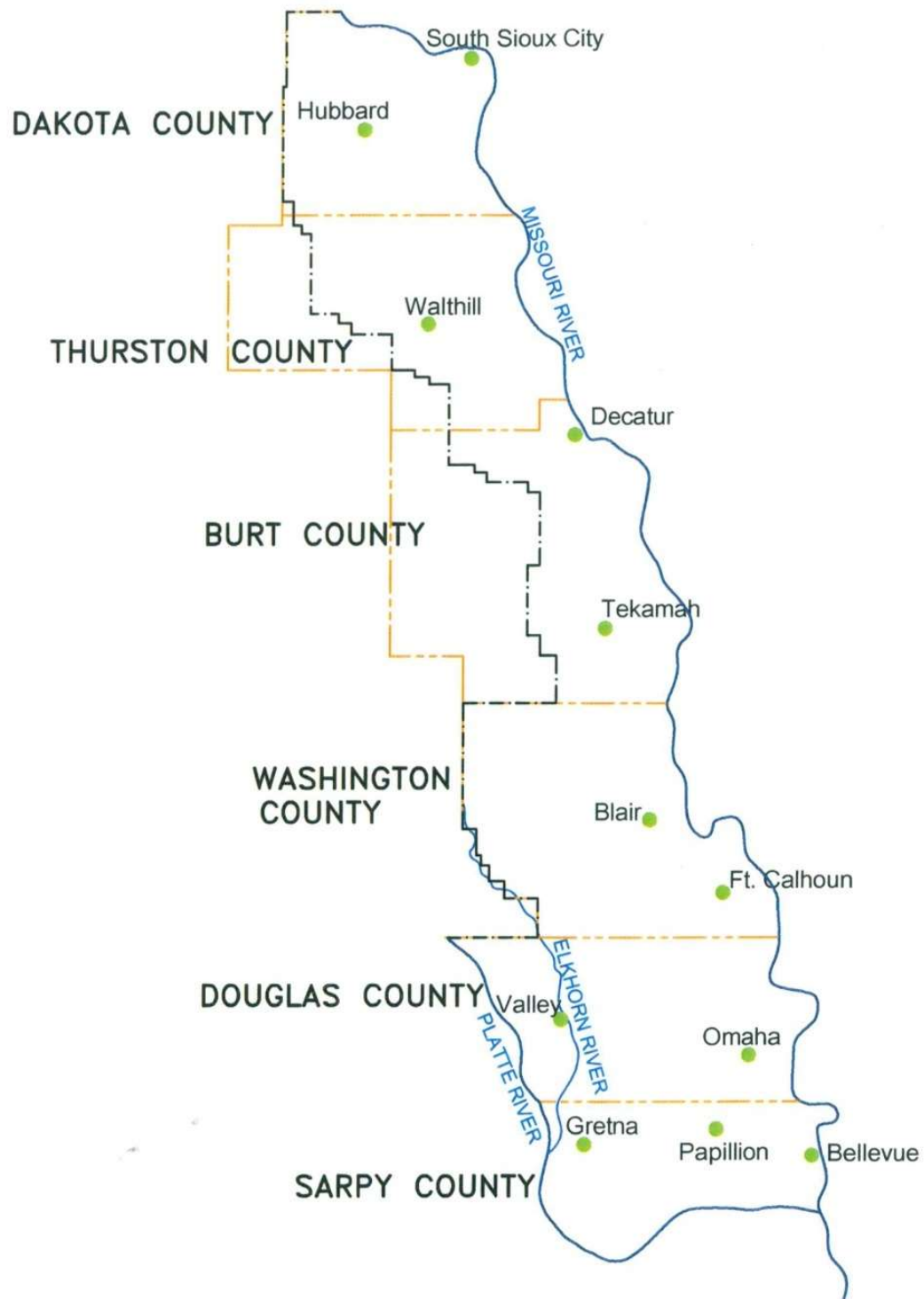
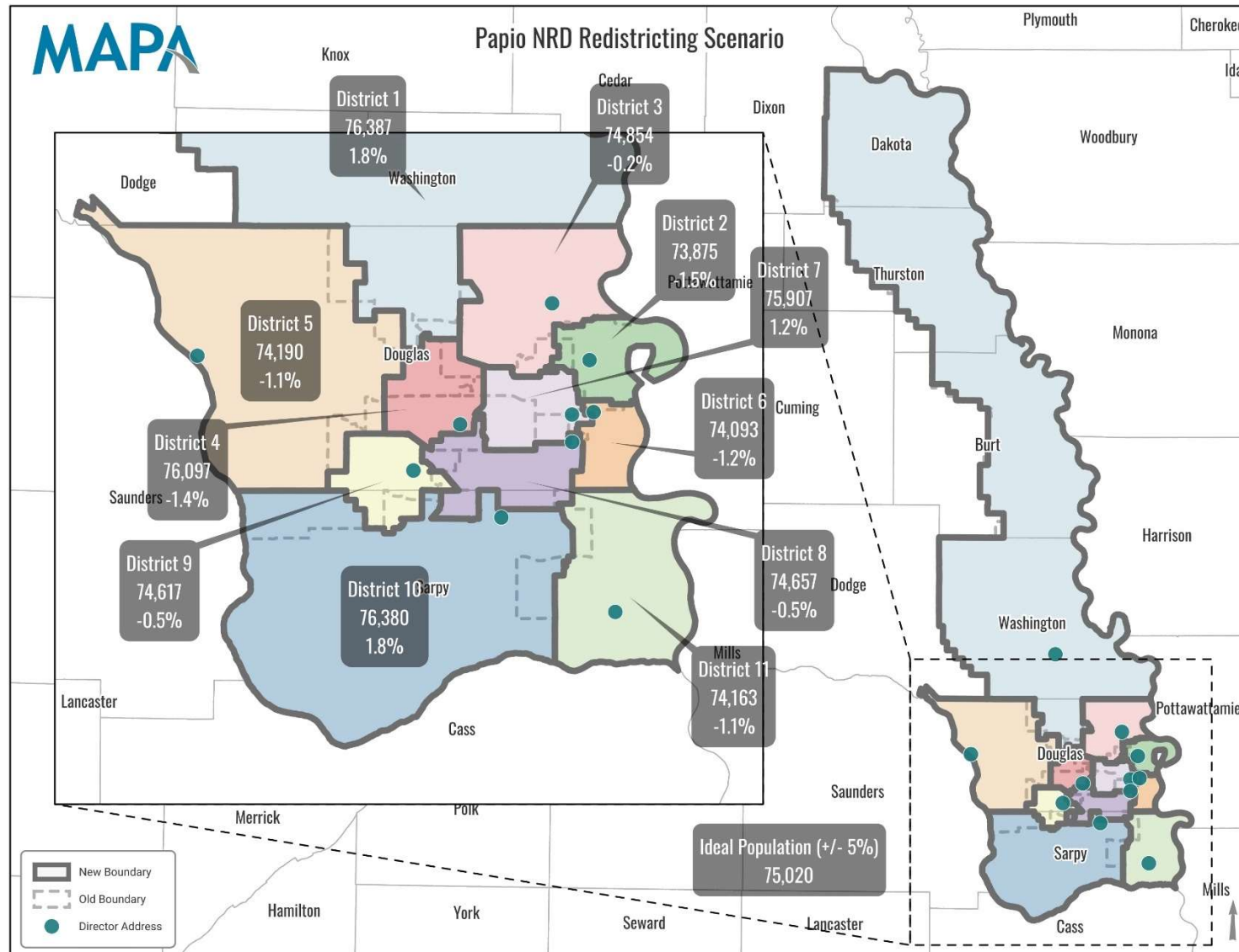


Figure 3 - NRD Sub-district Map  
 Updated following the 2020 census, reflecting new population and variance from even distribution



## 2. District Staff

A permanent staff is maintained to implement the District's various programs and projects. An Organizational Chart is attached, see Figure 4.

### Administrative Services:

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| John Winkler   | General Manager                           |
| Jean Tait      | Administrative Coordinator                |
| Nicole Gust    | Purchasing Agent/Files Administrator      |
| Tracy Thompson | District Secretary/HR                     |
| Carey Fry      | Senior Accountant                         |
| Kyra Peterson  | District Accountant                       |
| Julie Graham   | Accounting Assistant                      |
| Bill Brush     | Information Technology Manager            |
| Tsolmon Peters | Information Technology / Web              |
| Randy Lee      | Natural Resources Center Building Manager |

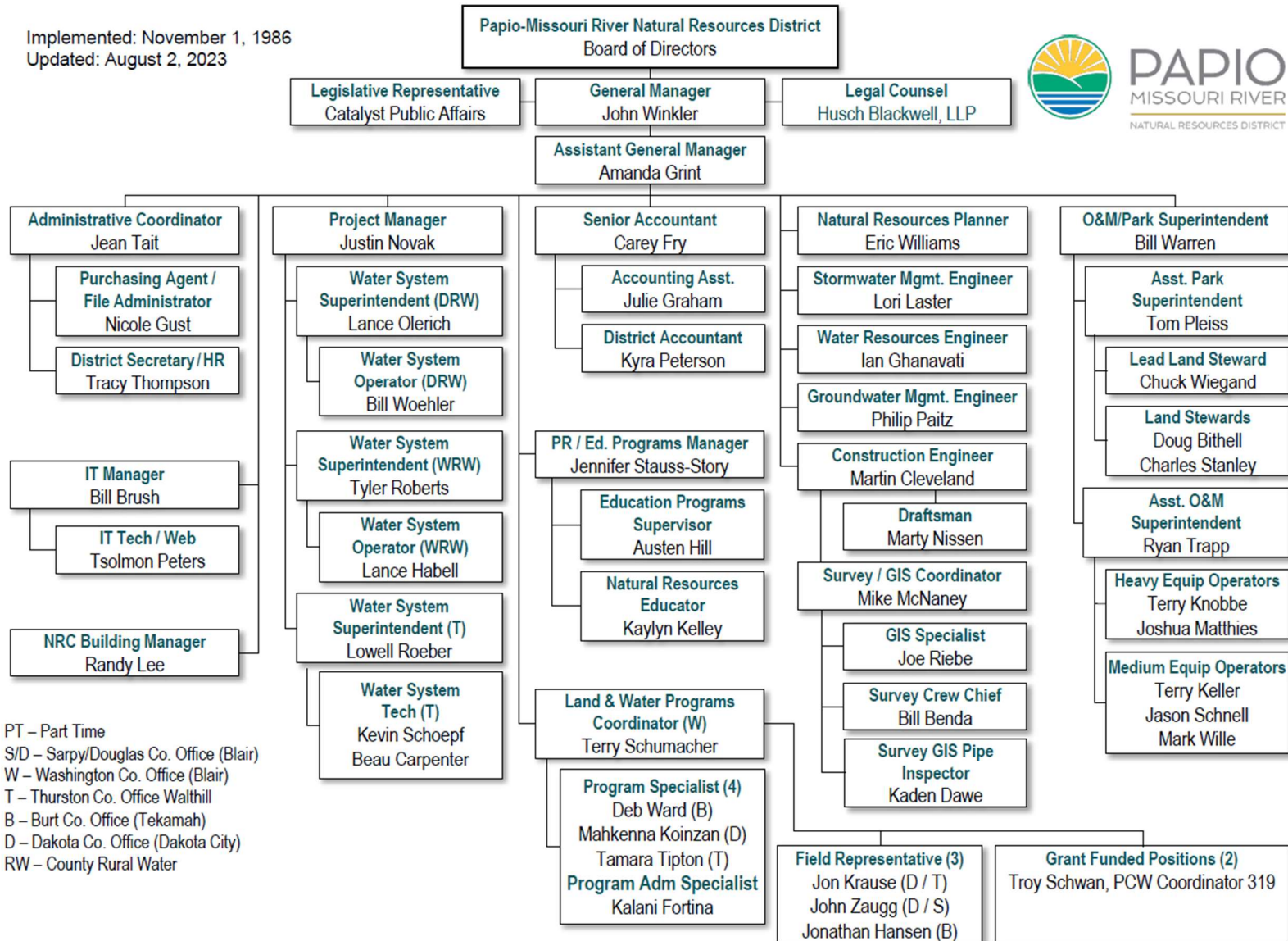
### Program and Project Services:

