

**Minnehaha Conservation District**  
**April 11th, 2016 Monthly Meeting**  
**USDA Service Center**  
**Board meeting 3:00 pm**

Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m.

**Supervisors present:** Ron Johnson, Jeff Oyen, Jim Pfeifer, and Bob Woerman

**Supervisors absent:** Tom Wolles

**Advisors present:** Jim Jackson

**Advisors absent:** Dana Loseke, and Jennifer Schmidtbauer

**Others present:** John Parker, Denise Fletcher, Deron Ruesch, Barry Berg, Brian Top, Amy Richards, Michelle Burke, Dave Dancler and Tom Shields

**Agenda:** MSP to approve by Oyen and Pfeifer. All ayes.

**Minutes of March 14th meeting:** MSP to approve by Oyen and Pfeifer. All ayes.

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

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

**Activities Reports:**

**NRCS activity report by Deron Ruesch:**

**WETLANDS:** Our current backlog is about 21 outstanding certified wetland determination requests.

**CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):**

We are waiting to hear from FSA about the applications that have been received.

**CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP):**

4 applications have been received; being reviewed.

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

2 applications for NWQI are being worked on (animal waste management systems). Terrace project applications will now be accepted. We are working on non-compliance issues.

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

We are working with 1 producer who is interested in the program. 2 compatible use cases are being worked on. 1 easement will be closed in the future.

**Big Sioux River – RCPP Report by Barry Berg:**

6-17-16 is the sign-up deadline. From 2013 through 2015, the following acres have been added to the program: SRAM – 855.1, RAM – 31.2, CRP – 100, WRP – 17 acres easement, for a total of 1037 acres (or 20.3 miles of bank protection.) In 2016 so far, 271 acres have been added under SRAM, RAM and conservation cover.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Gevik Site Endowment**

The second draft of the agreement is being reviewed at the SF Community Foundation. We are waiting for cost estimates for the proposed trail extension to come in from the Bird Club. Game, Fish & Parks Trail Grant application is being worked on.

### **2. Service Report (bio-solids, tree planting, grass planting, newsletter, etc.)**

450 acres of bio-solids are left to sample for this season. 73 acres of tree planting is committed for this year. Grass planting has started. 400 acres are lined up with the 15 ft. drill and 425 acres with the 10 ft. drill. In Lincoln County, 300 acres are planned for seeding. Bare root trees should be in by the end of April. The website newsletter should be available by the end of April.

### **3. Equipment**

We acquired the 10 ft. drill from the Lincoln Conservation District. A new tiller was purchased. New tires were put on the 15 ft. drill. Cutters need to be put back on the fabric machine.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Banking Options**

Dave Dancler and Tom Shields with Great Western Bank discussed banking options they offer, including an operating line, cash management and a merchant card with a remote use feature.

MSP to bank with Great Western Bank by Oyen and Pfeifer. All ayes.

### **2. Speech Contest**

The area contest was held in Sioux Falls with 4 contestants, 2 from Union County, 1 from Minnehaha County and 1 from Lake County. The first two places went to Samantha Fox from Minnehaha and Stormy Mette from Lake. The top two contestants will go on to the state contest.

### **3. Grants**

The Wildlife Habitat Grant has been spent. 75 acres of native grass were planted, with 18 producers participating. MSP to write a new Wildlife Habitat Grant application for 2017 by Woerman and Pfeifer. All ayes. 3 Tree Shelterbelt Renovations are committed. The Technical Grant will finish up in June 2016.

### **4. Local Work Group (May)**

This will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup>, prior to the regular Board meeting. A time will be posted.

## **CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS**

4-1-16, 4-2-16, 4-3-16, 4-4-16, 4-5-16, 4-6-16, 4-7-16

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

## **OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **1. Correspondence**

MSP to adjourn at 5:15 p.m. by Pfeifer and Woerman. All ayes.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, May 9th, 2016 at 3:00 pm – USDA Service Center**

Submitted by Denise Fletcher, District Office Assistant