

BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

[www.barnes.nd.nacdn.net.org](http://www.barnes.nd.nacdn.net)

Minutes of Meeting

May 10, 2016

District Office / USDA Building

Valley City, ND 58072

MAY 18 2016

Board Members Present:

Shelly Nelson
Diane Olson, Vice Chairman
Bill Bertram
Charlene Stenson

Others:

Amanda Brandt, DC
Lori Frank, 319
Jill Olson, Sec/Treas

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

Minutes from the April 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 April 2016, along with the outstanding bills due from producers were reviewed by the Board. Bertram made a motion to approve the financials with Nelson seconding it. All in favor aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. None at this time.

REPORTS:

Office Report: DC Amanda Brandt handed out the attached report. She is still the only NRCS employee in the office with a heavy workload. The SCD Board is concerned that NRCS is not staffing the office appropriately and that producer's needs are not being met. The SCD Board will be contacting Stuart Blotter the Area conservationist to set up a meeting to address the concerns. See attached report submitted.

Technician Report: Jason and Jill are over half done with the tree planting sites. Have a new tractor driver this year. Surplus tree sale will be May 20th 9am. New college student will be starting Monday May 16th for weed barrier application. We won't be planting 1 site this year due to wet conditions.

Watershed Report: Lori spoke about her attached report. Greg Sandness will be attending out next meeting in June to visit with the board and answer any questions they have.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Overall Conservation Winner for Barnes County – after some discussion, Bertram made a motion with a second by Stenson to nominate Robert and Anne Bruns as the overall conservation winner. All in favor aye, motion carried. Information will be submitted by the end of the week to Kathy in Bismarck.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. NRSC Technical Assistance Agreement. After discussion, Nelson made a motion to pursue this agreement for 1 yr. with NRSC. Stenson second the motion. All in favor, aye. Motion carried. Amanda and Lori will be submitting the information monthly.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2016 8am.

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: May 10th 2016

By: Amanda Brandt - District Conservationist

The field office (Amanda) has been busy trying to keep up with program deadlines, answering daily questions (phone calls), submitting wetland determination requests, potential wetland violation validity checks, trainings, making practice payments on current contracts and ranking CSP's just to name a few things...

PROGRAMS:

- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP):**
 - **Local Work Group (LWG) & State Funding pools:** Ranked 15 applications, two were preapproved on 4/8/16. Waiting to hear back from one on continuing with contracting.
 - **Prairie Pothole Wetland & Grassland Retention Project:**
 - 2 applications in Barnes County were ranked. Waiting to hear on preapprovals.
- **Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP):**
 - Barnes County currently has 10 applications. Ranking deadline is Friday (May 13th). 6 out of 10 have been ranked as of today.
- **Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE):**
 - Ranked 15 applications. Offer is being made to one app. on 418 acres as of 5/5/16. Will be working on contracting that offer once accepted.
- **Water Bank Sign up (WBP):**
 - \$50/ac- Cropland, \$35/ac- Range or Pasture
 - Barnes County had 7 applications. Offers are being made, none in Barnes County yet (5/9/16).
- **Working Wetlands Pilot Program (WWPP):**
 - Barnes County had 12 applications. 1 application has been approved for funding and contracted so far.

OTHER:

Water Board Meeting- Monday May 9th. I attended.

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

I will be out at a Training in Ardmore, Oklahoma next week- May 16th to 20th.

NRCS & SCD Contribution Agreement Proposal- Due May 20th 2016.

SCD Board Meeting
May 10, 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
 \$172,374.50 -used as of 4/30/2016 \$24,726.00 -under contract \$108,104.50-balance

Contracted for 2016:	OHF - (cost-share)	319 - (cost-share)
	Berntson – x fence	Elston - septic
	Bjerke – x fence	Fiebeger – septic, completed
	Diegel – pipeline, tanks	Eggert - windbreak
	Eggert – cc, fence, pipeline, tanks, well	Heinze - windbreak
	Jungles - cc	Severson - septic
	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 – G. Sandness was out to site	

Not under contract yet:

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

Project will be offering scholarships to attend the Range Management School – see flyer

Wildfire Grant:

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

Will be heading out to start assessments as schedule allows.

MAY:

11th-13th – Envirothon

JUNE:

3rd – Range Tour
 21st – Area III Mtg. – Minot
 22-23rd – All Personnel Mtg – Jamestown
 27-29th – Range/pasture Training - Jamestown