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Amanda Grint          | Assistant General Manager                            |
| Eric Williams         | Natural Resources Planner                            |
| Lori Laster           | Stormwater Management Engineer                       |
| Ian Ghanavati         | Water Resources Engineer                             |
| Philip Paitz          | Groundwater Management Engineer                      |
| Martin Cleveland      | Construction Engineer                                |
| Marty Nissen          | Draftsman  |
| Mike McNaney          | Survey/GIS Coordinator                               |
| Joe Riebe             | GIS Specialist                                       |
| Bill Benda            | Survey Crew Chief                                    |
| Kaden Dawe            | Survey GIS / CAD                                     |
| Terry Schumacher      | Land and Water Programs Coordinator                  |
| Jon Krause            | Field Representative (Dakota/Thurston)               |
| Jonathan Hansen       | Field Representative (Washington)                    |
| John Zaugg            | Field Representative (Washington)                    |
| Kalani Fortina        | Conservation Program Support Specialist (Washington) |
| Troy Schwan           | Papillion Creek Watershed Coordinator (Washington)   |
| Mahkenna Koinzan      | Program Specialist (Dakota)                          |
| Deb Ward              | Program Specialist (Tekamah)                         |
| Tamara Tipton         | Program Specialist (Walthill)                        |
| Jennifer Stauss-Story | PR/Education Manager                                 |
| Austen Hill           | Education Programs Supervisor                        |
| Kaylyn Kelley         | Natural Resources Educator                           |
| Justin Novak          | Project Manager                                      |
| Lance Olerich         | Water System Superintendent (Dakota)                 |
| Bill Woehler          | Water System Operator (Dakota)                       |
| Marge Stark           | Water System Bookkeeper (Dakota)                     |

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Tyler Roberts   | Water System Superintendent (Washington)           |
| Lance Habel     | Water System Operator (Washington)                 |
| Lowell Roeber   | Water System Superintendent (Thurston)             |
| Kevin Schoepf   | Water System Tech (Thurston)                       |
| Beau Carpenter  | Water System Tech (Thurston)                       |
| Bill Warren     | Operation and Maintenance/Park Superintendent      |
| Tom Pleiss      | Assistant Park Superintendent                      |
| Chuck Wiegand   | Lead Land Steward                                  |
| Doug Bithell    | Land Steward                                       |
| Charles Stanley | Land Steward                                       |
| Ryan Trapp      | Assistant Operation and Maintenance Superintendent |
| Terry Knobbe    | Heavy Equipment Operator                           |
| Joshua Matthies | Heavy Equipment Operator                           |
| Terry Keller    | Medium Equipment Operator                          |
| Jason Schnell   | Medium Equipment Operator                          |
| Mark Wille      | Medium Equipment Operator                          |

Figure 4 – District Staff

Implemented: November 1, 1986  
Updated: August 2, 2023



### **3. Authorities and Responsibilities**

Authority for the District's activities is found in Chapter 2-3229 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska. It states:

“The purpose of natural resources districts shall be to develop and execute, through the exercise of powers and authorities contained in this act, plans, facilities, works and programs relating to,

- 1) erosion prevention and control,
- 2) prevention of damages from flood water and sediment,
- 3) flood prevention and control,
- 4) soil conservation,
- 5) water supply for any beneficial uses,
- 6) development, management, utilization and conservation of groundwater and surface water,
- 7) pollution control,
- 8) solid waste disposal and sanitary drainage,
- 9) drainage improvement and channel rectification,
- 10) development and management of fish and wildlife habitat,
- 11) development and management of recreational and park facilities, and
- 12) forestry and range management...”

The Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District has consolidated these authorities into seven resource management needs. By priority for FY 2024, these include the need to:

1. Reduce flood damages.
2. Maintain water quality and quantity.
3. Reduce soil erosion and sedimentation damages.
4. Provide domestic water supply.
5. Provide outdoor recreation facilities
6. Develop and improve fish and wildlife habitat, and forest resources.
7. Participate in solid waste management and pollution control.

### III. PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

This plan reviews the current status of the District's programs and projects which have been implemented to address the resource management needs previously outlined. District accomplishments over the past few years are listed. Additionally, this plan explains activities to be undertaken in the current budget year, and anticipated activities during the next five budget years.

The projected personnel and financial resources needed for each of these programs and projects for FY 2024 are summarized in Tables 2 and 3 of Section IV of this plan. Table 2, and Tables 4 and 5 in Section V summarize the projected personnel, expenditures, and revenues for the next five fiscal years.

#### 1. Project Maintenance – Channels & Levees

Upon completion, District projects are placed in the operation and maintenance category. The following channel and levee projects are operated and maintained by the District. These operations will continue into the future.

a. Missouri River Levee, Unit R-613

Missouri River Levee System Unit R-613, a component of the Missouri River Levee System Project, was authorized as part of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (Pick-Sloan Plan). The completed levee is located in southeastern Sarpy County adjacent to the Platte River, Missouri River, and Papillion Creek. The District has assumed operation and maintenance responsibility of the nearly thirteen miles of levees and appurtenant structures. Continued operation and maintenance of the project will be provided. The Missouri River Levee Accreditation Project for Units R-613 and R-616 started in 2010 and construction of levee upgrades to protect against the 1% annual chance exceedance (100 year) flood commenced in 2019 and is scheduled to be completed in 2023. The total cost of engineering, land rights and construction for this improvement project are estimated at \$38 million dollars.

b. Missouri River Levee, Unit R-616

Part of the Missouri River Levee System, authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1944 (Pick- Sloan Plan), Unit R-616 is the right bank levee along the Missouri River from the mouth of the Papillion Creek north to Highway 370 in Bellevue. This 4.5-mile levee provides flood protection from high flows on the Missouri River and Papillion Creek for the area east and south of Bellevue. Continued operation and maintenance will be provided.

c. Union Dike

In 1976, the District assumed operation and maintenance of the completed Union Dike and Drainage District levee, which extends 9.5 miles along the left bank (east) of the Platte River from Fremont to west of Valley, Nebraska. In 1991, construction was completed on a levee improvement project. The District paid 10% of the costs with the remainder assessed to benefited properties. The project also created 24 acres of wetland habitat.

As a continuation of this project, the District improved an existing dike (No-Name Dike) along the Platte River between County Road 33 and the UPRR in Western Douglas County (approximately two miles in length). Construction was completed in 1993.

Operation and maintenance of the levee improvements will continue into the future.

d. Big Papillion Creek Channel Project

Construction of the channel improvements between Center and L Streets was completed in 1996. In 2001, construction of channel improvements on the Big Papillion Creek between Center and Blondo was completed. The District will provide operation and maintenance on the improved channel into the future.

e. Little Papillion Creek Channel Project

The Little Papillion Creek Channel Project was constructed by the Corps of Engineers between Pratt Street and the confluence with the Big Papillion Creek north of Q Street. Douglas County was the local sponsor of the project until 1996, when the District assumed operation and maintenance responsibilities for the project.

f. Bellevue/Offutt Drainageway Project

In 1998 and 1999, the City of Bellevue, Offutt Air Force Base, and the District undertook a project to improve the Bellevue/Offutt Drain from Modification Road eastward to Missouri River Levee R-616. The District will operate and maintain the project into the future.

g. Western Sarpy/Clear Creek Levee

The 7.5 mile Western Sarpy Levee portion of the project, located in the District along the east bank of the Platte and Elkhorn Rivers, was completed in 2012. The 12 mile Clear Creek Levee portion of the project, located in the Lower Platte North and Lower Platte South NRD along the west bank of the Platte River, was completed in 2017. The District will operate and maintain the Western Sarpy Levee into the future.

## **2. Project Maintenance - Dams**

Upon completion, District projects are placed in the operation and maintenance category. The following structural projects are operated and maintained by the District. These operations will continue into the future.

a. Papillion Creek P.L. 566 Watershed

This project was established to address grade stabilization problems in the Papillion Creek Watershed in Douglas, Sarpy, and Washington Counties. 26 of 52 structures identified in the work plan have been completed and are operational, and 2 structures have been decommissioned. The District will continue maintenance of completed structures.

In 2009, Structures S-27, S-31, and S-32 underwent rehabilitation by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). In addition, Structure W-3 was rehabilitated in 2011.

In 2018, the District was awarded federal funding to update the work plan to include the remaining seven viable grade stabilization structures and add flood reduction to the plan purposes. The planning process began in early 2019 and is scheduled for completion in 2022, with construction of viable structures to follow.

b. Tekamah-Mud Creek P.L. 566 Watershed

All 15 of the structures identified in the work plan of this Burt County watershed have been installed and are operational. The largest of the structures created Summit Lake, which is operated by the Game and Parks Commission as a state recreation area. The District will continue to maintain completed structures.

c. Turtle Creek P.L. 566 Watershed

The Turtle Creek Watershed Project is located in south central Sarpy County. Both structures identified in the work plan have been built. The District operates and maintains the project. Turtle Creek #2 was evaluated by NRCS in 2006 for rehabilitation. The design of the improvements was completed in 2008, and construction completed in 2009.

d. Buffalo Creek Watershed

Buffalo Creek Watershed, located in southwest Sarpy County, experienced flooding, sediment, and erosion damage throughout the entire watershed. 10 grade stabilization structures were identified in the work plan, with all 10 having been built. Funding assistance was received from the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR) through the Resources Development Fund (RDF). Maintenance of these structures will be performed as necessary.

e. Silver Creek Watershed

The Silver Creek Watershed Project was established in 1994 to reduce erosion and sedimentation rates in this Burt County watershed. Twenty two grade stabilization structures have been completed, with the last structure completed in 2011. In addition, terraces and other best management practices will provide significant off-site benefits through sediment reduction in the Burt-Washington Drainage District.

f. Zorinsky Water Quality Basins

Four sediments basins were planned to help maintain the water quality in Zorinsky Lake. Basin #1 is located northwest of 204<sup>th</sup> and West Center Road. Basin #2 is located west of 205<sup>th</sup> and Grover. Basin #3 is known as Whitehawk Lake and is located near 192<sup>nd</sup> & Grover. The dams at these locations were built and are maintained by the District. Basin #4 is located near 184<sup>th</sup> and Ontario Street and is maintained by the City of Omaha.

### **3. Papillion Creek and Tributaries Project**

On July 1, 1972, the District assumed responsibility for local coordination of the Papillion Creek and Tributaries Flood Control Project. Prior to that time, the Papio Watershed Advisory Board carried out this responsibility for the three county boards (Sarpy, Douglas, and Washington Counties).

Nine of twenty-one federally authorized flood control structures conceived in the late 1960's have been constructed; Site 16 (Standing Bear Lake), Site 11 (Cunningham Lake), Site 17 (Candlewood Lake), Site 18 (Zorinsky Lake), Site 20 (Wehrspann Lake), Site 21 (Walnut Creek Lake), Site 6 (Newport Landing), Site 13 (Youngman Lake), and Site 15A (Flanagan Lake). After sites 16, 11, 17, 18 and 20 were completed, the large dam construction program was de-authorized by the federal government in the early 1980's. Since then, the District has pursued construction of large dams without federal funding, completing Dam Site 21 (Walnut Creek), Site 13 (Youngman Lake), Dam Site 6 (Newport Landing), and Shadow Lake Reservoir / Midland Lake Water Quality Basin. In 2018, a General Reevaluation Report of the Papillion Creek and Tributaries Lakes, Nebraska, was initiated by the US Army Corps of Engineers. The report was completed in 2021 and identifies two flood control reservoirs (one on Thomas Creek and one on the South Papillion Creek) and a new levee/floodwall system on the Little Papillion Creek as recommendations to reduce flood risk in the Omaha area.

In 2001, the District and local cities and counties joined together to form the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership (PCWP) to pursue the construction of additional regional flood control and water quality structures. A Watershed Management Plan was developed and adopted in 2009. The plan included 14 flood control reservoirs and 12 water quality basins. Flood control reservoir Prairie Queen (WP-5) (along with 2 associated water quality basins), Zorinsky Water Quality Basin #1, flood control reservoir Flanagan Lake (DS-15A) (and 1 associated water quality basin), Zorinsky Watery Quality Basin #2, flood control reservoir Portal Recreation Area (WP-6) and flood control reservoir Big Elk Lake (WP-7) have been completed.

Maintenance of the flood control structures at Sites 11, 16, 18, and 20 is provided by the Corps of Engineers. The District maintains the structures at the remaining flood control and water quality basin sites.

Recreation facilities are available at nine of the eleven flood control sites. The City of Omaha is the sponsor of recreation operations at Sites 11, 13, 15A, 16, and 18, while the District has this responsibility at Site 20 (see Chalco Hills Recreation Area). The City of Papillion operates Site 21 (Walnut Creek), WP-5 (Prairie Queen), WP-6 (Portal Recreation Area), WP-7 (Big Elk Lake) and Shadow Lake.

An automated flood warning system was also installed throughout the Papillion Creek basin as part of the channel improvement from L to Center Streets. This system was updated with new equipment in 2012 includes twenty-two rain gauges, and seventeen stream stage gauges. The flood warning system is maintained by the US Geological Survey through a contract with the District.

