

BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

www.barnes.nd.nacdnet.org

Minutes of Meeting

December 20, 2016

District Office / USDA Building
Valley City, ND 58072

DEC 23 2016

Board Members Present:

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

Others:

Amanda Brandt, DC
Lori Frank, 319
Jill Olson, Sec/Treas
Jason Elston, Tech
Cody Hoggarth, Farm Speiclist
Paul Flahave, Wetlands Specialist

The December meeting was called to order by Chairman McKay at 3:05 pm at the District Office in Valley City, ND. Minutes from the November 9th, 2016 board meeting were reviewed and Chairman McKay declared those minutes approved as mailed.

FINANCIALS:

A list of receipts and bills paid during November 2016, along with the outstanding bills due from producers were reviewed by the Board. It was noted that the BMP team checking account can be added to the financial statement since the District funded that account. By adding that, it would show an accurate amount that the District still has in available funds. Bertram made a motion to accept the amended financial statement as presented with Nelson seconding it. All in favor aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. St. Kates thank you for donating gift certificates for free trees.
2. 2016 NDASCD Annual Report given to Brad and Bill since they were unable to attend the annual convention.

REPORTS:

Office Report: DC Amanda Brandt discussed her attached report with the board. She also introduced Paul Flahave, Wetlands Specialist who started Dec 12th and be working out of the Valley City office.

Technician Report: Jason has been doing some CSP and CRP checks for Amanda. He has been meeting with producers and working on their tree plans from their fire wise renovations. CRP trees discussed from last meeting are still on hold and in limbo with FSA. He also discussed some possible upcoming maintenance or enhancements for the tree shed.

Watershed Report: Lori spoke about her attached report. See report. The Annual convention was great! There were a lot of compliments on our display.

There are 3 BMP's to review at this time. The board reviewed each one, Olson made a motion to accept all 3 BMP requests, Bertram second the motion, all in favor aye, motion carried.

Water Board Report: Nelson wasn't able to attend the December meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. NDASCD Convention Reports: Nelson stated that she enjoyed the State Budget meeting, it was interesting to find out how much the protest was costing the state and the proposed tax cuts. Stenson attended the same meeting and liked the business planning spread sheet one of the districts uses and stated we could possibly put together something like it for our office. Stenson also attended the seminar on the Difference between Right and Wrong. Jill attended the same meeting as Stenson and Nelson. Jill also reported that the Tech Grant funding will be reduced and if you don't rank high enough, you won't get any funds for the next session. Olson attended the Envirothon meeting and stated that Dane Buysse, the new coordinator was going a great job. The Auction was a huge success. Amanda stated that the Key Note Speaker, Katie Pinke was excellent. Overall it was a good convention.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Lori's insurance agreement was reviewed, she wanted to add her husband to her policy in February 2017. Since this agreement was drawn up, Lori and the district found out that her husband still has cobra coverage until May so this has been tabled until April 2017.
2. Jill and Amanda have been working on the contribution agreement. We have now submitted hours for October and November. The first few months of working through this agreement have been trying, but once they get everything figured out, it should be better when submitted monthly.
3. The new NDASCD President Kelli Schumacher sent out an email regarding Legislative Day in Bismarck on February 1st. The Districts are encouraged to bring a display from their county for the day to show activities and achievements. The Association is also asking for donations to help sponsor the day. McKay made a motion to donate \$100 to the Associate to help with costs. Olson second the motion, all in favor aye, motion carried. Jill will be mailing a check to the treasure Darci Gahner.
4. Evaluations: The board met with each employee to review their performance for 2016 and decided to give them a 2% raise starting in January 2017.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2017 4:00 pm.

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: December 20th, 2016

By: Amanda Brandt - District Conservationist

The field office has been busy answering daily questions (phone calls) & walk-ins, putting together EQIP application files as well as ranking WRE applications.

PROGRAMS:

EQIP- Local Work Group (LWG): Will be working on ranking the applications, ranking is due January 6th 2017.

- 19 EQIP applications on file at this time.
 - Cropland: 6 applications
 - Grassland: 3 applications

EQIP- Beginning Farmer, AFO, Irrigation, Socially Disadvantaged and High Tunnel applications.

- Will be working on ranking the applications, ranking is due January 20th 2017.
 - Beginning Farmer (BF): 6 applications
 - AFO: 3 applications
 - Certified Organic: 1 application

CSP- Sign up deadline is February 3rd 2017. We sent out 11 deferral letters in October to the applicants we have on file. I have only heard back from one person interested in applying so far.

