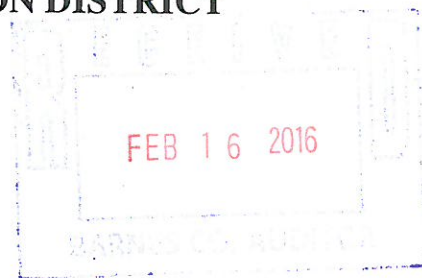


BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

www.barnes.nd.nacdnet.org

Minutes of Meeting
February 10, 2016
District Office / USDA Building
Valley City, ND 58072



Board Members Present:
Shelly Nelson – via phone
Diane Olson, Vice Chairman
Bill Bertram
Charlene Stenson

Others:
Perry Bollum – Area II Director
Lori Frank, 319
Stuart Blotter – Jamestown Area Office
Jill Olson, Sec/Treas
Amanda Brandt, DC

The February meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Olson at 4:10 pm at the District Office in Valley City, ND.

Minutes from the January 13, 2016 board meeting were reviewed and Vice Chairman Olson declared those minutes approved as mailed.

FINANCIALS:

A list of receipts and bills paid during January 2016, along with the outstanding bills due from producers were reviewed by the Board. Bertram made a motion to approve the financials with Stenson seconding it. All in favor aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Reviewed The Ladies Auxillary thank you note to the board and district.
2. Reviewed the ND Envirothon thank you letter.
3. Reviewed correspondence letter from Brian Johnston with the new date for Overall Conservation Award Winners.
4. Reviewed correspondence forwarded from Brian Johnston with a new budget proposal from President Obama.
5. Reviewed correspondence letter from Scott Hochhlater regarding the cut in the Technical Assistance budget.
6. Looked at various work shop training seminars and dates around the area including the Reclamation Conference put on by NDSU Extension Service.
7. Reviewed correspondence letter from Mary Podoll regarding the Mitigation Banking Program for Wetlands.

REPORTS:

Office Report: DC Amanda Brandt reported on the attached report. She stated that the CRP tree plantings are down. The water board meeting minutes are out on their website for all to review if interested. Our January grazing workshop was well attended with over 50 people attending. The office Disc assessment is coming up on February 18th. Cody Hoggarth – Farm Bill Specialist with be working out of the Valley City office once in a while to help on CRP and WRP. Cody is based out of the Jamestown office.

Technician Report: Jason has been finalizing tree plans for the spring of 2016. There has been quite a few hand plant orders that have come in.

Watershed Report: Lori spoke on her attached report. She has had some meetings with the local communities about Wildfire's and how the community can help prevent wildfires, more meetings to come. Tree promotion is right around the corner, with the finalized agenda coming out soon. Lori is putting a new look to our wintershow booth this year.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 2016 Annual Work Plan was signed after changes had been made and approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Earth Day Donation – Bertram made a motion to donate 2 bundles of trees to the event, Nelson second. All in favor aye, motion carried. Jill will contact Debbie Vollmuth with the donation.
2. Stuart Blotter from the Area office wanted to update everyone about the office status and that there will be another Soil Con. hired for the Valley City office. He also explained more about the partnership/contribution agreement on the Farm Bill Specialist status, duties and workloads. Lastly Stuart explained more on the Equip Program, how it has changed, sub grouped into 6 counties, ranked and funded. Barnes County doesn't have any contracts at this time that were funded but more monies to come.
3. Perry Bollum thanked the board for the invite to our monthly meeting. He also thank the district for sending him the monthly minutes every month. It's nice to know what all the districts are up to. Perry and Stuart talked about the Farm Bill Specialist/Farm Bill Biologist, the duties, training, to whom they report to which is the Association, and answered any question the board or the employees had regarding the position. Perry also discussed the Accredited Supervisor Training and to ensure that everyone have taken it.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2016 7am.

Respectfully submitted,

S/ Jill Olson, Sec/Treas.