#### **4. Portal Recreation Area (WP-6)**

Flood control reservoir Portal Recreation Area is included in the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership's Watershed Management Plan to provide flood control, prevent streambank erosion, provide aquatic habitat, and increase access to natural resources for recreation. Construction was substantially complete in December 2020 and the site was opened to the public in September 2021. The City of Papillion operates and maintains the recreation site and have named it Portal Recreation Area.

## **5. Big Elk Lake (WP-7)**

Flood control WP-7 is included in the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership's Watershed Management Plan. Construction was substantially complete in December 2020 and the site was opened to the public in September 2021. The City of Papillion operates and maintains the recreation site and the District has named it Big Elk Lake.

## **6. Zorinsky Basin #2**

An additional sediment basin to improve and protect water quality in Lake Zorinsky, located south and west of 204<sup>th</sup> Street and West Center Road, was completed in June 2021.

## **7. WP-1**

Flood control WP1, located at 180th and Fort Streets, is included in the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership's Watershed Management Plan. Preliminary design was completed in 2018 and final design and construction are anticipated to underway in 2024.

## **8. WP-2**

Flood control WP2, located near 180th and Giles Road, is included in the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership's Watershed Management Plan. Preliminary design was completed in 2018 and construction is expected to begin in 2024.

## **9. WP-4**

WP-4 is the third flood control structure in the PCWP 2019-2024 implementation plan. Final design on the structure, located at 204th Street and Schram Road, began in summer 2021. Construction is scheduled to be completed in 2024.

## **10. DS-7**

Flood control DS-7, located at 168th and Bennington Road, is included in the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership, Watershed Management Plan. Preliminary design was completed in 2018.

## **11. DS-12**

Structure DS-12 will be located just west of 216<sup>th</sup> and Fort Street. This project is included in the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership, Watershed Management Plan with preliminary design having been completed in 2018.

## **12. DS-19**

Structure DS-19 will be located west of 192<sup>nd</sup> Street and south of Giles Road. This project is included in the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership, Watershed Management Plan with preliminary design having been completed in 2018. This was identified as an eligible project in the USACE General Reevaluation Report. Final design and construction will be completed with USACE when funds are appropriated for the project.

## **13. Missouri River Levee Certification**

In 2010, the District began the process of accreditation of the R-613 and R-616 Levees for inclusion in the updated Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) published by FEMA. The updated data for the maps are scheduled to be completed in 2015. Accreditation will involve the evaluation of the levee design under flood conditions, design of improvements to meet the revised

FEMA criteria, and construction of those improvements. The operation and maintenance manual will also be updated. Construction of improvements for R-613 and R-616 was scheduled to begin in early 2019, was delayed due to flooding, and work began in the late summer. Construction was completed in 2023.

#### **14. Floodplain Management Program**

Primary responsibility for implementing floodplain management programs rests with cities and counties having regulatory jurisdiction over floodplain lands. To assist in this regard, the District provides technical advice to entities of government on floodplain management efforts upon request. This includes comments on rezoning applications, building permits, and new developments.

In addition, the District assists with the implementation of flood insurance programs by providing information to agencies and individuals needing to know if a specific property is located within a designated floodplain or floodway area. Information on the 100-year flood elevation and flood insurance zones is also provided upon request.

The District continues to work with local, state, and federal authorities to update and revise flood hazard studies for the District, on an as-needed basis, to permit cities and counties to utilize this information in their ongoing floodplain management program.

In 2003, the District became a cooperating technical partner with FEMA to provide leadership to update existing flood insurance studies in the District. Updates have been completed for the West Branch Papillion Creek in Douglas and Sarpy Counties, as well as Washington and Dakota Counties. Currently, the Papillion Creek Watershed is under re-study, the actual publication date for the new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) is scheduled for 2024.

#### **15. Floodplain Purchase Program**

The Floodway Purchase Program was established in 1993 (updated to Floodplain Purchase Program in 2018) and is designed to reduce flood damages through purchase of land and improvements in flood-prone areas.

Due to the extensive flooding along the Missouri River in 1993, federal funds through FEMA and the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) became available. These funds enabled the District to implement this program in the Holub's Place and Elbow Bend areas of eastern Sarpy County. This voluntary program removed approximately 102 structures from the floodway. This project was completed in 1998.

The District continues to buyout structures in floodways including some of the remaining properties in Elbow Bend located in the Missouri River floodway in eastern Sarpy County, and other selected properties in cooperation with other units of governments in the District.

The District has used Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants from FEMA for purchasing 11 properties in the King Lake Area of western Douglas County. The age of many of the structures in this area have led to repeated flooding, most recently in 2010 and 2019.

With the Missouri River flooding in 2011, there has been renewed interest in buyouts along the Missouri River. In 2012, the District entered into an agreement with Sarpy County and the City of Bellevue to purchase 38 properties in the Elbow Bend and Iske Place neighborhoods. In 2012, a Hazard Mitigation Grant application was submitted to FEMA, and an application for Nebraska Environmental Trust assistance was also submitted. In 2013, both the Hazard Mitigation Grant application and the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund application were approved. The District purchased all structures in the Iske Place neighborhood, along with three other structure as part of this project. Through an interlocal agreement with the Village of Arlington, the District applied for and was awarded a Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant from FEMA to purchase two properties in the Village that have experienced repeated flooding. The buyouts in Arlington were completed in 2019.

As a result of the 2019 flood event, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds became available for Nebraska. The District was awarded three grants for structures that were damaged in Washington, Douglas, and Sarpy Counties. Up to 36 properties could be purchased if these property owners accept purchase offers.

Within the next five years, the District will continue to seek funding to aid in the purchase of residences located in the floodplain, and work with Douglas County and the City of Omaha to prepare a flood mitigation plan in the King Lake area along the Elkhorn River.

## **16. Flood Mitigation Program**

In 2003, the District adopted the Flood Mitigation Planning and Mapping Assistance Program to assist National Flood Insurance Program communities, both technically and financially, to develop flood mitigation plans, and to update flood insurance studies. In 2004, the District cooperated with the City of Tekamah to update flood hazard information for their community.

In 2005, the District cooperated with the Cities of Blair, Valley, and Homer on flood mitigation plans and/or floodplain maps. Additionally, the District secured a grant from the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to fund a Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for the entire District. The Corps of Engineers prepared the flood mitigation portion of the study, while the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR) completed the remainder.

The District maintains a multi-jurisdictional Multi-Hazards Mitigation Plan. The first plan was completed in 2006 and has been updated every five years, as required by FEMA. The current plan was completed and approved by FEMA in 2021.

## **17. Elk/Pigeon Creek Project**

On January 8, 1999, the Papio-Missouri River NRD and Drainage District #5 (Dakota County) merged. The area encompassed by the drainage district included the downstream portions of Pigeon and Elk Creek Watersheds. It is anticipated that improvements to the Pigeon Creek and Elk Creek levees will continue.

The first of two grade stabilization structures was constructed in the Elk Creek channel in 2004. The second structure was completed in 2006.

In 2008-2009, Elk Creek Levee repairs were made on a 650 foot segment of the right bank levee to correct erosion and sloughing problem. In 2012, the District sponsored an Emergency Watershed Protection project, a program of the NRCS, to repair several areas of flood damage that occurred in 2011 on the Elk Creek Levee Project. The work was completed in the fall of 2013.

In 2015-2016 the Pigeon Creek channel was dredged by District personnel. The 2019 flood erosion and sloughing damage occurred on the left bank segment of Elk Creek Levee Project. The District sponsored an NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Project to repair the flood damaged areas. The new levee on the left bank was completed in January 2022. This completes repairs on both sides of the 2.2 mile levee east of Jackson, damaged from flooding in 2011 and 2019.

Operation, maintenance, and repairs of the project will continue as needed. Benefiting landowners in the area are assessed an annual operation and maintenance fee for the project.

### **18. Pigeon-Jones Site 15 Project**

In 2007, the District was approved for funding under the Nebraska Resources Development Fund, the Nebraska Environmental Trust, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, and Dakota County for a multipurpose dam and reservoir that will provide both flood control and public recreation benefits. The recreation site consists of 595 acres of parkland surrounding a 226 acre body of water. Construction began in 2012 and the structure and recreation facilities were completed in 2015.

The project was originally called “Pigeon-Jones Site 15”, and the District renamed the project as the “Danish Alps Recreation Area” and the lake “Kramper Lake” in 2012. The project is managed and operated by the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission as a State Recreation Area.

### **19. Papio Creek Watershed 319 Project**

The Papio Creek Watershed 319 Project was an outcome of the Water Quality Management Plan adopted in 2019. A project coordinator has been hired to implement Best Management Practices incentives in conjunction with landowners in the priority watershed. The plan also includes wet detention water quality and flood reduction basin implementation.

### **20. Urban Stormwater Program**

This program was established in 1982 and was designed to encourage the regulation and wise management of stormwater systems in urbanized and developing areas. It is administered in conjunction with the Floodplain Management, Urban Stormwater, and Urban Conservation Programs. Accomplishments under this program include an inventory and prioritization of all open drainageways in the City of Omaha and surrounding areas of Douglas County, watershed master planning, and assistance with the City of Omaha’s NPDES Stormwater Permit application.

In 1997, the District and the Corps of Engineers entered into a cooperative agreement to conduct a study of the effects of urbanization on the West Branch Papillion Creek Watershed. Phase 2 of the study was recently completed and assessed the impact of regional storage reservoirs, and channel improvement projects.

The District is currently working with cities and counties within the Papillion Creek Watershed to regionally address water quantity and quality issues. In 2009, the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership (PCWP) consisting of seven communities, one county, and the District, executed an interlocal agreement to continue the efforts of the partnership. The Watershed Management Plan that accompanies the new interlocal agreement addresses water quality with basins for new and existing reservoirs and adds two stormwater ordinance amendments for jurisdictions. The first requires control and treatment of the first one-half inch of stormwater runoff for all new developments, and significant redevelopments. The second requires a “no net increase” in runoff from the two-year storm event to help prevent stream degradation. The Plan addresses water quantity through a series of 14 regional detention structures. The PCWP will continue to address water quality and quantity issues, sediment and erosion control, and regulatory issues in efforts to implement NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) Phase 2 permits in the watershed.

Following the Southern Ridge Wastewater Treatment Study in early 2016, Sarpy County, the cities of Bellevue, Gretna, Papillion and Springfield, and the District met to discuss stormwater management for new development in areas of Sarpy County draining directly to the Elkhorn or Platte Rivers. This group has been meeting regularly throughout 2016 to form initial policies for development in this area and to determine what the planning needs are for this watershed. Unlike the Papillion Creek Watershed, the Southern Sarpy Watershed has very little data with regards to hydrology, hydraulics, and water quality. The need to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan is the top priority of the new Southern Sarpy Watershed Partnership (SSWP). Policies for the SSWP include; Water Quality Improvement, Peak Flow Reduction, Landscape Preservation, Restoration, and Conservation, Erosion and Sediment Control and Other BMPs, Floodplain Management, and Stormwater Management Financing. The District will be responsible for collecting annual contributions from each of the SSWP members and using those contributions for projects deemed necessary by the communities. An Interlocal Agreement was adopted by all parties in 2016 and a watershed study began in 2017. It is anticipated that the final watershed management plan will be completed in 2023.

## **21. Stormwater BMP Program**

In 2008, the District authorized a new program to provide technical and financial assistance to local units of government for the installation of innovative best management practices to control stormwater runoff and improve water quality.

The program guidelines were revised in 2016 to include non-profit organizations and to focus on smaller projects. Over 30 projects have been funded since the program began.

## **22. Urban Drainageway Program**

Initiated in 1987, this cost-share program was developed to address erosion and flooding problems on major urban drainageways. Completed projects are operated and maintained by the sponsors.

The FY 2024 budget includes cost share assistance for current projects which are expected to take multiple years to complete design and construction. Determination about opening the application for projects in future budget years will be evaluated based on funding availability.

### **23. Flood Preparedness/Ice Jam Removal**

The District's flood control projects are monitored during actual and potential high water or high rainfall occurrences that may affect public safety and welfare. Local civil defense authorities are contacted if conditions warrant. Several programs relate to this function of the District.

The Emergency Flood Warning System was developed to assist emergency management agencies and the National Weather Service in providing the general public with advance warning prior to potential flood events, to provide hydrologic and hydraulic data for future use, and to provide assistance to District personnel during periods of flooding.

An automated flood warning system in the Papillion Creek Watershed was updated in 2012 and is operated and maintained by US Geological Survey. The system consists of 21 gauging stations (rainfall and/or stream). Douglas, Sarpy, and Washington County Emergency Management Agencies provide funding to help offset maintenance costs.

The Stream Staff Gauge Program places and maintains gauges at various locations along the Missouri, Platte and Elkhorn Rivers, and the Papillion and Bell Creeks to aid in determining stream flows and flood stage elevations. During intense storm events, visual observations of these gauges by emergency management professionals document stream stages that are used in flood forecasting. The system will continue to be upgraded.

