

**January 11, 2016 Monthly Meeting  
USDA Service Center  
Board meeting 3:00 pm**

Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

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

**Supervisors absent:** None

**Advisors present:** Jim Jackson

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

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

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

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

**Treasurer's report:** MSP to approve by Pfeifer and Woerman. All ayes.

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

**Accounts Receivable:** Reviewed at meeting.

**Activities Reports:**

**NRCS activity report by Deron Ruesch:**

**WETLANDS:** Our current backlog is about 7 outstanding certified wetland determination requests.

**CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):** Activity is increasing in this program.

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP):** Rankings must be finalized by 3/4/16.

Deron gave a presentation about the Leopold Conservation Award, including a video about the 2015 winner. Nominations for this program are due by 3/14/16.

**Big Sioux River – RCPP Report by Barry Berg:** The DENR and City of Sioux Falls approved \$75, \$70, and \$65 per acre reimbursements for SRAM program. Downstream of the city will remain at the \$60 level. 2 Ag. Waste Management Systems were completed recently, one in Moody County and one in Minnehaha County. The Final Report is being written for Segment 2 and is due on 2/1/16. \$5.6 million is budgeted for Segment 3.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Gevik Site Endowment**

Regina from the Sioux Falls Area Community Endowment Foundation is working on the contract. The DOT has not yet met about the road signage. Discussion about the possibility of giving the Gevik Site to another entity. No action taken.

2. **Service Report (bio-solids, tree planting, grass planting, etc.)**  
24 acres of trees have been committed for this year. Large number of CRP grass planting is planned. Bio-solids are completed for now. 800 acres of sampling is planned for this spring.
3. **Update on Equipment – Larger Drill Info. from Pfeifer**  
Discussion about getting a 26 or 30 ft. drill. Jim will get exact prices for these.
4. **Future Work in Lincoln County**  
Discussion about the stipend per acre that would be offered to Lincoln County, in exchange for the referrals to work there. John will write up a proposal to send to the Lincoln County District Conservation Board.
5. **Employment Review and Employees**  
MSP to offer retirement plan coverage to Harlan Smith, Jr. by Oyen and Pfeifer. All ayes. The Board will meet in executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss employee salaries.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Mitigation Sites**  
The Wetland Mitigation Bank needs a long-term site manager. There is an endowment fund set up for maintenance. MSP for the Minnehaha Conservation District to be named as the long-term manager for the North Central Wetland Mitigation Bank site by Pfeifer and Wolles. All ayes.
2. **SD Association of Conservation Districts Inc. 2016 Membership Investment**  
The Board agreed to pay these dues, as per the by-laws.
3. **Water Festival (March 8 – 10 at USF)**  
The Conservation District will be participating.
4. **Sioux Falls Farm Show (January 26 – 31; the 28<sup>th</sup> is cattle weigh-in)**  
No discussion.

### **CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS**

None

### **OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Correspondence

Johnson called the Board into executive session at 5:50 p.m. for employee salary review. MSP to approve new employee salaries by Oyen and Wolles. All ayes. The board elected Ron Johnson as Chairman and Bob Woerman as Vice Chairman for 2016. Executive session ended at 6:31 p.m.

MSP to adjourn at 6:31 pm by Johnson and Woerman. All ayes.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, February 8, 2016 at 3:00 pm – USDA Service Center**  
Submitted by Denise Fletcher, District Office Assistant