

**Minnehaha Conservation District
December 12th, 2016 Monthly Meeting
USDA Service Center
Board meeting 3:00 pm**

Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:12 p.m.

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

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

Others present: John Parker, Denise Fletcher, Deron Ruesch, Brian Top, Harlan Smith and Gordon Heber

Agenda: MSP to approve, with two additions, by Pfeifer and Oyen. All ayes.

Minutes of November 14th meeting: MSP to approve by Pfeifer and Oyen. All ayes.

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

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

Activities Reports:

NRCS activity report by Deron Ruesch:

A new time keeping method is being utilized – WebTA. Deron gave a re-cap of the November cover crop tour that was held in Minnehaha County. Remodeling of the office will probably begin soon.

WETLANDS: Our current backlog is about 54 outstanding certified wetland determination requests.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):

No report.

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP):

We are working on making payments.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP):

We are working on making payments and contract modifications.

AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM (ACEP):

No report.

Big Sioux River – RCPP Report by Brian Top:

Total potential SRAM for 2017 is about 342.3 acres, with projects on Willow Creek, Pipestone Creek, Skunk Creek, Colton Creek, Split Rock Creek and the Big Sioux River. 5 Ag. Waste Management Systems are currently in the design phase. 7 producers in Minnehaha County and 2 producers in Moody County are showing interest in Ag. Waste Management Systems. We will be able to fund terraces this round and have 6 producers in the area that have expressed interest in building terraces.

OLD BUSINESS

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

Bio-solids – We have a few hours to bill out this month. The City has the new contract for next year. 30 acres of trees are planned for next year. Grass – with the 10 ft. drill: 100 acres planned in Minnehaha Co. and 75 acres in Lincoln Co. are planned. There is interest in renting the 15 ft. and the 26 ft. drills. Spraying – 60 acres planned in Minnehaha Co. and 6 customers in Lincoln Co. are interested. The Extension Service will include the District's 26 ft. drill in promotional materials.

2. **Equipment (Great Plains Drill)**

There is a need for this drill, due to demand from customers. An instruction sheet will be developed to go with it. MSP to make the down payment on the drill by Oyen and Pfeifer. All ayes.

3. **December 15th Office Potluck**

This will be held at noon. All board members and advisors are invited.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Donation to Area Groups**

MSP by Oyen and Pfeifer to donate tree bundles to various groups requesting donations. All ayes.

2. **Newsletter**

We plan to put out a printed newsletter in January with the tree order form.

3. **Joint Powers Agreements with Union County and Lincoln County**

MSP to sign Joint Powers Agreements with Union County and Lincoln County by Oyen and Pfeifer. All ayes.

4. **State Nursery License**

MSP to pay the \$200.00 license fee by Pfeifer and Oyen. All ayes.

CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS

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

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Correspondence

MSP to adjourn at 4:55 p.m. by Pfeifer and Oyen. All ayes.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, January 9th 2017 at 3:00 pm – USDA Service Center

Submitted by Denise Fletcher, District Office Assistant