

**June 8, 2015 Monthly Meeting  
USDA Service Center  
Board meeting 3:00 pm**

Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

**Supervisors present:** Ron Johnson, Tom Wolles, Jeff Oyen and Bob Woerman

**Absent:** Jim Pfeifer

**Others present:** John Parker, Denise Fletcher, Deron Ruesch, Barry Berg, Brian Top, Jeff Vander Wilt, Dana Loseke, Mary Ellen Connelly, Cindy Heiberger, Susan Bergman and Chris Hubbs

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

**Minutes of April meeting:** Handed out. MSP to approve by Wolles and Woerman. All ayes.

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

**Bills:** Reviewed at meeting. Approved to pay. MSP to approve by Oyen and Wolles. All ayes.

**Accounts Receivable:** Reviewed at meeting.

**Activities Reports:**

**NRCS activity report by Deron Ruesch:**

**WETLANDS:** Our current backlog is about 48 outstanding certified wetland determination requests. 23 are now 12 months or older. Nathan is still working in Hamlin County.

**CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):**

FSA has bumped up the rental rates for CRP. \$195 is the new simple average in the county.

**CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP):**

4 applications have been ranked.

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP):**

2 Pollinator Habitat applications were approved in the amount of \$1,124.00. 1 Ag. Waste application was approved. 1 Grazing System and Shelterbelt Renovation application has been approved.

**AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM (ACEP):**

No report

A Civil Rights Review was held in the office during the first week of June. Seven RCPP applications are being worked on. A new Soil Conservationist is being hired for the Canton office. From 7-13-15 through 9-19-15, Deron will be the acting Assistant State Conservationist Field Operations.

**Big Sioux River – RCPP Report by Barry Berg and Jeff Vander Wilt, Assistant State Conservationist:**

The first program applications will be going in soon. NRCS is funding \$1.9 million in the program over a 5 year agreement. This could bring more opportunities for the Conservation District in tree planting, grass seeding, etc. MSP to approve an SRAM contract by Wolles and Woerman. All ayes. MSP to approve an SRAM contract by Woerman and Oyen. All ayes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Gevik Site –**
  - a. **Susan Bergman and Chris Hubbs, Dakota Access Pipeline, Response from November 2014 Meeting.**  
Presented maps of the proposed easement where the pipeline would cross the Gevik site (about 17 rods of property). The Board was invited to email questions and concerns, which can be answered at the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - b. SDSU has bio-reactor monitoring sites in place.
  - c. The Sioux Falls Public Schools held a summer enrichment program at the site from May 26 through June 5<sup>th</sup>. 675 children and 82 staff members participated. John will do a presentation about the site to the County Commission in October or November.
2. **Service Report (bio-solids, tree planting, grass planting, etc.)**  
Bio-solids soil sampling is being done. 40 acres of native grass seeding has been completed for the City. 62 acres of tree planting has been completed, with nearly 70 acres total planned for this year. Grass planting – 875 acres have been planted with the 15' drill and 350 acres with the 10' drill. 85 acres have been sprayed, with 15 left to do. 24 acres of tree planting is already planned for next year.
3. **Update on Equipment**  
The new loader is in. All drills are working now. The fabric machine was broken, but now has been fixed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Gevik Site – Farm Program Proceeds**  
\$700 – 800 proceeds will be received. The funds will be placed into the Gevik maintenance account.
2. **Area Meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup> – Renner Legion Hall**  
The meeting will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with a catered supper following.
3. **Grants**  
The Vegetative Grant was finalized with SDSU. The Tech. Grant is ready to send in. The Tree Renovation Grant has 2 applications ready to send in.

## **CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS**

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

## **OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Correspondence  
Flowers were sent for the Bernie Top funeral. Memorial was sent for the Roger Parham funeral.

MSP to adjourn at 5:25 pm by Oyen and Wolles. All ayes.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, July 13th, 2015 at 3:00 pm – USDA Service Center**

Submitted by Denise Fletcher, District Employee