

December 14, 2015 Monthly Meeting
USDA Service Center
Board meeting 3:00 pm

Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

Supervisors present: Ron Johnson, Bob Woerman and Tom Wolles

Supervisors absent: Jeff Oyen and Jim Pfeifer

Advisors present: Jennifer Schmidtbauer

Advisors absent: Jim Jackson

Others present: John Parker, Denise Fletcher, Deron Ruesch, Barry Berg, Brian Top, Rick Lehman, and Dana Loseke

Agenda: Handed out at meeting. MSP to approve by Wolles and Woerman. All ayes.

Minutes of November 9th meeting: Handed out. MSP to approve by Woerman and Wolles. All ayes.

Minutes of November 24th special meeting: Handed out. MSP to approve by Woerman and Wolles. All ayes.

Treasurer's report: Handed out at meeting. MSP to approve by Woerman and Wolles. All ayes.

Bills: None

Accounts Receivable: Reviewed at meeting.

Activities Reports:

NRCS activity report by Deron Ruesch:

WETLANDS: Our current backlog is about 5 outstanding certified wetland determination requests.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP): General CRP Sign-up is December 1 – February 26, 2016. We have discussed practice requirements with 6 producers.

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP): We continue to process 13 annual payments and continue to accept applications.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP): We are still processing payments for practices completed in 2015. Construction on 2 animal waste storage facilities is complete.

AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM (ACEP): The Conservation District has been assigned 4 easements to review for FY 2016.

Big Sioux River – RCPP Report by Barry Berg: \$5.6 million is currently budgeted for Segment 3 of the project. The DENR and City of Sioux Falls have approved an increase in SRAM payments. 6 Ag. Waste Management Systems are finishing up construction. 5 systems are currently in the design phase. December 18th is the deadline for RCPP applications.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Gevik Site Endowment**
Presentation by Regina Jahr, Sioux Falls Area Community Endowment Foundation about how the fund works. MSP to move ahead with endowment project paperwork by Woerman and Wolles. All ayes.
2. **Service Report (bio-solids, tree planting, grass planting, etc.)**
Bio-solids soil sampling is probably finished for the season. Some re-mapping work for the city will be done this winter. 22 acres of tree planting have been committed for next year. 400 acres of CRP program seeding is planned in Minnehaha County. Fabric will come in at the end of January. Some spraying will be done yet, if possible.
3. **Update on Equipment – Larger Drill Info. from Pfeifer**
All equipment is in working order. Discussion was held about getting a larger drill.
4. **SDADC Fall Conference – (Election Changes)**
Bob said it was a great experience. Many changes are coming. The election changes were voted down and the issue was tabled.
5. **Board Advisors**
MSP to appoint Dana Loseke as a Board Advisor by Woerman and Wolles. All Ayes.
6. **National Association of Conservation Districts Annual Membership**
Board agreed to pay a Gold Level membership in this organization, as per the by-laws.
7. **Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership Invoice**
Board agreed to pay these dues, as per the by-laws.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Future Work in Lincoln County**
Discussion about possibly doing seeding in Lincoln County. The decided to approach the Lincoln Board about buying their drill.
2. **Employment Review**
Tabled until January meeting.
3. **Newsletter**
John and Melanie are working on an online newsletter to be posted every other month. A mail newsletter will be sent in January that contains the tree order form.

CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS

MSP to sign agreements by Wolles and Woerman. All ayes.

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Correspondence

MSP to adjourn at 5:20 p.m. by Wolles and Woerman. All ayes.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, January 11, 2016 at 3:00 pm – USDA Service Center
Submitted by Denise Fletcher, District Office Assistant