

BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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Minutes of Meeting

April 13, 2016

District Office / USDA Building
Valley City, ND 58072

APR 15 2016

Board Members Present:

Brad McKay, Chairman
Diane Olson, Vice Chairman
Bill Bertram
Charlene Stenson
Shelly Nelson

Others:

Jason Elston, Technician
Lori Frank, 319
Jill Olson, Sec/Treas

The April meeting was called to order by Chairman McKay at 7:05 am at the District Office in Valley City, ND.

Minutes from the March 23, 2016 board meeting were reviewed and Chairman McKay declared those minutes approved as mailed.

FINANCIALS:

A list of receipts and bills paid during March 2016, along with the outstanding bills due from producers were reviewed by the Board. Jill drafted a letter to those producers that were significantly delinquent which then resulted in one producer finally paying his bill in full. Bertram made a motion to approve the financials with Stenson seconding it. All in favor aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. The USDA –NRCS memo was handed out to all supervisors to review.
2. Brian Johnston memo stating the dates have been set for the November Convention.
3. KLJ memo on the new bridge construction for Faust Dam Bridge starting some time in 2016.
4. Jill has been working with Augie – auditor from Bismarck on the annual financials. Suggestions and changes to be made.

REPORTS:

Office Report: DC Amanda Brandt was unable to attend the meeting today. See attached report submitted.

Technician Report: Jason has had the drill out and delivered to some producers this spring already. He and Jill started flagging for trees this week. Scheduled pickup for trees is April 14 in Towner and April 15th for Lincoln Oakes. Handplant orders will be sorted and packaged on April 18th and 19th with a scheduled pickup date for Thursday April 21st. Ordered 1 pallet of coconut mats for resale. Weed barrier rolls to be delivered next week as well. Hired a new tractor driver, Kelly Lang, and hired a college football player to help with weed barrier rolls in May. Jason anticipates starting to plant trees on April 25 if the weather permits.

Watershed Report: Lori spoke about her attached report. She has been working on a brochure for Hiring & Retaining SCD employees which includes pros and cons, generalization of wages, medical insurance and retirement statistics.

OLD BUSINESS:

Evaluations: The supervisors met with the individual employees on their personal written evaluations at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. One of the Dacotah Bank CD's is due at this time. Nelson made a motion to leave the CD at Dacotah Bank for the time being and when the time comes next year for renewal, to have rates from other local banks available to determine where the CD would be best deposited to earn the district the most interest. Stenson second motion. All in favor aye. Motion carried.
2. Overall Conservation winners due in May. This was tabled until the next meeting. The board along with the employees will be doing more research for the upcoming May meeting.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for May 10, 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: April 13th 2016

By: Amanda Brandt - District Conservationist

The field office has been busy working on the following:

- Sending out 2016 Practice reminder letters for contract holders.
- 5% Food Security Act HEL/WC Spot Checks- 35 on list so far and I need to add 2015 FSA potential wetland violations yet. 75 total- Ron Thom & Craig Middleton from the NRCS Area Office (Jamestown) have been doing the actual field checks.

PROGRAMS:

- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP):**
 - **Local Work Group (LWG) & State Funding pools:** Ranked 15 applications. 2 have been preapproved at this time (4/8/16).
 - Working on contracting.
 - **Prairie Pothole Wetland & Grassland Retention Project:**
 - 2 applications in Barnes County have been ranked. Waiting to hear on preapprovals.
- **Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP):**
 - Barnes County currently has 12 applications. Ranking deadline is May 13th.
- **Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE):**
 - Ranked 15 applications, waiting to hear on preapprovals.
- **Water Bank Sign up (WBP):**
 - \$50/ac- Cropland, \$35/ac- Range or Pasture
 - Barnes County has 8 applications. Waiting to hear if any have been funded.

- **Working Wetlands Pilot Program (WWPP):**
 - Barnes County has 12 applications. 1 application has been approved for funding so far.

OTHER:

Water Board Meeting- Monday April 11th- I didn't attend.

- All meeting minutes for the Water Board can be found on their website.

Participated in the National Civil Rights Review in the Fargo Field Office on April 12th

SCD Board Meeting
April 13th, 2016

Outdoor Heritage Grant/319:

Phase II - \$63,547.13 - has been paid out
\$136,452.87 - remaining balance
-\$109,774.62 - under contract
\$26,678.25 - balance

319 Grant:

2014 Grant \$305,205.00

\$150,460.46 -used as of 3/31/2016 \$30,665.40 -under contract \$124,079.14 balance

Contracted for 2016: OHF - (cost-share)

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

319 - (cost-share)

Elston - septic
Fiebeger - septic
Eggert - windbreak
Heinze - windbreak
Pritchard - septic
Severson - septic

Not under contract yet:

9th St Project – erosion control S. Nelson - septic
R. Hunter – well, tank *McFadgen – manure mgt. - \$175,000
S. Nelson - septic

Money for cover crop seed for salinity plot & demonstration site?

Wildfire Grant: Leal & Oriska City Council meetings set

Total Expenditures - \$120,154.25 Total In-Kind - \$119,880.64 3-31-16 Balance - \$179,845.75
Under Contract - \$14,915.00 Un-Obligated Funds - \$164,930.75

APRIL:

5th – Area II Meeting, Forman
12th – Leal, FW
18th- 22nd – vacation ☺
27th – Sandness - Wittenberg mtg

MAY:

2nd – Oriska, FW
11th-13th - Envirothon