The Emergency Bank and Dike Protection Program becomes operational during local flooding situations. It provides for temporary, emergency flood protection of public facilities. Also included is assistance in the reconstruction of levees and other damaged flood control structures. The District will continue to act as local sponsor of federal programs to provide timely assistance to local groups and individuals.

The Ice Jam Removal Program is operational each winter and spring as ice melts on the Platte and Elkhorn Rivers creating the possibility of ice jams. The District executed an agreement with the Lower Platte South NRD, Lower Platte North NRD, and Saunders, Sarpy, Cass, and Douglas Counties that allows for the removal of ice jams by any appropriate means, including explosives. The cost of the program is shared between the sponsoring agencies. In addition, the sponsoring agencies cooperate with NEMA, USGA, and the National Weather Service to monitor ice conditions on the lower Platte and Elkhorn Rivers. In 2010, an amendment to the interlocal agreement was approved increasing the account balance to \$150,000 to meet provisions of the current contract.

### **24. Conservation Assistance Program**

This program is administered by the District and was established to provide financial assistance to landowners in the construction of soil and water conservation practices. These practices help to prevent soil erosion, control gullies, reduce downstream sedimentation, and help to control non-point pollution. Technical assistance for the design and construction inspection of projects is provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

## **25. Pigeon Creek Special Watershed**

The Pigeon-Jones Creek Watershed Project was approved in 2001. The District and NRCS developed a work plan to reduce sedimentation in this Dakota County watershed. The work plan includes the construction of twenty (20) flood control and grade stabilization structures. The first structure was completed in 2003. Ten sites have been completed. Construction of Site 12A is in process and expected to be completed by the end of 2021. Additional sites, as identified in the work plan will be constructed in the future. The District maintains the structures for these projects.

## **26. Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Program**

In cooperation with the NDNR, financial assistance is also available from the state to encourage installation of best management practices. Funds are apportioned to NRDs, which administer the program on a local basis. Technical assistance is provided by NRCS.

The District will continue to utilize this funding source to provide cost share assistance to landowners applying conservation practices.

## **27. NRCS Assistance**

Public Law 46 established the Soil Conservation Service in 1935 (renamed the Natural Resources Conservation Service in 1996) to provide technical assistance to landowners through local conservation districts to help solve natural resources conservation problems. The District assists with this effort by providing personnel to NRCS to assist with their activities and to help administer District programs.

## **28. Urban Conservation Assistance Program**

This program provides cost share assistance to units of government to solve minor erosion and flooding problems. Funded projects are included in the FY 2024 budget.

In 2012, the District in cooperation with Sarpy County, installed emergency bank protection on this same reach of the Elkhorn River due to flooding in 2010 that threatened 240<sup>th</sup> Street. In 2014, the District partnered with Sarpy County to design a permanent solution to this streambank erosion problem. The project was constructed in the beginning of 2016, and the new pilot channel became activated in April with final bank location development progressing as designed.

Damage occurred along this section of the Elkhorn River during the major flood event of 2019, and the outlet portion of the stabilization along the left (east) bank was significantly impacted. An analysis of the damage during the flood was conducted, but no reconstruction is planned for this area.

## **29. Erosion and Sediment Control Program**

The Nebraska Erosion and Sediment Control Act of 1986 (LB 474) provides for a complaint system whereby landowners whose land is damaged by sediment from soil erosion from adjacent lands can get this erosion controlled. NRDs in the state have been assigned responsibility to administer this act.

The District adopted rules and regulations for the program in 1987. In the event that a complaint results in mandatory installation of permanent conservation measures, public cost share funds must be made available.

In 2015, the rules were revised to provide clarification on various provisions of the regulation.

### **30. Groundwater Management Program**

In 1984, the Nebraska Legislature enacted the Groundwater Management and Protection Act (GWMPA) which required each NRD to prepare a groundwater management plan. The plan was to provide a description of the groundwater reservoir, establish a reservoir life goal, and list District policies and programs designed to achieve this goal. The District's Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP) was approved in 1986 by the Department of Water Resources (now the Department of Natural Resources).

The plan was revised in 1993 so that quality and quantity issues received equal emphasis. The District's revised plan was approved in 1994.

An important part of the plan is the groundwater monitoring program. The District has been monitoring groundwater levels in wells since 1978 to get an indication of the quantity of groundwater. This program will be continually upgraded, including the use of continuous recording groundwater level gages with telemetry.

Water quality monitoring, begun in 1993, is accomplished through a cooperative effort with the USGS. Over 90 wells were identified and sampled by USGS covering the entire District and the four distinct groundwater reservoirs (Missouri Valley, Platte and Elkhorn Valley, Upland, and Dakota). Each well is tested once every four years, except for dedicated monitoring wells which are sampled every two years and reported to the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy as part of their state-wide network. This information provides the basis for determining changes in groundwater quality, and for management decisions in the future.

In 1996, the Legislature created the Natural Resources Water Quality Fund. These funds are used by NRDs for water quality purposes. The District's share of this fund is used to offset the costs of the water quality monitoring effort.

In 1999, the District cooperated with USGS in establishing nine "well nests" throughout the District to further aid in the water quality monitoring effort. In 2014 through 2020, the District added six additional monitoring "well nests". Eleven of these fifteen sets of monitoring wells are located within community Wellhead Protection Areas and can provide early warning of water quality changes to groundwater supplies.

In 2009, the District implemented a stay on the expansion of groundwater irrigated acres. The stay was in response to NDNR's annual evaluation of the interconnectedness of surface and groundwater. The stay was imposed as a management tool to ensure that the District's groundwater basins will not become fully or over-appropriated. NDNR also placed a limit on the annual surface water allocations allowed. In conjunction with the stay, the District began a process of certifying historically irrigated acres.

In 2012, the District began a voluntary Integrated Management Plan (IMP) in cooperation with NDNR for the Lower Platte River Basin. The plan was developed over a two-year period with extensive input from stakeholders in the region and the general public. The IMP was adopted by the District and NDNR in August 2014. The IMP includes all surface water drainage area to the Platte or Elkhorn River and the hydrologically connected groundwater to both rivers as of 2014. The plan also describes additional monitoring and reporting needed to measure the efficacy of the controls.

The District joined the Lower Platte River Basin Water Management Plan Coalition in 2013 along with NDNR and six other NRD's within the Lower Platte Basin, including Lower Platte South, Lower Platte North, Lower Elkhorn, Upper Elkhorn, Lower Loup and Upper Loup. The objective of the Coalition was to develop a Basin Water Management Plan which evaluated existing water demands and available water supplies to determine allowable new water development which could be cooperatively managed by each NRD and NDNR. This plan was completed in October 2017 and subsequently adopted by all NRDs and DNR. Annual reporting for the Basin Water Management Plan ensures that each NRD is not actively developing more than its share of depletions to streams or rivers.

In early 2018, the District adopted a completely revised Groundwater Management Plan (GMP) which incorporated all of its past groundwater quality and quantity data. The benefits of the new GMP include:

- Protection of drinking water supplies for a population of 780,000 in the District who receive their drinking water from municipal supplies, rural water systems, or their own private domestic well.
- Enhanced monitoring of groundwater quality or quantity impacts in relation to improved geologic information.
- Adoption of tiered groundwater management regulations based on triggers for groundwater levels and groundwater quality.

New groundwater management regulations impose new non-organic fertilizer application restrictions in certain areas of the District and require wells permits for all new wells pumping over 50 gpm. The District also created two new Phase II Groundwater Quality Management Areas near Tekamah and Springfield to better address moderate nitrate contamination issues in these areas. Under the GMP, the District is assisting both Springfield and Tekamah in preparing Drinking Water Protection Management Plans to further define and protect their wells and wellhead protection area. This includes technical and financial assistance as well as pursuing additional grants, studies, and infrastructure upgrades.

As part of another collaborative effort, the District joined NDNR, Lower Platte South, Lower Platte North, Lincoln Water, and Metropolitan Utilities District (Omaha Metro) to develop a Drought Contingency Plan for the Lower Platte River (with funding from the US Bureau of Reclamation). This Plan, completed October 2019, assesses drought vulnerabilities, monitors drought conditions, and provided actions for drought preparedness or response.

### **31. Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assessment Project**

In 2007, the District cooperated with the Lower Platte South, Lower Platte North, Nemaha, Lower Elkhorn and Lewis and Clark NRDs, NDNR, and the University of Nebraska on the Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assessment Project (ENWRA). The first phase of the project conducted three pilot studies to test techniques to characterize the complicated hydrogeology of eastern Nebraska. The project will continue to collect and assess surface and groundwater data and eventually develop a complete geologic framework for use by the NRDs to manage groundwater resources.

### **32. Chemigation Certification Program**

In 1986, the Nebraska Legislature passed legislation to require irrigators who apply agricultural chemicals and fertilizers through their center pivot irrigation systems to acquire a permit from the local NRD. To obtain a permit, the irrigator must demonstrate that the required safety equipment has been installed and is operational.

### **33. Well Abandonment Program**

This program was established in 1996 and provides cost share assistance to landowners to properly decommission wells no longer in use. Potential groundwater contaminants, such as pesticides, fertilizers, and other contaminants can flow directly into the groundwater through these old wells threatening private or public water supplies. To date, over 1,000 wells have been properly abandoned under this program.

### **34. Lake Dredging Program**

In 2009, the District created the Lake Dredging Program to assist units of government in dredging of public recreation lakes in their communities. The first project approved under this program was a sediment basin clean-out with the City of Papillion at Walnut Creek Recreation Area.

In 2012, the District cost shared with West Bay Woods SID to remove accumulated sediment from a water quality basin. In FY 2014, the District provided cost share assistance to Savanna Shores SID on dredging projects. It is anticipated that other communities will submit additional projects for consideration under this program in the future. The FY 2024 budget includes cost share funding for project work to be completed this year.

### **35. Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance**

In 1996, the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance was formed between the District and the Lower Platte South NRD, Lower Platte North NRD, DWR, NNRC, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC), DEQ, and the Nebraska Department of Health (DOH). The Alliance attempts to coordinate the development of land and water resources in the Lower Platte River Basin (downstream of Columbus).

Commencing in 1998, the Alliance and the District cooperated with the Corps of Engineers to conduct the Lower Platte River and Tributaries Feasibility Study. This study investigated flood control, environmental restoration, water quality, and numerous planning and zoning issues. Three major projects were identified and have been constructed; Western Sarpy/Clear Creek Levees, Lake Wanahoo, and Antelope Valley Flood Control.

In cooperation with the USGS, water quality monitoring gauges have been installed along the Platte and Elkhorn Rivers.

The District, in cooperation with the Lower Platte South NRD and the Lower Platte North NRD, funded a project to remove pilings from abandoned bridges crossing the Platte River. Three of eleven bridge sites have been cleared from the river. In 2018, the Lower Platte North withdrew from the Alliance, and remaining partners have continued with Alliance activities.

### **36. Lower Platte River Vegetation Management**

Formerly known as the “Lower Platte River Weed Management Area”, this program was organized in 2002 to assist landowners along the Platte River from Columbus, NE to the Missouri River in controlling invasive plant species in riparian areas. The program has been made possible with the cooperation of several NRDs, state and federal agencies, private companies, and landowners. This program will continue in the future.

### **37. NRD Recreation Areas**

The following recreation areas will be operated and maintained by the District into the future.

- a. Chalco Hills Recreation Area - In 1973, the District contracted with the Corps of Engineers to assume recreation sponsorship at Site 20 (Wehrspann Lake). The recreation master plan for the site was adopted in 1985. Recreation facilities were completed in 1987, and Chalco Hills Recreation Area was opened.
- b. Elkhorn Crossing Recreation Area - In 1989, the District opened a 23-acre recreation area along the Elkhorn River in northern Douglas County. The area was built in conjunction with the Elkhorn River Bank Stabilization Project. The area is open from April 1<sup>st</sup> to October 30<sup>th</sup> each year. The District will continue to operate and maintain the site.
- c. Platte River Landing Recreation Area - In 1992, the District opened the Platte River Landing Recreation Area on the south side of Highway 64 on the east side of the Platte River. The site will be operated and maintained by the District in the future.
- d. Prairie View Recreation Area - The District developed an 80-acre site upstream of Newport Landing near Bennington surrounding a water quality basin. The recreation facilities were completed in 2002, and the site opened to the public. The District will operate and maintain the site into the future.
- e. Elkhorn River Access Areas - In 2004, the District conducted a study of the Elkhorn River throughout the District to identify and evaluate potential sites for canoe access to the river. Of the three sites identified in the study, two have been constructed. In 2006, the West Maple Site located adjacent to Highway 64 near the Village of Waterloo was opened. The other site, called Graske Crossing, is located at Dodge Street and opened in 2008. An additional site is planned if an appropriate site can be identified.

