

BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

www.barnes.nd.nacdnet.org

Minutes of Meeting

March 13, 2017

District Office / USDA Building
Valley City, ND 58072

MAR 22 2017

Board Members Present:

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

Others:

Amanda Brandt, DC
Lori Frank, 319
Jill Olson, Sec/Treas
Peter Paulson
Jason Elston, Tech

The March meeting was called to order by Chairman McKay at 4:05 pm at the District Office in Valley City, ND. Minutes from the February 8th, 2017 board meeting were reviewed and Chairman McKay declared those minutes approved as mailed.

FINANCIALS:

A list of revised receipts and bills paid during January 2017, were reviewed by the Board. It was noted that Jill updated the 2017 budget reflecting the 3% increase and added 2 additional bills to the report. D. Olson made a motion to accept the revised January financials as presented and Stenson second the motion. All in favor aye, motion carried. The 2017 February financial report was reviewed. Bertram made a motion to accept the February 2017 financial statement as presented with Stenson seconding it. All in favor aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Reviewed the new Tech Grant ranking numbers with the board. Barnes Co. is ranked 31st.
2. Area II meeting invite was presented. Charlene, Brad, Diane, Pete, Jill and Amanda will be attending in Fargo.
3. Reviewed NDSCD memos – referencing area II meetings and election of directors.
4. Reviewed NDSCD 2016 Proceedings and reports – gave the board a copy to review
5. Reviewed NACD 2017 Resolution draft – gave a copy to the board for review.
6. Reviewed NDIRF – Annual meeting invite for NDIRF members.

REPORTS:

Office Report: DC Amanda Brandt discussed her attached report with the board.

Technician Report: Jason reported that we have approximately 74,900 foot of trees to plant which is about 20,000 trees ordered. Regarding CRP Trees going forward Jason requested that FSA have Measurement Services contracted to measure the fields ahead of planting. He will check with David Shea on Measurement Services. Jason will be putting an ad in the Times Record for a Seasonal Tractor driver and will be contacting Bob Anderson at VSCU for a possible seasonal weed barrier worker. Jason will also be attending the tree promotion this week.

Watershed Report: Lori spoke about her attached report. She also handed out a breakdown of funds left in the 319 grant and how long they will last. This gave the board an estimated timeline for how long Lori will be with the district. Jill was asked to contact Scott Hochhalter about the procedure for when Lori leaves, including a possible resignation letter.

Water Board Report: None at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. BMP Grant – Jason did visit with Greg Sandness. After much discussion, Greg did stated that the BMP Grant can be sponsored by another district and that it can be moved during the current grant time. Jason stated that he is not interested in administering the grant and has no interest in being a 319 Coordinator. After some discussion with the board, Stenson made a motion to move the BMP grant to another sponsor. McKay second the motion. All in favor aye, motion carried. McKay will call Greg Sandness to let him know that Barnes Co. would like to transfer the sponsorship to another district.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Bill Bertram presented his official retirement notification to the board. The board thanked Bill for his 13 years of service. D. Olson made a motion to accept Bill's retirement notification, Stenson second the motion. All in favor aye, motion carried.
2. Peter Paulson was nominated to replace Bill Bertram's open position on the Barnes County SCD board. This is an appointed position. D. Olson made a motion to accept the appointment of Peter Paulson, Stenson second the motion. All in favor aye, motion carried. Welcome Peter Paulson.
3. EQIP special project ranking questions were reviewed by the board. These questions are the revised and approved questions submitted to and reviewed by Tracy Dove.
4. Barnes Co. SCD has a Certificate of Deposit due at Dacotah Bank on 03/18/17. Jill checked on current rates for the upcoming renewal. The current certificate renews at 11 months at a 6 month rate. Dacotah Bank can write the Certificate for a 12 month certificate with the 12 month rate of .40%. D. Olson made a motion to renew the Certificate for 12 months at the 12 month rate, Stenson second the motion. All in favor aye, motion carried.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for April 12th 2017 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
S/ Jill Olson, Sec/Treas.
Approved: 03/20/2017

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: March 13th, 2017

By: Amanda Brandt - District Conservationist

The field office has been busy Contracting EQIP's for Fiscal Year 2017, reviewing CRP payment paperwork, reviewing CSP paperwork for 2016 completed enhancements and making those payments, and go through the new questionnaire process with producers for CSP.

