

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

Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

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

**Advisors present:** Dana Loseke  
**Advisors absent:** Jim Jackson and Jennifer Schmidtbauer

**Others present:** John Parker, Denise Fletcher, Mary Lou Lacey, Barry Berg, and Brian Top

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

**Minutes of June 20th meeting:** MSP to approve by Pfeifer and Oyen. 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 Wolles and Pfeifer. All ayes.

**Activities Reports:**

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

**WETLANDS:** Our current backlog is about 37 outstanding certified wetland determination requests.

**CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):**

We are working on CRP re-enrollments and status reviews. Many new applications are also being processed.

**CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP):**

Contracts and paperwork are ready for signatures.

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

We are working on planning for 2 RCPP-EQIP applications. Construction has commenced on 2 RCPP-EQIP animal waste systems.

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

We are working to finish the closing process on our 1 application from last year. It is being re-surveyed.

We have a group of eligible applicants for the new Soil Conservationist position in Sioux Falls and have begun to do phone interviews.

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

Potential SRAM for 2017: Willow Creek – 23.2 acres, Pipestone Creek – 180 acres, Skunk Creek – 40 acres, and Colton Creek – 20.6 acres. 7 producers are showing interest to plan for Animal Waste Management Systems in Minnehaha County and 2 in Moody County. We will not be able to fund terraces through RCPP this funding round; sign-up will

probably be after October 1<sup>st</sup>. We are working on a new cost share practice for livestock shade structures for pastured livestock in the Big Sioux River Watershed.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

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

Bio-solids – some sampling is being done. 85 acres of trees have been planted and 83 acres of fabric applied. About 35 acres are planned for next year so far. 900 acres of grass have been planted, 600 in Minnehaha County and 300 in Lincoln County. Spraying and mowing are occurring.

**2. Equipment (Replacement Trailers)**

The 10 ft. drill has some problems. Discussion was held about replacing the small trailer that pulls mowers and the ATV, as well as one of the gooseneck trailers that hauls tractors. John and Ron will look for trailers and make a decision.

**3. Conservation Award**

Paul Heiberger was awarded the State Conservation Award for our area. Discussion was held about possible nominees for next year's awards.

**4. Mitigation Bank**

Discussion was held about how the Jandl Mitigation Bank Site Plan program will work. An endowment will be set up to make payments. MSP for John Parker to sign a letter of agreement for the Minnehaha Conservation District to manage the mitigation site by Wolles and Pfeifer. All ayes. Oyen abstained.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Commission Grants**

Discussion was held about the district's problems with grant reimbursements. An outline of reimbursement criteria needs to be created. The Tech. Grant and the Wildlife Habitat Grant each ended on 6/30/16. The Tree Renovation Grant started on 7/01/16 and runs for 18 months.

**2. Fall Convention**

This will be held in Deadwood, SD from September 25 – 27.

### **CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS**

7-1, 7-2, 7-3

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

### **OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Correspondence

MSP to adjourn at 4:59 pm by Woerman and Wolles. All ayes.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, August 8th, 2016 at 3:00 pm – USDA Service Center**

Submitted by Denise Fletcher, District Office Assistant