

**Minnehaha Conservation District
September 12th, 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, Jim Pfeifer, and Bob Woerman

Supervisors absent: Jeff Oyen and Tom Wolles

Advisors present:

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

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

Agenda: MSP to approve with the addition of “Water Festival” under New Business by Pfeifer and Woerman. All ayes.

Minutes of August 8th meeting: MSP to approve by Woerman and Pfeifer. All ayes.

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

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

Activities Reports:

NRCS activity report by Nyle Herbener:

WETLANDS: Our current backlog is about 45 outstanding certified wetland determination requests, including 1 consultant request.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):

New applications are being worked on and need to be finished up this week.

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP):

This program has completely changed and training will be held in Brookings on Oct. 18 – 20th.

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. 10/21/16 is the batching deadline.

AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM (ACEP):

This application is not yet a full contract, but will close very soon.

Big Sioux River – RCPP Report by Barry Berg:

Totals from 2013 through 4/01/16: **SRAM** – 1,229 acres or 117,061 linear feet (footage of stream protected). **RAM** – 124 acres or 28,625 linear feet. **CRP** – 119 acres or 17,668 linear feet. 2017 Sign-up so far in all programs is 236.4 acres or 35,400 linear feet of stream protected.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Service Report (bio-solids, tree planting, grass planting, etc.)**
Bio-solids – there are about 800 acres to soil sample yet this fall. 25 – 32 acres of tree planting is planned for next year. About 10 acres of grass planting is left to do this week. There are about 300 acres of cover crop to plant with the 15' drill this fall. Some mowing is being done. 1/3 of the Gevik site was mowed this year. There is an agreement with Kyle Grace to mow a different 1/3 of the site each year.
2. **Equipment (Drill, Disc and Mower)**
Information was presented on purchasing a 26' drill for cover crops. The disc might need to be replaced and the old lawn mower is not running. More information will be brought to the next meeting.
3. **Mitigation Bank**
MSP to sign a Joint Powers agreement with Brookings County regarding North Central Mitigation by Pfeifer and Woerman. All ayes.
4. **Fall Convention**
This will be held on September 25 – 27th in Deadwood, SD. John Parker and Bob Woerman plan to attend.
5. **Soil Judging**
This will be held on October 4th.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Office Space**
The USDA Service Center building will be re-designed later this year. Some District records will need to be stored off-site.
2. **Review Pricing**
Discussion was held about price nursery price increases. This will be reviewed at the next meeting.
3. **Water Festival**
Financial reports were reviewed. The District will continue as a sponsor for this event.

CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS

9-1

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

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Correspondence

MSP to adjourn at 5:10 p.m. by Pfeifer and Johnson. All ayes.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, October 11th, 2016 (Due to Holiday on October 10th) at 3:00 pm –
USDA Service Center**

Submitted by Denise Fletcher, District Office Assistant