PROGRAMS:

EQIP- Local Work Group (LWG): We have been working on the contracts, conservation plans and other paperwork for 2017.

- 8 EQIP applications originally. 2 cancelled out, so now 6 total LWG applications.
 - Cropland: **1 contract submitted for approval & still working on one to submit.**
 - Grassland: **1 contract submitted for approval.**

EQIP- Beginning Farmer, Certified Organic & Animal Feeding Operation (AFO) applications

- Beginning Farmer (BF): 5 applications, 3 cancelled, now 2 applications- Priority-None.
 - **1 contract submitted for approval.**
- AFO: 3 applications- 2 deemed Ineligible by AO and 1 ranked- waiting to hear.
 - **1 preapproved for funding- working on contracting this one. Deadline is March 24th 2017.**
- Certified Organic: 1 application-
 - **1 preapproved for funding- working on contracting this one. Deadline is March 24th 2017.**

EQIP- Special Project:

- Sign up deadline: May 19th 2017
 - In between May and June, onsite field visits need to be made (test EC readings, develop seeding and cover mixes, measure proposed fences, etc.).
- Ranking deadline: June 2nd 2017
- Preapproval deadline: June 9th 2017
- Submit to Area office for review: July 21st 2017

Natural Resources Conservation Service
VALLEY CITY SERVICE CENTER
110 WINTER SHOW ROAD SW, SUITE 3
VALLEY CITY, ND 58072-4034

Phone: (701) 845 – 3114 ext. 3 Fax: (855) 561 – 7866

Helping People Help the Land

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

CSP- Sign up deadline was February 3rd 2017- Ranking deadline is April 17th.

- 12 people signed applications, 7 questionnaires filled out by producers. 5 entered into our new tool (CAET) so far. Deadline was extended to April 17th for us to rank the applications.

CRP- Cody Hoggarth has been coming over to work on eligibility and writing conservation plans for Continuous CRP's for 2018. He has also been helping me with CSP questionnaires and other programmatic work.

CRP- Grasslands Program:

- Received one to work on conservation plan and other required forms for FSA.

WRE: 10 WRE applications are at the state office being reviewed for funding.

MEETINGS:

- See flyers for all upcoming meetings.

Acronyms:

EQIP: Environmental Quality Incentives Program

CSP: Conservation Stewardship Program

WRE: Wetland Reserve Easement

CRP: Conservation Reserve Program

AFO: Animal Feeding Operation (feedlot)

EC: Electric Conductivity

SCD Board Meeting
March 13th, 2017

OUTDOOR HERITAGE FUND: Phase II

2015 Grant \$200,000.00

\$ 8,828.56- remaining - 15,935.19 - under contract -7,106.63- Balance

Contracts:

2017 Berntson – x fence K. Marler – Cover Crop
K. Helland – x fence B. Roehrich – x fence
D. Steffen – fence T. Velure – x fence

Greg Sandness will be looking at possible additional funds. Will know sometime in March.

319 SHEYENNE SEDIMENTATION REDUCTION:

2014 Grant \$305,205.00

\$273,140.41 –Paid out \$7,106.63 - OHF shortage \$29,393.47-Balance

Possible Projects-

B. Roehrich - portable windbreak R. Larson – cross-fence
D. Steffen – spring dev. & tank K. Amann – pipeline & tank

ECO-ED GRANT:

1 spring camp coming up \$44,102.93- Balance

Joe Gross working on dividing up Trackers

FIREWISE GRANT:

\$300,000.00 - Initial Grant

\$201,884.33- Paid Out \$12,081.33 -under contract \$86,034.34 - Balance

NPS BMP TEAM:

Water Commission Funds: \$100,000.00 0.00 – Balance

319 Funds: \$321,000.00 \$316,261.26 - Balance

Joe Gross working on dividing up Trackers

March

5th -12th –Winter Show

10th – SE Central Regional Science & Engineering Fair – Jamestown

21st – Water Festival, Prairie Waters

April

NDDoH - Stevens site visit

20th – Earth Day, door hangers!

KLJ – mitigation location

May

10-12th – Envirothon?