Approved:

ALL PROGRAMS OF THE BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT ARE OFFERED ON A NON-DISCRIMINATORY BASIS, WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, RELIGION, SEX, MARITAL STATUS OR HANDICAP. ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



**NRCS Activity Report
to the
Barnes County Soil Conservation District Board**

Date: February 10th, 2016

By: Amanda Brandt - District Conservationist

The field office has been busy working on the following:

- Following up with contract holders on the progress of conservation practices being installed in 2015 and making payments on those completed.
- Finishing Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) contract payments for 2016- 2 left to pay.
- Developing Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) conservation plans, maps, grass seeding sheets and supporting documents for Continuous CRP applications. **26 Continuous CRP conservation plans and documents have been completed in 2016 in Barnes County.**

PROGRAMS:

- **Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General Sign up:**
 - General Signup from Dec. 1, 2015, through Feb. 26, 2016.
 - **43 offers** at FSA ready to submit, **8 offers** waiting for signatures before the offer can be submitted and **23 offers** not sure on acreage or grass cover. **So a possible of 74 General CRP's in Barnes County at this time.**
 - Continuous CRP: NRCS completed roughly 135 conservation plans, maps and seeding sheets in 2015 (not including applications deemed ineligible).
 - See Fact Sheet on 49th General CRP Signup
- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP):**
 - **Local Work Group (LWG) & State Funding pools:** Ranked 15 applications. None preapproved at this time (2/10/16).
 - **Prairie Pothole Wetland & Grassland Retention Project-**
 - Sign up deadline is February 19th 2016

- **Honey Bee Effort:**
 - Sign up deadline is February 19th 2016 & May 20th if funds are available.
- **Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP):**
 - Sign up deadline is March 31st 2016
- **Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE):**
 - Ranked 15 applications
- **Wetland Reserve Program (WRP):**
 - Offsite & Ownership Monitoring of WRP's are due March 31st- We have 10 to complete.
 -

OTHER:

Water Board Meeting- Monday February 8th:

- See the Meeting Minutes from the January meeting (printed 2 copies). All meeting minutes for the Water Board can be found on their website.

Grazing for the Winter Workshop- Thursday January 14th 2016 at the Eagles. 50+ people showed up. Very good workshop (I thought)! Thanks again to Lori for spearheading it.

Secretary Vilsack announced the Mitigation Banking Program for Wetlands on January 28th 2016. Sign up deadline is March 28th 2016. See the hand out's for more information.

MEETINGS/FIELD DAYS:

- Attended the Civil Rights Meetings in Bismarck- January 11th - 12th
- Attending an EQIP Ranking Review meeting in Steele- January 13th
- Attended the Water Board Meeting- February 8th
- **DISC Assessment coming up Thursday February 18th from 11 am to 3:30 pm in our conference room.**
- District Conservationist meeting in Jamestown- February 25th - Amanda
- North Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society Annual meeting- Curt is attending
- See Flyers for upcoming workshops and trainings.

SCD Board Meeting
February 10, 2016, 2016

Outdoor Heritage Grant/319:

Phase II - \$63,547.13 has been paid out
\$136,452.87 remaining balance
\$55,288.44 under contract

319 Grant:

\$21,608.40 under contract

Contracted for 2015:

OHF - (cost-share)

Bjerke - cross-fence
Diegel - pipeline, tanks
Wittenberg - grassed waterway
D. Berntson - x-fence
D. Steffen - tank & pipeline
K. Marler - cover crops
B. Roerich - fence, cover crop, hay pltg, tank
T. Velure - x-fence

*waiting on payment

319 - (cost-share)

Pritchett - septic reno-7/8 done
Severson - septic reno
M. Heinze - portable panels
J. Elston - septic reno
* K. Marler - portable wndbrk

Not under contract yet:

9th St Project - erosion control
T. Eggert - fence, cover crop

McFadgen - manure mgt.
R. Hunter - well, tank

Wildfire Grant:

Met with Fingal City Council
Held mtg for sub-divisions south of V.C.
4 assessments to do this spring

Eco-Ed: working with Mandan FO ☺

January:

14th - Grazing Workshop (cover crops)

February:

18th - DISC Training
24th - Area V Meeting, Killdeer
25th - 319/Corp of Eng. Meeting

March:

2nd - Area I Meeting, Nelson Co.
5th - 12th - Winter Show
7th - Kathryn & Litchville City Council Meetings
9th - NDASCD Meeting
16th & 17th - Tree Promotion Meeting
29th - Water Festival, Prairie Waters
30th & 31st - 319 Coordinators Meeting