CRP- Cody Hoggarth has been coming over to work on eligibility and writing conservation plans for Continuous CRP's for 2018.

WRE: Sign up ended on November 18th 2016. We have 19 applications. Matt and I are working on ranking the applications and getting the files together to be reviewed by the Area Office Biologist.

MEETINGS:

- See handout.

OTHER:

- January 10th 2017- Grazing Workshop- Eagles

NEW:

- Paul Flahave: he is the Designated Conservationist for Wetlands located in the Valley City Office.

SCD Board Meeting
December 20th, 2016

OUTDOOR HERITAGE FUND: Phase II

2015 Grant \$200,000.00

\$181,946.74 - Paid out (\$40,965.04 paid out in December)

\$ 18,053.26- remaining balance

-\$ 31,445.19 - under contract

(shortfall will be paid out with 319 funds)

-13,391.93 – Balance

Contracts:

2016 Diegel – pipeline, tanks, spr dev. Contract deadline 12/30/16

2017 Berntson – x fence K. Marler – Cover Crop

K. Helland – x fence B. Roehrich – x fence

D. Steffen – fence T. Velure – x fence

*Wittenberg- waterway –dirt work will be paid in Jan

319 SHEYENNE SEDIMENTATION REDUCTION:

2014 Grant \$305,205.00

\$254,707.26 –Paid out

\$4032.00 -under contract

\$13,391.93 OHF shortage

\$33,073.81 -Balance

Contracts:

Eggert - windbreak

ECO-ED GRANT:

October - 13 counties paid \$32,988.17 \$760.70 for Coordinator Salary

November – 13 counties paid \$43,780.06 \$420.81 for Coordinator Salary

December – 3 counties to be paid \$4,029.29 \$194.22 for Coordinator Salary \$44,897.45 - Balance

(Wells County has not sent in paperwork yet)

FIREWISE GRANT:

\$300,000.00 - Initial Grant

\$170,195.71- Paid Out \$21,701.56 -to be paid \$18,823.63-under contract \$89,279.10 - Balance

Not under contract yet: City of Leal, Kurt Reidman

NPS BMP TEAM:

Forest River – Eden Township

Antelope Creek – BDR Farms/ Langseth

NOVEMBER:

20-22nd – NDASCD Convention

BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Minutes of Reorganizational Meeting
Tuesday, December 20, 2016
District/NRCS Offices
Valley City, ND 58072

Present:

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

Others:

Jill Olson, Dist. Sec/Treasurer

This Re-organizational meeting was called by Chairman McKay at 4:15 p.m.

Nelson made a motion seconded by Stenson to re appoint Bill Bertram and Brad McKay back to the board for the 2017 year. All in favor aye, motion carried. Bertram stated he is going to retire from the board. He has asked Pete Paulson to considered replacing him. Pete will be asked to attend the next board meeting held on January 11th 2017 to see if he is interested in joining the board. Jill will send out a letter to Pete inviting him. McKay also stated that he will be resigning his position at some point. McKay will be looking for his replacement.

Stenson made a motion to appoint Jill Olson to the office of secretary/treasurer of the Barnes County SCD. Olson seconded the motion. All in favor aye, motion carried.

Stenson made a motion to appoint Brad McKay as Chairman of the board, Bertram second the motion. All in favor aye, motion carried.

Stenson made a motion to appoint Diane Olson as Vice Chairman of the board, McKay second the motion. All in favor aye, motion carried.

The standing committee assignments on the 2016 Annual Work Plan were reviewed by the Board. Nelson made a motion to leave the assigned committees the same at this time, Olson second the motion. All in favor aye, motion carried. As far as the rest of the Annual Work Plan, the board decided to table it due to some upcoming changes in the office and staff.

Olson made a motion, seconded by Nelson, to schedule the regular Barnes Co. SCD meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Spring, Summer, Fall meetings at 7 or 8am and Winter meetings at 4pm, same as last year. All in favor, aye, motion carried.

Olson made a motion, seconded by Bertram to keep Wells Fargo Bank, Valley City, as official depository for District funds. This will include the main checking account, the livestock waste checking account, and a savings account. One Certificate of Deposit remains at Dacotah Bank in Valley City. All in favor aye. Motion carried.

The Re-organizational meeting for 2017 was concluded at 4:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

S/

Jill Olson
Secretary/Treasurer/Clerk
Approved: