

**Nov. 9, 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, Bob Woerman and Tom Wolles

**Absent:** Jeff Oyen and Jim Pfeifer

**Advisors present:** Jim Jackson

**Advisors absent:** Jennifer Schmidtbauer

**Others present:** John Parker, Denise Fletcher, Mary Lou Lacey, Brian Top, and Dana Loseke

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

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

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

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

**Accounts Receivable:** Reviewed at meeting.

**Activities Reports:**

**NRCS activity report by Mary Lou Lacey:**

**WETLANDS:** Our current backlog is about 4 outstanding certified wetland determination requests. One FSA-569 has been checked and returned to FSA.

**CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):**

We are servicing 27 re-enrollment requests, 9 new tree plantings and 9 other various practice requests. We expect a large workload from the general CRP signup starting in December.

**CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP):**

The sign-up deadline will be February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

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

We have 11 applications for this batching period and 6 RCPP-EQIP applications. We are still processing payments for 2015.

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

This application is completed and waiting approval from the State Office.

**Big Sioux River – RCPP Report by Brian Top:**

Discussion about raising the SRAM rates, due to increasing pasture rents. The Board agreed that rates should be raised to \$80 or \$90 per acre, with room to negotiate a higher amount, to meet the current trend. 2 beef confinement barns are presently under construction. 4 feedlot systems are being designed and could be constructed in 2016. 5 feedlot systems are in preliminary design stages. The NWQI fund pool for 2016 is currently \$92,000. RCPP funds have not been received yet; we have requested \$640,000. The RCPP application deadline is December 18, 2015.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Gevik Site**

John has contacted the DOT Sign Director regarding placing signs in the DOT right of way. DOT would maintain the signs. The fee is \$50 one-time fee plus \$155/yr. This needs to be approved by a DOT committee. Thistles have been sprayed. Inquiries have been made about cutting hay on the site.

2. **Service Report (bio-solids, tree planting, grass planting, etc.)**  
600 acres of sampling to do plus 300 shallow samples. 29 acres of trees are planned for next year. We should get 50 – 60 acres total. February 1, 2016 is the deadline for CRP program trees. Dormant seeding is being done. There are 6 terrace jobs to do in Lincoln County and 2 terrace jobs in Union County.
3. **Update on Equipment – Larger Drill Info. from Pfeifer**  
Pricing on 24 and 30 foot drills has been received. This will be considered at December's meeting.
4. **Land Judging – September 29<sup>th</sup>**  
This was held at Ron Johnson's farm, with 161 students and 17 schools participating. The event went very well. The Crooks Community Center was used for scoring.
5. **SDADC Fall Conference – November 30 – December 2**  
Tom and Bob are planning to attend, as well as John. A special meeting may be set up before the convention to discuss the Board's position on a vote about proposed election rules changes.
6. **Board Advisors**  
Jim Jackson was back to attend the meeting.
7. **South Dakota Public Assurance Association**  
We are still waiting for higher deductible quotes.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Proposed Board Election Changes**  
Discussion was held about the changes. One voting member from the Board needs to be present at the SDADC Fall Convention business session. Bob is planning to be at the session.
2. **National Association of Conservation Districts Annual Membership**  
No action was taken.
3. **Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership Invoice**  
No action was taken.
4. **Gevik Site – Bird Club – Endowment**  
The Bird Club is interested in establishing an endowment fund through the Conservation District at the Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation. They would like to start with a project to extend the trail on the north side of the Gevik Site. MSP to pursue and study the endowment fund proposal by Woerman and Wolles. All ayes.
5. **Farm Program Payment**  
No action taken.

### **CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS**

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

### **OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Correspondence  
\$2,000 was received from Minnehaha County for the Board's 2016 allocation. There was discussion about volunteer tasks that companies could have employees do for the District and the Gevik Site, such as weeding, trash pick-up, sign cleaning, etc. John will compile a list of these tasks.

MSP to adjourn at 4:40 pm by Wolles and Johnson. All ayes.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** Monday, December 14, 2015 at 3:00 pm – USDA Service Center  
Submitted by Denise Fletcher, District Office Assistant