

Johnson Lake Development, Inc.

MEETING- May 19, 2026

EMS Building- 7pm

President Doug Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

ROLL CALL: Attendance roster showed 3 of 3 officers present and 12 of 34 directors present, representing 11 of the 22 associations.

MINUTES: A motion to approve the April 2026 minutes was made by Jane Kirby and seconded by June Oliphant. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT: A motion to approve the April Financial report was made by Jane Kirby and seconded by Arlin Edeal. Voting AYE, all.

CNPPID REPORT: Tyler Thulin, Mike Drain and Nathan Fleecs were in attendance. **Tyler Thulin**, in charge of day-to-day hydro operations, explained the reasons for low water at Johnson Lake. There was an outage at Jeffrey Hydro, which limited water coming into Johnson Lake, plus irrigation demands were higher than normal, which made water 2 ½ foot lower than typical for this time of year. Johnson Lake should be back to normal levels by the Memorial Day Weekend. He also talked about the Environmental account which is controlled by the Fish & Wildlife. The Flow Attenuation Plan was developed with Fish & Wildlife and Nebraska Games and Parks Commission to help reduce flows on the Platte River during the tern and piping plover nesting seasons. The plan is designed to keep the Platte River at lower levels, reducing the chances of flooding nests located on sandbars. The Hydrocycling Agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was initiated to improve conditions of the Platte River during endangered whooping cranes migratory seasons. This agreement requires operations that reduce significant fluctuations in the Platte River flows. Hydrocycling operations take place each year from March 18 to April 30 and from October 17 to November 10. These periods can be extended if whooping cranes are known to be near the Platte River. In the event of a hydro outage, maintenance work must be done outside the irrigation season. **Mike Drain-Natural Resources & Compliance Manager**, spoke about repair of Kingsley Dam at Lake McConaughy. Kingsley Dam was built in the 1930's, at a time when there was not as much expertise as today. The two problems with the dam are undersized rip rap for the force of the waves and being improperly bedded behind the rock. A board of consultants is overseeing the project. Construction will not begin for at least two years. It will take some time to resolve the solutions to repair the dam. McConaughy is low at the current time due to supply and demand, not because of the repair project. **Nathan Fleecs** -Land Administrator, reminded the group that no permits for trimming or removing trees are issued during the months of June and July in Gosper and Dawson counties due to Northern Long-Eared Bats. Permits are required for trimming and/or removal of trees from April 1st through August 15. All of this and further information can be found at www.cnppid.com

OLD BUSINESS: Lucas Hill from Schaben Sanitation was in attendance and spoke about the new sanitation service. All agreed the transition went well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: FIREWORKS- Fireworks will be held on Friday, July 3 with a July 5 rain date. If significant rains are not received before this date, fireworks will need to be cancelled. **HIKE & BIKE-** The Game and Parks Storywalk at the north end of East Park is set up with 18 pedestals. Sponsorships remain available at \$300 through the Lexington Community Foundation. The stories change each month, with 4 stories throughout the summer. 6 trees have been planted this spring along the trail, with 8 more remaining to be planted. **ROADS:** Central is in the process of grooming the roads before Memorial Day weekend. **DUMP:** Everything remains as at the dump until it is possible to receive a burning permit.

PUBLIC INPUT/ANNOUNCEMENTS: June Oliphant was asked by Chuck Olsen to publicize an upcoming series of hour long “Story Swapping” events to be held at the blue playground shelter, located by East Shore. The “Story Swapping” events came from conversations between the Trails, Game and Parks story walk and playground leaders. “Story Swapping” is primarily for adults as an addition to children’s story walk in the park. The “Story Swapping” will take place the second Saturday of each month, June 13, July 11 and August 8 at 10:30am. Donuts will be provided. BYOC (coffee and stories). A theme will be introduced and a “Prime the pump” story presented by one of the facilitators, Chuck Olsen, Michele High or Mary Beckstrom. Folks can add and swap for no more than 5 minutes each. These need to relate to their Johnson Lake experiences, events from old history or last week, about fishing weather, activities, biking, pets, grandkids, facilities, etc. “I remember when.” Stories can be from individuals or built by the group. Please share this information with your area association so there is a good turnout.

Jean Edeal spoke about the email we all received from Dawson Public Power concerning the 10-Year Underground Electrical Conversion Project taking place at Johnson Lake. You can see the entire project at www.dawsonpower.com, or refer to the email you received. Dawson Public Power will pay for everything except the connection from your house. Approximate cost at this time is currently around \$2,500 per household. You will have 3-options to connect on the other side of the road: 1- use the old pole, 2- a new junction box for \$250, 3- in ground junction box for \$500. If your area would like to vote on this and be placed on the list to have your electricity moved underground, contact Dawson Public Power to be moved up on the list. If you have questions, please call Jean Edeal 308-325-4573.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by June Oliphant and seconded by Jane Kirby.
Voting AYE, All

Kathy Larson, JLDI Secretary