

**August 11, 2014 Monthly Meeting
Dewey Gevik Learning Center
Board meeting 3:00 pm**

Pfeifer called the meeting to order at 3:19 p.m.

Supervisors present: Jim Pfeifer, Ron Johnson, Tom Wolles

Absent: Reid Christopherson, Jeff Oyen,

Others present: John Parker, Mary Lou Lacey, Brian Top, Denise Fletcher

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

Minutes of June meeting: Handed out. MSP to approve by Johnson and Wolles. All ayes.

Minutes of July meeting: Handed out. MSP to approve by Wolles and Johnson. All ayes.

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

Bills: Reviewed at meeting. Approved to pay, except half payments to Agassiz Seed & Supply, Big Sioux Nursery and Milborn Seeds Inc. MSP to approve by Wolles and Johnson. All ayes.

Accounts Receivable: Reviewed at meeting.

Activities Reports:

NRCS activity report by Mary Lou Lacey:

Deron Ruesch is unavailable for the next two weeks. Mary Lou is acting DC the week of August 11th and Nyle Herbener in Canton is acting DC the week of August 18th. Mary Lou has many HEL plans to complete and get out for signatures.

WETLANDS:

No update.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):

Many requests are coming in, but there are not many options for putting old general CRP contracts into new contracts. Pheasant habitat and wetland buffers are about all that is available. Pheasant habitat is out of acres now, and we are waiting for more acres to be given for that practice. No new general sign-ups are expected.

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP):

We have eight contracts ready to go and waiting on signatures.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP):

We have three contracts ready for signatures and one EQIP-NWQI that is in process.

AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM (ACEP):

No update.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Info on Contribution Agreement:

Deron sent numbers to the State Office about estimated projects to be worked on through this agreement. Word should be back from the State Office by mid-September.

2. **Update on Central Big Sioux Water Project:**

Barry Berg sent in the application, which was accepted. Barry, John Parker and Mike Cook will work on the final proposal and get that in by October 4th.

3. **Update on services (seeding, spraying, trees bio solids, other projects):**

The 15' and 10' drills are going out for seeding. Spraying is going on, as well. We have received seven or eight tree requests for next year. Bio solids – we are waiting for the City of Sioux Falls to respond. Producers are waiting for sludge to be applied on their fields. John will contact the City. There are WRP's to do in Lincoln County. Easements on the river will be monitored through a \$13,000 contract. The work needs to be done from mid-August through the end of September. The City has asked for tree replacement cost estimates.

4. **Gevik report:**

The signs are up. The Bioreactor still needs to be put in this fall. Three rows of experimental pine trees are being monitored. Spraying for thistles will occur in the late fall. The Beautification Committee was composed of Sandy Sutton and Joan Wolles, who worked on cleaning out the sign area, putting down fabric, and planting wild flowers. Master Gardeners will bring out more native flowers.

5. **Review grants (2015-2016 Tech Grant) along with Vegetative grant, tree renovation grant, native grass grant:**

The State Tech. Grant will be turned in by August 13th or 14th. It will end on June 30, 2015. The Tree Renovation Grant goes through 2015. The Native Grass Grant is good for 3 years. MSP to apply for the State Tech. Grant for the 2015-2016 season by Wolles and Johnson. All ayes.

6. **State convention:**

This will be held on Sept. 21 – 23 in Oacoma. The cost is \$35/day. Deron Ruesch will attend if one supervisor attends. John will let them know that 1 -2 will be attending and will pay that day.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Equipment repairs and updates:**

There were about \$1,000.00 in repairs on the 10' drill. Should be in good shape now. We received \$18,295.00 income this year on that machine (1500 acres). The sprayer is ok; the lawn mower is fine, but the deck may need to be rebuilt. We will lease tractors again in October.

2. **State conservation membership for year:**

We have not paid the 2014 dues yet (\$735.00) to SDACD. The Board decided to pay the dues, as per the bylaws.

CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS

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

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Correspondence:**

September 4th is the Mayor's Water Summit.

MSP to adjourn at 4:35 pm by Wolles and Johnson. All ayes.

NEXT MEETING DATE: September 8, 2014 at 3:00 pm – USDA Service Center
Submitted by Denise Fletcher, Ultima Employee