### **38. Missouri River Corridor Project**

The Missouri River Corridor Project is a multi-objective endeavor to:

1. Renovate the decreasingly viable oxbow lakes and wetlands along the Missouri River for fish and wildlife habitat from South Sioux City (river mile 732) to the confluence with the Platte River (river mile 595),

2. Identify and establish cultural and historical interpretation centers along the route (i.e. Lewis and Clark, Audubon, Native Americans, etc.),
3. Provide, where appropriate, river and lake access and development for recreation.

Sites and priorities have been identified and initial engineering and design has been accomplished at several locations by the Corps of Engineers (COE) through Section 22 of PL 93-251 (Water Resources Development Act of 1974). This report was completed in October, 1989. Detailed designs, land rights and funding for specific sites may necessitate a cooperative effort with the District and the COE, NGPC, and other federal, state, local and/or private entities. Twelve (12) of the forty (40) sites investigated were given priority status for feasibility studies and possible implementation. Those sites were (in no particular order):

1. Blackbird Scenic Overview (Burt County)
2. Golden Spring (Burt County)
3. Boyer Chute (Washington County)
4. Lower Bullard Bend (Burt County, Nebraska and Harrison County, Iowa)
5. Glovers Point (Thurston County)
6. Hidden Lake Complex (Sarpy County)
7. California Bend (Washington County)
8. Hole-in-the-Rock (Thurston County)
9. Lower Decatur Bend (Burt County)
10. Missouri River Trails (District wide)
11. Omadi Bend (Dakota County)
12. Sandy Point (Washington County)

In 1992, the Blackbird Scenic Overview was completed and opened to the public. A maintenance agreement has been executed with the Omaha Tribe.

Construction of Boyer Chute was completed by the COE and the District in 1993 utilizing Section 1135 funding. Construction of public access facilities was completed by the District in 1995. The site was opened in 1996 and is now owned and operated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as the Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge. Handicap fishing piers were completed in 1997 by the District with funding support received from the Game and Parks Commission. FWS is working towards expanding the area to 10,000 acres from the original 2,000 acres. There are currently approximately 4000 acres in the refuge.

The restoration of Hidden Lake/Great Marsh area near Bellevue by the COE, the Fontenelle Forest Association, and the District was completed in 1997. Funding assistance has been received from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund.

In 2002, land acquisition was completed on the 215 acre California Bend Project located north of Blair, Nebraska. Construction of the project has been completed. A grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust was used to fund the District's share of the construction costs. The City of Blair and the District completed a master recreation plan for this site that was to be implemented as funds are available. The City of Blair currently operates a trail through the site.

Land acquisition was completed in 2006 for the Lower Decatur Bend restoration project. This site is approximately 275 acres in size and is located three miles southeast of Decatur, Nebraska. This Corps of Engineers' Section 1135 environmental restoration project has received significant funding from the Nebraska Environmental Trust. The project includes a chute, a lower and wider channel, and native prairie habitat. In addition, a partnership was formed with the NRCS's Wetland Reserve Enhancement Program (WREP) and the Nature Conservancy to assist with the completion of this project and to increase the size to approximately 750 acres. The District's portion of the project was completed in 2008.

In 2007, the District acquired the Sandy Point and Little Sioux Bend sites from the State of Iowa. These two sites located on the right bank of the Missouri River were subsequently sold (as was originally intended when purchased from the State of Iowa) to the Corps of Engineers in 2010 under their Missouri River Recovery Program Authority for restoration and future operation and maintenance as riverine habitat.

In 2018, the District with significant (80%) NET funding, acquired four tracts of land totaling 150 acres from the Metropolitan Utilities District around the Highway 34 bridge in Sarpy County. This area, close to the Platte River and abutting the Missouri, will be restored to native vegetation with the intent of allowing passive recreation, interpretive signage and trail usage along the levee top. Additional properties in the Missouri / Platte River bottoms area are planned to be acquired as funding becomes available. To this end, a grant application was made to the Nebraska Environmental Trust in 2021 in the amount of \$3 million to assist in the acquisition of approximately 540 acres of flood prone lands at the confluence of the Plate/Missouri Rivers.

### **39. Rumsey Station Wetland**

In the process of acquiring right-of-way for the West Branch Papio Project, a wetland site was identified. The Board authorized purchase of the site, located between 54<sup>th</sup> and 66<sup>th</sup> Streets on the south side of the creek near Rumsey Road, in 1994. The former West Branch channel will be preserved as a wetland for wildlife habitat. In 1995, additional lands were purchased utilizing Environmental Trust Funds. A concept plan for the entire site was completed in 1994. A biological survey and site master plan was completed in 2006 with a variety of recommendations to maintain and enhance the site.

### **40. Heron Haven Wetland**

In 1992, the District entered into a cooperative agreement with the Omaha Chapter of the National Audubon Society to purchase and develop the Heron Haven Wetland located near 117<sup>th</sup> and West Maple Road. The District retained title to the land and the Audubon Society developed, operated, and maintained the site.

In 1996, an additional 1.4 acres of land was jointly acquired on the northeast corner of the site. Funds have been obtained from Section 319 and the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund to assist the Audubon Society in developing the site. In 1997, the District completed topographic mapping of the site. In 1998, a wetland trail and boardwalk was completed.

In 2000, funds from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality were used to remove debris that had been dumped at the site in the past. Also, the area was re-graded and reseeded.

In 2005, the Friends of Heron Haven, a non-profit group, assumed operation and maintenance of the site from the Audubon Society and are in the fifth year of a second, ten-year Management Agreement with the District.

In 2010, the Corps of Engineers completed a draft restoration plan for the wetland. The Corps entered into an agreement with the District to utilize Section 206 funds to improve the wetlands, and provide long-term protection of the wetlands. Funding and right-of-way have been secured and construction was completed in 2012.

#### **41. Wetlands Mitigation Bank**

Commencing in 1996, the District investigated the establishment of a wetlands mitigation bank. A major partner in the development of the bank is the COE Regulatory Branch who will determine debits and credits available.

In 2003, the District increased the size of the wetlands at Rumsey Station for use as a mitigation bank. A policy was developed governing the sale of credits in the bank. In 2008, land was purchased west of Rumsey Station to expand the wetland bank. In 2010, the District acquired additional land adjacent to UNO's Allwine Prairie along Glacier Creek for a wetland and stream mitigation site. Other wetland mitigation sites being developed in 2012 are in the Silver Creek and Pigeon-Jones Watersheds.

The District completed construction of the Glacier Creek Site in 2023, and additional wetland sites will be evaluated and developed in the future including the potential to develop an in lieu fee program as an alternate to the current wetland and stream mitigation banking program.

#### **42. Conservation Easement Program**

In 2001, the District established the Conservation Easement Program that provided the framework necessary for the acquisition of permanent conservation easements on privately owned land exhibiting unique natural features.

In 2006, the District entered into a cooperative agreement with the Nebraska Land Trust (NLT) to further the objectives of the program. In 2009, the District agreed to contribute \$30,000 per year for three years for the Lower Platte Valley Preservation Project. Subsequently, a three year extension of this agreement was approved by the District in 2012, 2015, 2018, and 2021. The NLT, the only land trust in Nebraska, currently has over 32,500 acres in fifty (50) easements within twenty (20) counties, and has also been officially accredited by the National Land Trust Accreditation Commission.

#### **43. Papio Trails Project**

In 1989, the District approved a plan to construct recreational trails on flood control levees maintained by the District. In addition, trails would be included on all future levee construction projects.

In 1990-98, the District cost shared with the City of Omaha in the construction of Phases 1-5 of the Keystone Trail. The trail is located along the east side of the Little and Big Papillion Creeks

from Fort Street to 25<sup>th</sup> Street. Funding was received from the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) through the Transportation Enhancement Program, which pays up to 80% of the costs of trail construction.

In 1991-99, Phase 1-3 of the Bellevue Loop Trail was completed. Upon joining the Keystone Trail, the longest (27 miles) trail in the metro area was created.

In 2001, construction was completed on the Chalco Hills Connector and Field Club Phase 2 Trails projects, and initiated on the Platte River Connection (between Highways 31 and 66 utilizing the former Rock Island Railroad Bridge).

In 2002, construction of the Platte River Connection Project (Lied Bridge) was completed, and work was initiated on the Big Papio (Center to Blondo) Trail Projects. The Big Papio Trail project was completed in 2003.

In 2004, the construction was completed on the West Papio Trail between Papillion and Bellevue, between Oakbrook Meadows Park and Millard Avenue, and on the MoPac Trail (Springfield to the Platte River).

In 2005, federal transportation funds were secured to construct a series of trails in Western Douglas County. The City of Valley and the District have cooperated with NDOT on the project which was opened for public use in summer 2022.

The District completed construction of an equestrian trail adjacent to the MoPac Trail between Springfield and the Platte River in 2007. In FY 2015, a new trail segment between Highway 50 and the Lied Platte River Bridge was completed.

South Omaha Trail, Phase 2 (Keystone to the Field Club Trails) was completed and opened for public use in fall 2016. Ongoing operations and maintenance will be conducted by the City of Omaha, Parks Department.

In August 2015, a new segment of the West Papio Trail from 90<sup>th</sup> Street to Giles Road was completed and opened for public use. An additional section of West Papio Trail, Giles Road to Q Street was completed in 2018 along the original Transcontinental Railroad corridor, and is now open for public use as a rails-to-trails upgrade project. Design work for a connection link along the West Papio Creek to Millard Ave is scheduled to begin in 2024. An additional connection along the West Papio Trail at W. Maple Road has been evaluated and will be designed and constructed following agreement with local partners about timeline and funding.

In order to provide new access to existing trails throughout the metro area, the District has begun work on the NEAT Connectors (Neighborhood Expanded Access to Trails). This study will determine viability of short projects linking homes and businesses with the trail network. Following completion of the study, the District will work with other local public agencies to determine the appropriate steps for design and construction on the projects.

#### **44. Trails Assistance Program**

In 2005, the District adopted the Trails Assistance Program to cost-share with communities on Transportation Enhancement Projects within the District. The local portion of the cost of trails construction is equally split between the sponsoring community and the District. Collaboration and cost share on trail projects has increased over recent years, with funding for anticipated project work included in the FY 2024 budget.

#### **45. Recreation Area Development Program**

This program, initiated in 1990, cost shares with units of government in the establishment and improvement of recreation areas in the District. This on-going program will continue into the future. Funding has facilitated many local recreation projects in jurisdictions across the District, with new and ongoing projects included in the FY 2024 budget.

#### **46. Rural Acreage Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program**

In 2012, the District adopted the Rural Acreage Wildlife Improvement Program. The District administers this program locally to provide cost-sharing funds to rural acreage landowners who establish or improve habitat.

#### **47. Tree Planting Program**

To encourage tree planting, the District maintains two tree planters, which are made available with a planting crew on a scheduled basis during the spring.

Plantings are made to establish or improve windbreaks and shelterbelts, provide wildlife habitat, and other beneficial purposes. The District may provide cost-share on eligible plantings.

#### **48. Western Sarpy Drainage Project**

The Western Sarpy Drainage District was organized in 1909 to address drainage and flooding problems in southwest Sarpy County. The drainage district encompasses approximately 7,540 acres of land along the Platte River from the mouth of the Elkhorn River to Interstate 80. The drainage district operated a series of drainage ditches and a flood control levee. In 1999, the Western Sarpy Drainage District merged with the District, with the NRD taking over operation and maintenance of the project with revenue generated from a special assessment.

#### **49. Elk/Pigeon Creek Drainage Improvement Project Area (IPA)**

As a direct result of the merger between Drainage District #5 and the NRD, it has become a responsibility to maintain 15 miles of levees along both Pigeon Creek and Elk Creek. By agreement, capital improvements are equally shared between the NRD's general fund and the revenue generated from a special assessment.

#### **50. Elkhorn River Stabilization Project**

Severe streambank erosion along the Elkhorn River throughout the District prompted landowners to petition the District for assistance in solving the problem. An application for RDF assistance was prepared and submitted to NDNR for their consideration. RDF funding levels limited the project to a seven-mile stretch of the Elkhorn River from Highway 36 downstream to King Lake in western Douglas County.

NDNR approved 75% cost sharing on the lesser project. The District paid 15% of the costs with the remaining 10% assessed to benefited landowners. In addition, operation and maintenance costs are assessed to benefited landowners. Construction was completed in 1989, with maintenance performed as needed.

In 2010, Elkhorn River flooding caused considerable damage to the rock revetment in the project area. Federal assistance through FEMA has been obtained to offset the costs of repair to the project. The project was completed in 2013.

Damage occurred at several locations along the maintained section of the project during the major flood in 2019. Repair work was carried out with assistance from FEMA. Future inspections will be conducted to determine the success of the repairs from this event, as well as the need for any future work.

### **51. Washington County Rural Water Supply Project**

The District has operated this system since 1980 to provide a dependable supply of quality water to 669 rural households and the City of Fort Calhoun. Treated water is purchased from the Metropolitan Utilities District in Omaha.

In 2005, a second rural water system (formerly Washington County Rural Water Supply Project #2) was completed. Water is purchased from the City of Blair serves 408 rural households and Lakeland Estates in southeastern Washington County. The system includes an interconnection that would allow water from either source (MUD or Blair) to serve these customers.

In 2013, the systems were merged into one system.

### **52. Dakota County Rural Water Supply Project**

The District delivers high quality water to over 706 rural households in Dakota County. The system includes over 125 miles of pipeline that is maintained by the District. Treated water is purchased from Dakota City. Key system upgrades to the pump house, standpipe and 18 miles of water lines are being made to increase water capacity and supply for customers and the Danish Alps Recreation Area. Construction began in the 2023 and will take 2 years to complete. An interconnection exists between the municipal systems of Dakota City and South Sioux City such that either system could provide water to the other in the event of a catastrophe.

### **53. Thurston County Rural Water Supply Project**

This project supplies 160 rural households and the Village of Rosalie of Thurston County with high quality water. The 110 mile distribution system is located between the villages of Pender and Walthill, with treated water being purchased from the Village of Pender.

### **54. Solid Waste and Recycling Program**

The District is cooperating with the Nebraska State Recycling Association and MAPA (paint swap, etc.) on developing markets for recycled products and alternative means to solid waste disposal. A major cooperative project established a household hazardous waste regional collection facility to serve residents of Douglas and Sarpy Counties. The District partners with the Loess Hills RC&D on tire, electronic and household hazardous recycling events in the rural areas of the District.

## **55. Information and Education Programs**

The District conducts a number of outreach activities as part of its Information and Education Program. This outreach provides the public with accurate information on Papio NRD projects and programs and develops an increased awareness and concern for natural resources conservation and management. Major activities include:

A. Program Brochures: Various informative brochures regarding Chalco Hills Recreation Area and District projects are updated, published, and distributed, as necessary.

B. Education Programs: The District works with local teachers, environmental education specialists, and school administrators to provide in-classroom programming at schools throughout the District, as well as outdoor curricula and field trips at the Chalco Hills Recreation Area. Approximately 75,000 children visit Chalco Hills or take advantage of other Papio NRD-sponsored education programs each year. The District is also a major supporter of Earth Day Omaha and “World O! Water” celebrations. The District serves on the planning committee of numerous youth education programs, including Water Works for students in Douglas and Sarpy Counties, Conservation Field Days at Summit Lake and Danish Alps; and Nebraska Envirothon, an environmental competition for high school students. The education team assists with other events including Outdoor Discovery Program, N.A.R.D. ACE Camp, Know Your Well, Chalco Summer Series, and disseminates 8,000 tree seedlings each year to schools in celebration of Arbor Day.

C. Teacher/School Grants: Scholarships for \$500 are awarded annually to area teachers who wish to continue their education in conservation-related subjects. The District also provides up to \$1,000 grants to develop outdoor classrooms and other projects at schools in the District.

D. Speakers Bureau: In response to numerous requests annually from various civic groups, Papio NRD staff conduct presentations regarding resource management, flood mitigation, recreation, and other topics.

E. Media Relations: The District provides information to the public through media relations outreach. Coverage is secured in local and area newspapers, radio stations, television stations, and their accompanying digital platforms (websites, social media, etc.)

F. Website: Information about Papio NRD programs, projects, and events are provided on the District’s website at [www.PapioNRD.org](http://www.PapioNRD.org).

G. Social Media: In addition to the website, the public can find information about the Papio NRD programs, projects, and events via social media platforms Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

H. Interpretive Signage: Signage that highlights the District’s mission is used at recreation sites managed by the Papio NRD including Chalco Hills Recreation Area, Prairie View Recreation Area, Elkhorn Crossing Recreation Area, Graske Crossing Access Site, West Maple Road Access Site, and Platte River Landing.

**56. General Administration**

In order to carry out programs, projects, and operations, the District has additional items which are considered as General Administration during the budget process. These items include; support for staff to complete their duties, tasks related to operations at the Natural Resources Center at Chalco Hills and additional locations, and payment of bonds.

#### **IV. ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT NEEDS**

To implement the FY 2024 programs and projects as explained on the previous pages, the District has budgeted to provide the necessary financial and personnel resources. Tables 1 through 3 have been prepared to present this information in a simple manner.

Land rights needs for FY 2024 are presented in Table 1. Each project for which land rights are budgeted, the type of right to be acquired, and the estimated cost are listed. Easements are acquired by negotiated donation, with the budgeted amount used for associated expenses including title searches, recording fees, and filing fees.

Personnel needs have been estimated for FY 2024 and the following four budget years, shown in Table 2. Time requirements are projected in work-months. Although not specifically designated as “Program/Project Areas”, two additional headings, “Information and Education” and “General Administration”, have also been included to incorporate staff time not directly assigned to a specific program or project.

Table 3 reflects all expenditures contained in the FY 2024 Budget. Expenditures for FY 2024 and the following four budget years are shown in Table 4. Revenues for FY 2024 and the following four budget years are shown in Table 5.

#### **V. PROJECTED NEEDS**

The District has included projected personnel requirements (Table 2), projected expenditures (Table 4), and projected revenues (Table 5) for the next five fiscal years. Projected expenditures and revenues shown are with consideration for current bonding authority.

This material has been developed in an attempt to project activities of the District over the coming years. Undoubtedly, many new program ideas will be presented in this time frame through specific requests to the Board, new state or federal cost sharing programs, or other methods, which will result in new activities not presently anticipated.

As shown in Table 5, it is anticipated that general property tax will continue to be the primary source of revenues for District programs and projects. It is projected that property tax revenues will increase each year reflective of changes in property values in the District.

The information presented in these tables does not reflect budgetary obligations of the District. It is presented as a means to quantify District involvement with various programs and projects.

Table 1. Land Rights Needs, FY 2024 (x \$1,000)

| <b>Program/Project</b>                  | <b>Type</b>        | <b>Estimated Cost</b> |
|---|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Project Maintenance - Channels & Levees | Easement           | \$20.0                |
| Project Maintenance - Dams              | Easement           | \$2.0                 |
| WP-1                                    | Fee Title          | \$150.0               |
| WP-2                                    | Fee Title          | \$1,150.0             |
| DS-7                                    | Fee Title          | \$7,000.0             |
| DS-19                                   | Fee Title          | \$5,000.0             |
| Floodway Purchase Program               | Fee Title          | \$909.5               |
| Papio Creek Watershed 319               | Fee Title          | \$250.0               |
| Missouri River Projects                 | Fee Title/Easement | \$550.0               |
| Papil Trail System                      | Fee Title          | \$10.0                |
| Washington Country Rural Water          | Easement           | \$0.2                 |
| Dakota Country Rural Water              | Easement           | \$1.5                 |
| <b>Total</b>                            |                    | <b>\$15,043.2</b>     |

Table 2. Personnel Needs (work months)

| Program/Project |  | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 |
|-----------------|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1               | Project Maintenance - Channels & Levees  | 43.0 | 43.0 | 44.0 | 46.0 | 48.0 |
| 2               | Project Maintenance - Dams               | 8.0  | 8.0  | 9.0  | 9.0  | 9.0  |
| 3               | Papillion Creek and Tributaries Project  | 18.0 | 20.0 | 20.0 | 18.0 | 19.0 |
| 4               | Portal Recreation Area (WP-6)            | 0.2  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  |
| 5               | Big Elk Lake (WP-7)                      | 0.2  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  |
| 6               | Zorinsky Basin #2                        | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  |
| 7               | WP-1                                     | 4.0  | 3.0  | 2.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  |
| 8               | WP-2                                     | 4.0  | 3.0  | 2.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  |
| 9               | WP-4                                     | 4.0  | 3.0  | 2.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  |
| 10              | DS-7                                     | 0.2  | 0.1  | 4.0  | 3.0  | 2.0  |
| 11              | DS-12                                    | 0.2  | 0.1  | 4.0  | 3.0  | 2.0  |
| 12              | DS-19                                    | 0.2  | 0.1  | 0.1  | 0.1  | 0.1  |
| 13              | Missouri River Levee Certification       | 5.0  | 2.0  | 0.5  | 0.5  | 0.0  |
| 14              | Floodplain Management Program            | 4.0  | 4.0  | 4.0  | 4.0  | 4.0  |
| 15              | Floodway Purchase Program                | 1.5  | 1.5  | 1.5  | 1.5  | 1.5  |
| 16              | Flood Mitigation Program                 | 0.6  | 0.6  | 0.6  | 0.6  | 0.6  |
| 17              | Elk/Pigeon Creek Project                 | 6.0  | 2.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  |
| 18              | Pigeon-Jones Site 15 Project             | 1.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  |
| 19              | Papio Creek Watershed 319 Project        | 12.0 | 12.0 | 12.0 | 12.0 | 12.0 |
| 20              | Urban Stormwater Program                 | 2.0  | 2.0  | 2.0  | 2.0  | 2.0  |
| 21              | Stormwater BMP Program                   | 0.1  | 0.1  | 0.1  | 0.1  | 0.1  |
| 22              | Urban Drainageway Program                | 2.0  | 2.0  | 2.0  | 2.0  | 2.0  |
| 23              | Flood Preparedness/Ice Jam Removal       | 7.5  | 7.5  | 7.5  | 7.5  | 7.5  |
| 24              | Conservation Assistance Program          | 28.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 |
| 25              | Pigeon Creek Special Watershed           | 4.0  | 4.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  |
| 26              | Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Prog. | 0.2  | 0.2  | 0.2  | 0.2  | 0.2  |
| 27              | NRCS Assistance                          | 46.0 | 50.0 | 50.0 | 50.0 | 50.0 |
| 28              | Urban Conservation Assistance Program    | 1.5  | 1.5  | 1.5  | 1.5  | 1.5  |
| 29              | Erosion & Sediment Control Program       | 0.1  | 0.1  | 0.1  | 0.1  | 0.1  |
| 30              | Groundwater Management Program           | 5.0  | 5.0  | 5.0  | 5.0  | 5.0  |
| 31              | Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assess. | 1.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  |

Table 2. Personnel Needs (work months)

| Program/Project |  | 2024  | 2025  | 2026  | 2027  | 2028  |
|-----------------|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 32              | Chemigation Certification Program        | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   |
| 33              | Well Abandonment Program                 | 1.0   | 1.0   | 1.0   | 1.0   | 1.0   |
| 34              | Lake Dredging Program                    | 0.1   | 0.1   | 0.1   | 0.1   | 0.1   |
| 35              | Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance     | 0.1   | 0.1   | 0.1   | 0.1   | 0.1   |
| 36              | Lower Platte River Vegetation Management | 1.0   | 1.0   | 1.0   | 1.0   | 1.0   |
| 37              | NRD Recreation Areas                     | 75.0  | 75.0  | 75.0  | 75.0  | 75.0  |
| 38              | Missouri River Projects                  | 8.0   | 8.0   | 8.0   | 8.0   | 8.0   |
| 39              | Rumsey Station Wetland                   | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   |
| 40              | Heron Haven Wetland                      | 1.0   | 1.0   | 1.0   | 1.0   | 1.0   |
| 41              | Wetlands Mitigation Bank                 | 1.3   | 1.3   | 1.3   | 1.3   | 1.3   |
| 42              | Conservation Easement Program            | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   |
| 43              | Papio Trails System                      | 6.0   | 6.0   | 6.0   | 6.0   | 6.0   |
| 44              | Trails Assistance Program                | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   |
| 45              | Recreation Area Development Program      | 0.2   | 0.2   | 0.2   | 0.2   | 0.2   |
| 46              | Wildlife Habitat Program                 | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   | 0.5   |
| 47              | Tree Planting Program                    | 6.0   | 6.0   | 6.0   | 6.0   | 6.0   |
| 48              | Western Sarpy Drainage Project           | 4.5   | 4.5   | 4.5   | 4.5   | 4.5   |
| 49              | Elk/Pigeon Creek Drainage IPA            | 0.7   | 0.7   | 0.7   | 0.7   | 0.7   |
| 50              | Elkhorn River Stabilization Project      | 1.0   | 1.0   | 1.0   | 1.0   | 1.0   |
| 51              | Washington County Rural Water            | 34.0  | 34.0  | 34.0  | 34.0  | 34.0  |
| 52              | Dakota County Rural Water                | 37.0  | 37.0  | 37.0  | 37.0  | 37.0  |
| 53              | Thurston County Rural Water              | 6.0   | 6.0   | 6.0   | 6.0   | 6.0   |
| 54              | Solid Waste/Recycling Program            | 1.5   | 1.5   | 1.5   | 1.5   | 1.5   |
| 55              | Information/Education Programs           | 35.0  | 35.0  | 35.0  | 35.0  | 35.0  |
| 56              | General Administration                   | 200.0 | 200.0 | 200.0 | 200.0 | 200.0 |
| Totals          |  | 631.4 | 628.7 | 630.0 | 622.0 | 622.5 |

Table 3. Fiscal Year 2024 Projected Expenditures by Program or Project (x \$1,000).

| Program/Project |  | Personnel<br>Costs | Operating<br>Costs | Professional<br>Services | Land<br>Rights | Construction<br>& Cost Share | Totals     |
|-----------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|------------|
| 1               | Project Maintenance - Channels & Levees  | \$521.1            | \$820.0            | \$533.0                  | \$20.0         | \$3,320.0                    | \$5,214.1  |
| 2               | Project Maintenance - Dams               | \$180.0            | \$109.0            | \$334.0                  | \$2.0          | \$1,100.0                    | \$1,725.0  |
| 3               | Papillion Creek and Tributaries Project  | \$5.0              | \$23,651.9         |                          |                |                              | \$23,656.9 |
| 4               | Portal Recreation Area (WP-6)            |                    |                    | \$10.0                   |                |                              | \$10.0     |
| 5               | Big Elk Lake (WP-7)                      |                    |                    | \$10.0                   |                |                              | \$10.0     |
| 6               | Zorinsky Basin #2                        |                    |                    |                          |                |                              | \$0.0      |
| 7               | WP-1                                     | \$30.0             |                    | \$1,070.0                | \$150.0        | \$3,000.0                    | \$4,250.0  |
| 8               | WP-2                                     | \$30.0             |                    | \$725.0                  | \$1,150.0      | \$4,500.0                    | \$6,405.0  |
| 9               | WP-4                                     | \$30.0             |                    | \$255.0                  |                | \$9,000.0                    | \$9,285.0  |
| 10              | DS-7                                     | \$15.0             |                    | \$80.0                   | \$7,000.0      | \$180.0                      | \$7,275.0  |
| 11              | DS-12                                    | \$5.0              |                    | \$15.0                   |                |                              | \$20.0     |
| 12              | DS-19                                    | \$5.0              |                    | \$20.0                   | \$5,000.0      | \$100.0                      | \$5,125.0  |
| 13              | Missouri River Levee Certification       | \$37.5             |                    | \$45.0                   |                | \$2,500.0                    | \$2,582.5  |
| 14              | Floodplain Management Program            | \$25.6             |                    |                          |                |                              | \$25.6     |
| 15              | Floodway Purchase Program                |                    |                    | \$92.5                   | \$909.5        | \$580.0                      | \$1,582.0  |
| 16              | Flood Mitigation Program                 |                    |                    | \$15.0                   |                |                              | \$15.0     |
| 17              | Elk/Pigeon Creek Project                 | \$50.0             |                    |                          |                |                              | \$50.0     |
| 18              | Pigeon-Jones Site 15 Project             |                    | \$0.0              | \$7.0                    |                | \$225.0                      | \$232.0    |
| 19              | Papio Creek Watershed 319 Project        | \$50.0             | \$3.0              | \$560.0                  | \$250.0        | \$1,867.0                    | \$2,730.0  |
| 20              | Urban Stormwater Program                 |                    | \$90.0             |                          |                |                              | \$90.0     |
| 21              | Stormwater BMP Program                   |                    |                    |                          |                | \$15.0                       | \$15.0     |
| 22              | Urban Drainageway Program                |                    |                    |                          |                | \$2,933.8                    | \$2,933.8  |
| 23              | Flood Preparedness/Ice Jam Removal       |                    |                    | \$226.6                  |                | \$19.4                       | \$246.1    |
| 24              | Conservation Assistance Program          |                    |                    |                          |                | \$611.0                      | \$611.0    |
| 25              | Pigeon Creek Special Watershed           |                    |                    | \$31.0                   |                | \$0.0                        | \$31.0     |
| 26              | Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Prog. | \$1.5              |                    |                          |                |                              | \$1.5      |
| 27              | NRCS Assistance                          | \$375.0            |                    |                          |                |                              | \$375.0    |
| 28              | Urban Conservation Assistance Program    |                    |                    |                          |                | \$300.0                      | \$300.0    |
| 29              | Erosion & Sediment Control Program       | \$1.0              |                    |                          |                |                              | \$1.0      |
| 30              | Groundwater Management Program           |                    |                    | \$610.0                  |                | \$675.0                      | \$1,285.0  |
| 31              | Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assess. |                    |                    | \$170.0                  |                | \$33.5                       | \$203.5    |
| 32              | Chemigation Certification Program        |                    | \$0.3              |                          |                |                              | \$0.3      |

Table 3. Fiscal Year 2024 Projected Expenditures by Program or Project (x \$1,000).

| Program/Project |  | Personnel<br>Costs | Operating<br>Costs | Professional<br>Services | Land<br>Rights | Construction<br>& Cost Share | Totals      |
|-----------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| 33              | Well Abandonment Program                 |                    |                    |                          |                | \$30.0                       | \$30.0      |
| 34              | Lake Dredging Program                    |                    |                    |                          |                | \$200.0                      | \$200.0     |
| 35              | Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance     |                    | \$50.0             |                          |                |                              | \$50.0      |
| 36              | Lower Platte River Vegetation Management |                    |                    |                          |                | \$30.0                       | \$30.0      |
| 37              | NRD Recreation Areas                     |                    | \$1,161.7          |                          |                |                              | \$1,161.7   |
| 38              | Missouri River Projects                  |                    |                    | \$5.0                    | \$550.0        | \$30.0                       | \$585.0     |
| 39              | Rumsey Station Wetland                   |                    |                    |                          |                |                              | \$0.0       |
| 40              | Heron Haven Wetland                      |                    |                    |                          |                | \$15.0                       | \$15.0      |
| 41              | Wetlands Mitigation Bank                 |                    | \$28.6             | \$227.5                  |                | \$950.0                      | \$1,206.1   |
| 42              | Conservation Easement Program            |                    |                    |                          |                | \$30.0                       | \$30.0      |
| 43              | Papio Trails System                      |                    | \$3.0              | \$741.3                  | \$10.0         | \$1,746.7                    | \$2,501.0   |
| 44              | Trails Assistance Program                |                    |                    |                          |                | \$2,455.2                    | \$2,455.2   |
| 45              | Recreation Area Development Program      |                    |                    |                          |                | \$815.8                      | \$815.8     |
| 46              | Wildlife Habitat Program                 |                    |                    |                          |                | \$60.0                       | \$60.0      |
| 47              | Tree Planting Program                    |                    | \$7.0              |                          |                | \$75.0                       | \$82.0      |
| 48              | Western Sarpy Drainage Project           | \$5.0              | \$17.5             | \$0.0                    |                | \$0.0                        | \$22.5      |
| 49              | Elk/Pigeon Creek Drainage IPA            | \$6.5              | \$32.1             |                          |                | \$7.5                        | \$46.1      |
| 50              | Elkhorn River Stabilization Project      | \$5.0              | \$73.7             |                          |                |                              | \$78.7      |
| 51              | Washington County Rural Water            | \$182.0            | \$1,981.3          | \$150.0                  | \$0.2          | \$200.0                      | \$2,513.4   |
| 52              | Dakota County Rural Water                | \$190.0            | \$3,643.9          | \$22.0                   | \$1.5          | \$3,554.5                    | \$7,411.8   |
| 53              | Thurston County Rural Water              | \$31.0             | \$221.6            | \$11.8                   |                | \$150.0                      | \$414.3     |
| 54              | Solid Waste/Recycling Program            | \$12.0             |                    |                          |                |                              | \$12.0      |
| 55              | Information/Education Programs           |                    | \$260.0            |                          |                |                              | \$260.0     |
| 56              | General Administration                   | \$4,316.0          | \$11,246.3         | \$1,219.7                |                |                              | \$16,782.0  |
|                 | a. Bond payment                          |                    | \$6,471.1          |                          |                |                              | \$6,471.1   |
|                 | Totals                                   | \$6,109.2          | \$49,871.9         | \$7,186.3                | \$15,043.2     | \$41,309.4                   | \$119,520.0 |

Table 4: Projected Expenditures by Program or Project - Fiscal Years 2024-2028(x \$1,000)

Note: The bonding limit increased by \$30M in 2022

| Program/Project |   | 2024       | 2025      | 2026      | 2027      | 2028      |
|-----------------|---|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1               | Project Maintenance - Channels & Levees | \$5,214.1  | \$5,000.0 | \$5,000.0 | \$5,000.0 | \$5,000.0 |
| 2               | Project Maintenance - Dams              | \$1,725.0  | \$750.0   | \$750.0   | \$775.0   | \$775.0   |
| 3               | Papillion Creek and Tributaries Project | \$23,656.9 | ---       | ---       | ---       | ---       |
| 4               | Portal Recreation Area (WP-6)           | \$10.0     | ---       | ---       | ---       | ---       |
| 5               | Big Elk Lake (WP-7)                     | \$10.0     | ---       | ---       | ---       | ---       |
| 6               | Zorinsky Basin #2                       | \$0.0      | ---       | ---       | ---       | ---       |
| 7               | WP-1                                    | \$4,250.0  | \$6,700.0 | \$50.0    | ---       | ---       |
| 8               | WP-2                                    | \$6,405.0  | \$500.0   | ---       | ---       | ---       |
| 9               | WP-4                                    | \$9,285.0  | \$2,250.0 | ---       | ---       | ---       |
| 10              | DS-7                                    | \$7,275.0  | ---       | ---       | ---       | \$500.0   |
| 11              | DS-12                                   | \$20.0     | ---       | \$4,900.0 | \$5,875.0 | \$5,875.0 |
| 12              | DS-19                                   | \$5,125.0  | \$5,000.0 | \$5,600.0 | \$5,900.0 | \$5,900.0 |
| 13              | Missouri River Levee Certification      | \$2,582.5  | ---       | ---       | ---       | ---       |
| 14              | Floodplain Management Program           | \$25.6     | \$30.0    | \$30.0    | \$30.0    | \$30.0    |
| 15              | Floodway Purchase Program               | \$1,582.0  | \$500.0   | \$500.0   | \$500.0   | \$500.0   |
| 16              | Flood Mitigation Program                | \$15.0     | \$50.0    | \$50.0    | \$50.0    | \$50.0    |
| 17              | Elk/Pigeon Creek Project                | \$50.0     | ---       | ---       | ---       | ---       |
| 18              | Pigeon-Jones Site 15 Project            | \$232.0    | \$50.0    | \$50.0    | \$50.0    | \$50.0    |
| 19              | Papio Creek Watershed 319 Project       | \$2,730.0  | \$365.0   | \$370.0   | \$375.0   | \$380.0   |
| 20              | Urban Stormwater Program                | \$90.0     | \$105.0   | \$110.0   | \$110.0   | \$110.0   |
| 21              | Stormwater BMP Program                  | \$15.0     | \$50.0    | \$50.0    | \$50.0    | \$50.0    |
| 22              | Urban Drainageway Program               | \$2,933.8  | \$2,125.0 | \$2,791.0 | \$1,900.0 | \$1,200.0 |
| 23              | Flood Preparedness/Ice Jam Removal      | \$246.1    | \$370.0   | \$380.0   | \$380.0   | \$380.0   |

Table 4: Projected Expenditures by Program or Project - Fiscal Years 2024-2028(x \$1,000)

Note: The bonding limit increased by \$30M in 2022

| Program/Project |  | 2024      | 2025      | 2026      | 2027      | 2028      |
|-----------------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 24              | Conservation Assistance Program          | \$611.0   | \$750.0   | \$750.0   | \$750.0   | \$750.0   |
| 25              | Pigeon Creek Special Watershed           | \$31.0    | \$500.0   | \$350.0   | \$350.0   | \$350.0   |
| 26              | Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Prog. | \$1.5     | \$1.5     | \$1.5     | \$1.5     | \$1.5     |
| 27              | NRCS Assistance                          | \$375.0   | \$390.0   | \$395.0   | \$395.0   | \$395.0   |
| 28              | Urban Conservation Assistance Program    | \$300.0   | \$250.0   | \$250.0   | \$250.0   | \$250.0   |
| 29              | Erosion & Sediment Control Program       | \$1.0     | \$1.6     | \$1.8     | \$1.8     | \$1.8     |
| 30              | Groundwater Management Program           | \$1,285.0 | \$450.0   | \$430.0   | \$430.0   | \$430.0   |
| 31              | Eastern Nebraska Water Resources Assess. | \$203.5   | \$60.0    | \$60.0    | \$60.0    | \$60.0    |
| 32              | Chemigation Certification Program        | \$0.3     | \$4.0     | \$4.0     | \$4.0     | \$4.0     |
| 33              | Well Abandonment Program                 | \$30.0    | \$36.0    | \$38.0    | \$38.0    | \$38.0    |
| 34              | Lake Dredging Program                    | \$200.0   | \$15.0    | \$15.0    | \$15.0    | \$15.0    |
| 35              | Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance     | \$50.0    | \$50.0    | \$50.0    | \$50.0    | \$50.0    |
| 36              | Lower Platte River Vegetation Management | \$30.0    | \$65.0    | \$65.0    | \$65.0    | \$65.0    |
| 37              | NRD Recreation Areas                     | \$1,161.7 | \$1,500.0 | \$1,500.0 | \$1,500.0 | \$1,500.0 |
| 38              | Missouri River Projects                  | \$585.0   | \$150.0   | \$150.0   | \$150.0   | \$150.0   |
| 39              | Rumsey Station Wetland                   | \$0.0     | \$53.0    | \$54.0    | \$54.0    | \$54.0    |
| 40              | Heron Haven Wetland                      | \$15.0    | \$44.0    | \$46.0    | \$46.0    | \$46.0    |
| 41              | Wetlands Mitigation Bank                 | \$1,206.1 | \$50.0    | \$50.0    | \$50.0    | \$50.0    |
| 42              | Conservation Easement Program            | \$30.0    | \$30.0    | \$30.0    | \$30.0    | \$30.0    |
| 43              | Papio Trails System                      | \$2,501.0 | \$2,000.0 | \$2,000.0 | \$2,000.0 | \$2,000.0 |
| 44              | Trails Assistance Program                | \$2,455.2 | \$750.0   | \$750.0   | \$750.0   | \$750.0   |
| 45              | Recreation Area Development Program      | \$815.8   | \$150.0   | \$150.0   | \$150.0   | \$150.0   |
| 46              | Wildlife Habitat Program                 | \$60.0    | \$75.0    | \$75.0    | \$75.0    | \$75.0    |

Table 4: Projected Expenditures by Program or Project - Fiscal Years 2024-2028(x \$1,000)

Note: The bonding limit increased by \$30M in 2022

| Program/Project |                                     | 2024        | 2025       | 2026       | 2027       | 2028       |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 47              | Tree Planting Program               | \$82.0      | \$80.0     | \$80.0     | \$80.0     | \$80.0     |
| 48              | Western Sarpy Drainage Project      | \$22.5      | \$130.2    | \$132.2    | \$132.2    | \$132.2    |
| 49              | Elk/Pigeon Creek Drainage IPA       | \$46.1      | \$50.0     | \$50.0     | \$50.0     | \$50.0     |
| 50              | Elkhorn River Stabilization Project | \$78.7      | \$243.0    | \$258.0    | \$258.0    | \$258.0    |
| 51              | Washington County Rural Water       | \$2,513.4   | \$2,551.1  | \$2,589.4  | \$2,628.2  | \$2,667.7  |
| 52              | Dakota County Rural Water           | \$7,411.8   | \$995.6    | \$1,010.5  | \$1,025.7  | \$1,041.1  |
| 53              | Thurston County Rural Water         | \$414.3     | \$420.6    | \$426.9    | \$433.3    | \$439.8    |
| 54              | Solid Waste/Recycling Program       | \$12.0      | \$12.0     | \$12.0     | \$12.0     | \$12.0     |
| 55              | Information/Education Programs      | \$260.0     | \$265.0    | \$270.0    | \$270.0    | \$270.0    |
| 56              | General Administration              | \$16,782.0  | \$12,500.0 | \$12,687.5 | \$12,877.8 | \$13,071.0 |
|                 | a. Bond payment                     | \$6,471.1   | \$6,632.9  | \$6,798.7  | \$6,968.7  | \$7,142.9  |
|                 | Totals                              | \$119,520.0 | \$55,100.5 | \$52,161.5 | \$52,946.2 | \$53,179.9 |

Table 5 - Projected Revenues Fiscal Years 2024-2028

1. Total valuation in NRD will rise 1.5% each year, with a similar increase in property tax.
2. bonding limit increased \$30M in 2022

| Project                                   | 2024        | 2025        | 2026        | 2027        | 2028        |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|   |             |             |             |             |             |
| <b>Cash on hand</b>                       | \$ 56,448.2 | \$ 9,331.2  | \$ 9,558.9  | \$ 7,047.6  | \$ 6,939.2  |
|   |             |             |             |             |             |
| <b>General Property Tax</b>               | \$ 30,424.9 | \$ 30,881.3 | \$ 31,344.5 | \$ 31,814.7 | \$ 32,291.9 |
|   |             |             |             |             |             |
| <b>Floodplain Remapping</b>               |             |             |             |             |             |
| PCWP Contribution                         | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       |
|   |             |             |             |             |             |
| <b>Missouri River Levee Certification</b> |             |             |             |             |             |
| Direct State Appropriation                | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       |
| City of Bellevue                          | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       |
| City of Omaha                             | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       |
| Sarpy County                              | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       |
|   |             |             |             |             |             |
| <b>Papio Creek Partnership</b>            |             |             |             |             |             |
| Reimbursement                             | \$ 310.4    | \$ 310.4    | \$ 310.4    | \$ 310.4    | \$ 310.4    |
|   |             |             |             |             |             |
| <b>Watershed Fund</b>                     |             |             |             |             |             |
| GO Bonds 2022                             | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       |
| Water Sust. Fund (WP-6, WP-7, WP-1)       | \$ 4,000.4  | \$ 2,100.0  | -----       | -----       | -----       |
| Fees                                      | \$ 3,500.0  | \$ 4,500.0  | \$ 4,500.0  | \$ 4,500.0  | \$ 4,500.0  |
| Miscellaneous                             | \$ 5,250.0  | \$ 850.0    | -----       | -----       | -----       |
| BRIC                                      | \$ 5,000.0  | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       |
| USACE GRR                                 | -----       | -----       | \$ 360.0    | \$ 3,222.0  | \$ 3,222.0  |
|   |             |             |             |             |             |
| <b>Elk/Pigeon Creek Project</b>           |             |             |             |             |             |
| NRCS                                      | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       | -----       |
|   |             |             |             |             |             |

Table 5 - Projected Revenues Fiscal Years 2024-2028

1. Total valuation in NRD will rise 1.5% each year, with a similar increase in property tax.
2. bonding limit increased \$30M in 2022

| Project                                  | 2024       | 2025       | 2026     | 2027     | 2028     |
|--|------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|
|  |            |            |          |          |          |
| <b>Channel Maintenance</b>               |            |            |          |          |          |
| Federal Grants and Funds                 | -----      | -----      | -----    | -----    | -----    |
| Big Papio at Q, City of Omaha            | -----      | -----      | -----    | -----    | -----    |
| Little Papio Culverts                    | \$ 800.0   | -----      | -----    | -----    | -----    |
| West Branch Culvert Rehab                | \$ 40.0    | -----      | -----    | -----    | -----    |
|  |            |            |          |          |          |
| <b>Flood Mitigation Program</b>          |            |            |          |          |          |
| FEMA                                     | -----      | -----      | -----    | -----    | -----    |
|  |            |            |          |          |          |
| <b>Floodway Purchase Program</b>         |            |            |          |          |          |
| Wash Co HMGP                             | \$ 74.0    | -----      | -----    | -----    | -----    |
| Do Co HMGP                               | \$ 1,766.0 | \$ 1,159.7 | -----    | -----    | -----    |
| Sarpy Co HMGP                            | \$ 563.7   | \$ 183.1   | -----    | -----    | -----    |
| Arlington                                | -----      | -----      | -----    | -----    | -----    |
| Bellevue                                 | -----      | -----      | -----    | -----    | -----    |
|  |            |            |          |          |          |
| <b>Water Quality Programs</b>            |            |            |          |          |          |
| Federal Grants                           | -----      | -----      | -----    | -----    | -----    |
| Southern Sarpy 319 Grant                 | \$ 120.0   | \$ 100.0   | \$ 100.0 | -----    | -----    |
| NRWQF                                    | \$ 40.0    | \$ 36.0    | \$ 36.0  | \$ 36.0  | \$ 36.0  |
|  |            |            |          |          |          |
| <b>Papio Creek Watershed 319 Project</b> |            |            |          |          |          |
| NDEE 319                                 | \$ 400.0   | \$ 150.0   | \$ 150.0 | \$ 150.0 | \$ 150.0 |
|  |            |            |          |          |          |
| <b>Lower Platte Weed Mgt.</b>            |            |            |          |          |          |
| LPSNRD                                   | \$ 30.0    | \$ 30.0    | \$ 30.0  | \$ 30.0  | \$ 30.0  |
| LPNNRD                                   | \$ 30.0    | \$ 30.0    | \$ 30.0  | \$ 30.0  | \$ 30.0  |
| Lower Platte WMA                         | \$ 30.0    | \$ 30.0    | \$ 30.0  | \$ 30.0  | \$ 30.0  |
| PMRNRD                                   | \$ 30.0    | \$ 30.0    | \$ 30.0  | \$ 30.0  | \$ 30.0  |
|  |            |            |          |          |          |

Table 5 - Projected Revenues Fiscal Years 2024-2028

1. Total valuation in NRD will rise 1.5% each year, with a similar increase in property tax.
2. bonding limit increased \$30M in 2022

| Project                              | 2024                | 2025               | 2026               | 2027               | 2028               |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Emergency Flood Warning</b>       |                     |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Douglas County                       | \$ 20.0             | \$ 20.0            | \$ 20.0            | \$ 20.0            | \$ 20.0            |
| City of Omaha                        | \$ 5.8              | \$ 8.0             | \$ 8.0             | \$ 8.0             | \$ 8.0             |
| Sarpy County                         | \$ 4.0              | \$ 4.0             | \$ 4.0             | \$ 4.0             | \$ 4.0             |
| Washington County                    | \$ 2.0              | \$ 2.0             | \$ 2.0             | \$ 2.0             | \$ 2.0             |
| <b>Trails</b>                        |                     |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| City of Omaha, 'Millard Connection'  | -----               | -----              | \$ 200.0           | \$ 200.0           | -----              |
| <b>Missouri River Projects</b>       |                     |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Nebraska Environmental Trust         | -----               | -----              | -----              | -----              | -----              |
| Ducks Unlimited                      | \$ 500.0            | -----              | -----              | -----              | -----              |
| Back to the River                    | \$ 50.0             | -----              | -----              | -----              | -----              |
| City of Bellevue                     | -----               | -----              | -----              | -----              | -----              |
| Sarpy County                         | -----               | -----              | -----              | -----              | -----              |
| <b>Improvement Project Areas</b>     |                     |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| Western Sarpy Drainage               | \$ 22.5             | \$ 22.8            | \$ 23.1            | \$ 23.5            | \$ 23.8            |
| Elk/Pigeon Creek Drainage            | \$ 46.1             | \$ 50.0            | \$ 50.0            | \$ 50.0            | \$ 50.0            |
| Elkhorn River Breakout               | -----               | \$ 6.6             | \$ 6.6             | \$ 6.6             | \$ 6.6             |
| Elkhorn River Stabilization          | \$ 78.7             | \$ 243.0           | \$ 258.0           | \$ 258.0           | \$ 258.0           |
| Washington County RW                 | \$ 2,513.4          | \$ 2,551.1         | \$ 2,589.4         | \$ 2,628.2         | \$ 2,667.7         |
| Dakota County RW                     | \$ 7,411.8          | \$ 995.6           | \$ 1,010.5         | \$ 1,025.7         | \$ 1,041.1         |
| Thurston County RW                   | \$ 414.3            | \$ 420.6           | \$ 426.9           | \$ 433.3           | \$ 439.8           |
| <b>Other Projects</b>                |                     |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| District Projects                    | \$ (608.3)          | \$ 850.0           | \$ 875.0           | \$ 875.0           | \$ 875.0           |
| Rental Income                        | \$ 202.0            | \$ 205.0           | \$ 208.1           | \$ 211.2           | \$ 214.4           |
| Bond Refinancing                     |                     |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| <b>Total Revenues</b>                | <b>\$ 119,520.0</b> | <b>\$ 55,100.5</b> | <b>\$ 52,161.5</b> | <b>\$ 52,946.2</b> | <b>\$ 53,179.9</b> |
| <b>Total Expenses (From Table 4)</b> | <b>\$ 119,520.0</b> | <b>\$ 55,100.5</b> | <b>\$ 52,161.5</b> | <b>\$ 52,946.2</b> | <b>\$ 53,179.9</b> |