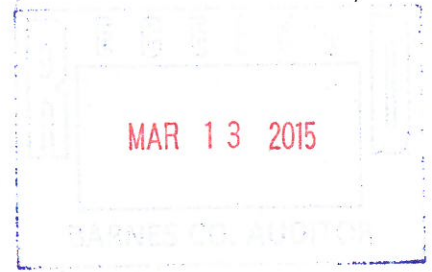


BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

www.barnes.nd.nacdnet.org

Minutes of Meeting

February 11, 2015
District Office / USDA Building
Valley City, ND 58072



Board Members Present:
Brad McKay, Chairman

Diane Olson, Vice Chairman
Charlene Stenson

Others: Lori Frank, 319 Coord.
Jason Elston, Tech.
Amanda Brandt, NRCS DC
Karen Oistad, Sec/Treas.
Mary Podoll, NRCS State Conservationist

The February meeting was called to order by Chairman McKay at 3:00 PM at the District Office in Valley City, ND. Chairman McKay welcomed NRCS State Conservationist Mary Podoll to our meeting. Ms. Podoll advised the Board of future programs that will be available through NRCS and thanked the Board for locally-led input.

Minutes of the January 15, 2015, Reorganizational meeting and the January 15 Regular meeting were reviewed and Chairman McKay declared those minutes approved as mailed.

FINANCIAL:

A list of bills paid during January 2015 was reviewed by the Board along with the Financial Report from January 2015. Olson made a motion, seconded by Stenson, to approve the bills paid and accept the January Financial Report. Voting: McKay, aye; Olson, aye; and Stenson, aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

From Diane Olson, ND Envirothon: Thank you for donation.

From NDASCD: Notification of Area II Meeting - March 11 at Richland County

To BEK Communications: Letter of support for installation in northern Barnes County.

REPORTS:

Office Report: District Conservationist Amanda Brandt submitted the attached report.

Watershed Report/Eco-Ed Report/Firewise: Lori Frank submitted the attached report.

Technician Report: Technician Elston submitted the attached report. The irrigation/ag waste pump was discussed as part of Jason's report. Olson made a motion, seconded by Stenson, to trade the reel for a smaller model, then add lights to both the reel and the lay-flat trailer, and to limit the use of the pump to Barnes County only. Voting: McKay, aye; Olson, aye; and Stenson, aye.

OLD BUSINESS:

Awards Banquet: We will be participating in the Chamber of Commerce Ag day On March 18 although it was suggested that we honor our award winners by taking them out for dinner. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

NDASCD Issues/Nursery License: The Board discussed conversations with Brian Johnston and Jim Cart as to the need for nursery licenses for districts. Olson has reviewed the "Nursery License" portion of the handbook with NDSSCC Scott Hochhalter. The ruling quoted in the handbook is still in effect.

NEW BUSINESS:

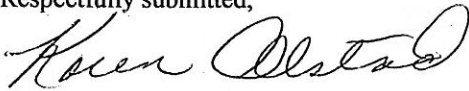
Insurance Coverage for Tree Shed: As a result of the recent modifications at the tree shed, Stenson made a motion, seconded by Olson, to increase the insurance coverage at the shed to \$113,500. Voting: McKay, aye; Olson, aye; and Stenson, aye. Motion carried. Olstad will contact our insurance agent.

Job Applications: The Board reviewed the 16 job applications we have received and selected 5 of the applicants for personal interviews. They will do the interviews on Tuesday, February 17th. Olstad will contact each of the applicants to confirm the time and date. Letters will also be sent to the unsuccessful applicants.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for March 11 which is the same date as the Area II meeting in Wahpeton. The date will have to be changed.

Respectfully submitted,



S/ Karen Olstad, Sec/Treas.

Approved:

3/10/15



NRCS Activity Report
to the
Barnes County Soil Conservation District Board
Date: February 11th 2015
By: Amanda Brandt - District Conservationist

The field office has been busy working on the following:

- Contracting preapproved 2015 EQIP applications, waiting to hear on WRE application funding. Ranking EQIP-Pollinator-Honey Bee & Prairie Pothole & Grassland Retention (PPW&GRP) applications.
- Taking Water Bank & CSP applications until Friday, February 27th and planning with producers on those acres.
- Checking out and submitting payment for completed conservation practices in EQIP, WRP & CSP Contracts. Completing modifications if needed.
- Determining Continuous CRP eligibility and developing plans, maps and seed sheets.

DEADLINES:

- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Deadline:**
 - Contracting deadline is March 13th for all preapproved EQIP's.
 - Local Work Group (LWG)
 - In Barnes County we have:
 - 21 EQIP-LWG applications (16 High Priority)
 - 1 Honey Bee Pollinator application-working on ranking.
 - 6 PPW&GRP applications- working on ranking.
 - 0 Energy, High Tunnel or Organic applications
- **Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE) deadline:**
 - Applications have been sent to Area office and now up to State office for review.
 - 14 applications were ranked, 2 applications were sent up.

- **Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CRP):**
 - State Acres For Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) & Farmable Wetland Program (FWP) - still acres available.
- We have 11 applications to check eligibility, develop plans, maps and seed sheets (if applicable) yet & Barb is always brining more over.

MEETINGS:

- Attended the Water Board meeting on Monday.
 - February 19th- All Area 2 NRCS personnel meeting- Jamestown
 - February 23rd- Hobart Lake Hearing- Water Board conference room (9:30) - Can't attend due to other meeting.
 - February 23rd- State Leadership Meeting (10-3)- Jamestown- Curt & I
 - February 26th- Technical Management Unit (TMU) meeting- 10-3 in Jamestown-I am attending.
 - March 11th- Area 2 SCD Meeting- Wahpeton- Alexandra & I.
- See brochures for upcoming producer meetings:
 - Tuesday, February 17th- Salinity & Soil Health Workshop in LaMoure- 9 am to noon.
 - Thursday February 26th- 3rd annual soil health workshop in Grand Forks- 8:30 to 5 p.m.

NEW NRCS Employee:

- NRCS State Office has hired a Soil Conservationist for Valley City, her name is Alexandra Reyes and her start date is February 23rd, however she will be in-route (driving) that week and will report physically to the office on March 2nd.

SCD Board Meeting
February 11, 2015

Outdoor Heritage Grant:

Working on Phase II application which is due April 1st

Contracted for 2015: 223,645.00

Velure – cross fence
Bartz – cross fence, contractor backed out
Eberle – cross fencing
D. Berntson – x-fence
Stensland – will rebid in early spring

Bjerke – cross fence
T. McFadgen – manure mgt, may chg location
D. Steffen – tank & pipeline
J. Elston – septic reno
Amann – portable windbreak

Completed Projects: \$98,566.16

Kjelland – septic reno
Sauer – critical area planting
Lausch – hayland pltg
Eberle – hayland pltg, wndbrk
PBJ Inc- cover crops
Steffen- pipeline, 2 tanks

Metcalf –diversion
Jungles-fence,pltg,well,pipeline
P.Heinze – septic
D.Berntson – dugout repair
Logan – critical area

Barnes Co Hwy-eroded sites
S.Smith – winter grazing
VC Parks- riverbank
J.Broten- cover crop
M.Berntson-cover crop

Remaining OHF Balance - \$27,433.84

319 Sedimentation Reduction Grant:

Expenditures 4-1-2014 to 1-31-2015 \$68,887.14

WILDFIRE Grant:

8 assessments & 3 renovations lined up for this spring
Have spent: \$50,474.56 (\$44,700.40 on BMP's)
Award was for \$300,000.00 We need to get it spent...

Eco-Ed:

No report

Donation for Lidar Terrain Analysis for the James River watershed? County Commission will give \$1000 if Water Board does! John Froelich is questioning if the amount of acres in Barnes County is correct!

319 denied the Valley City, Bjornson Golf Course request.

Finished Brad's power-point presentation for National Ag Day

March:

3rd – 8th Winter Show, do supervisors want to schedule their times?

3rd NDASCD Board of Directors meeting, Bismarck

11th Area II meeting, Wahpeton

17th-19th New Employee/Quickbooks Training, Tree Promotion/NDCDEA meeting, Bismarck

31st- April 2nd 319 Coordinators meeting, Bismarck

Technician Report-Feb. 2015

1. Tree Report-
 - a. 24 sites currently scheduled to machine plant
 - b. 85,408ft scheduled
 - c. 16,405 trees ordered
 - d. Weed barrier ordered-to be delivered this spring
2. Shed Repairs-photos –
 - a. Completed construction of shelving/repairs
 - b. Installed galvanized wire racking
 - c. Ordered all fittings to properly route sprinkler system
 - d. Will be completed next week
3. Reel Proposal-
 - a. Sent pictures to Hydro-engineering for trade in value on smaller reel. Still waiting on quote. New reel delivered is \$32,000 for ST4 reel. That number does not include trade in.
 - b. Lori's 319 grant will pay the difference to update reel.
 - c. We would use our current pump, gun, air purge kit and lay flat hose set up. Everything will transfer to new reel.
 - d. Lori and I agree that reel/pump should stay in Barnes County only. No exceptions. Reel is not designed to travel long distances and Barnes County is a perfect boundary.
 - e. I would suggest putting hazard lights on both lay flat trailer and new reel. I am currently trying to eliminate our need to use 3 vehicles to transport pump assembly and at some point this summer I will have it down to 2 vehicles to transport.
 - f. Producer cost to rent pump should stay the same since reel is smaller and will take roughly 40% longer to drain lagoons.
4. Ag Committee
 - a. Banquet @ Eagles March 18th (Wed) 11:45 to 1:00? Serve food 12:15 to 12:30- Buffet style
 - b. Soup/Sandwich type meal
 - c. SCD to do a slideshow presentation. Lori and I will be in Bismarck (Tree Promotion)
 - d. Next Committee meeting February 19th @ 7:30am