

**Minnehaha Conservation District
August 8th, 2016 Monthly Meeting
USDA Service Center
Board meeting 3:00 pm**

Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:14 p.m.

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

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

Others present: John Parker, Denise Fletcher, Nyle Herbener, Barry Berg, and Brian Top

Agenda: MSP to approve by Woerman and Wolles. All ayes.

Minutes of July 11th meeting: MSP to approve by Wolles and Woerman. All ayes.

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

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

Activities Reports:

NRCS activity report by Nyle Herbener:

WETLANDS: Our current backlog is about 41 outstanding certified wetland determination requests, including 2 consultant requests.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):

Working on re-enrollments and new applications.

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP):

2 of the applications are now contracts. 2 were not funded due to requirements not being met.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP):

We are in process of funding 1 Ag. Waste Storage Facility through NWQI and 1 Grazing Management, Livestock Pipeline, Tanks, Cross Fencing and Cover Crop application through RCPP. Terrace applications will hopefully be funded this fall, after October 1st.

AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM (ACEP):

This application is almost completed. The area was re-surveyed and documents have been filed.

Big Sioux River – RCPP Report by Barry Berg:

Totals from 2013 through 4/1/16: **SRAM** – 1,290 acres or 129,635 linear feet (footage of stream protected). **RAM** – 124 acres or 28,625 linear feet. **CRP** – 119 acres or 17,688 linear feet. 5 Ag. Waste Management Systems are in the design phase. 2 RCPP Ag Waste Management Systems are planned to complete construction soon in Minnehaha County and 1 regular EQIP System in Brookings County.

OLD BUSINESS

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

Bio-solids - Approximately 800 acres to soil sample before freeze-up. Survival counts on trees will start on 8/10/16. 33 acres of trees are verbally committed for planting next year. 125 acres of grass seeding to do yet this year; and about 40 acres of dormant seeding. We are doing a lot of mowing and spraying. Discussion about a proposal for haying of the Gevik site.

2. Equipment (Replacement Trailers)

Drills are running and parts are ready to install on the mower. Prices for new trailers were discussed. MSP to buy 2 new trailers at a negotiated price by Wolles and Woerman. All ayes. MSP to put the old trailers up for sale by Wolles and Woerman. All ayes.

3. Mitigation Bank

John had attended a meeting about managing the Jandl Mitigation Bank Site. He will develop a Joint Powers document to address that.

4. Fall Convention

September 25 – 27th in Deadwood, SD at the Deadwood Lodge. Let John know if interested in attending.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Native Grass Wildlife Planting Grant

The old grant ended. MSP to apply for a native grass planting grant (with pollinator option) for one year by Woerman and Wolles. All ayes.

2. Soil Judging

Planned for October 4th, with October 5th as the rain date. Pits would be dug on September 30th and scored on October 3rd. John and Eugene will find a location. Pfeifer Implement will supply a back-hoe.

3. Endowment Fund Honoree – Merlyn Rennich

Merlyn retired from the Lincoln County Conservation District Board. MSP to donate \$100.00 to the endowment fund in Merlyn's honor by Wolles and Woerman. All ayes.

CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS

None

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Correspondence

MSP to adjourn at 4:35 p.m. by Woerman and Wolles. All ayes.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, September 12th, 2016 at 3:00 pm – USDA Service Center

Submitted by Denise Fletcher, District Office Assistant