

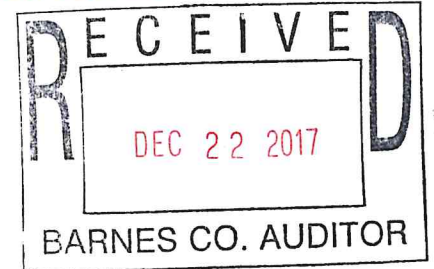
# BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

## Minutes of Meeting

November 8th, 2017

District Office / USDA Building  
Valley City, ND 58072



### Board Members Present:

Pete Paulson  
Diane Olson, Vice Chairman  
Charlene Stenson  
Shelly Nelson

### Others:

Amanda Brandt, DC  
Jill Olson, Sec/Treasurer  
Jason Elston, Tech

The November meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman D. Olson at 8:10 am at the District Office in Valley City, ND. Minutes from the October, 2017 board meeting were reviewed and Vice Chairman D. Olson declared those minutes approved as mailed.

### FINANCIALS:

A list of receipts and bills paid during October 2017, were reviewed by the Board. Nelson made a motion to accept the October 2017 financial statement as presented with Paulson seconding it. All in favor aye. Motion carried.

### CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Water hand out from Jim Collins
2. County Budget – 2018 Mil Levy approved

### REPORTS:

**Office Report:** DC Amanda Brandt gave her attached report. See attached report. Amanda and Jill will be also looking at hosting a grazing workshop sometime in January. Amanda also discussed the Technical Assistance Grant that was send out by Roger Christenson. The district has decided that this is something we do not need at this time.

**Technician Report:** Jason handed out his attached report. See report.

### OLD BUSINESS:

1. The Task force sent an invite to Jill Olson to present her Eco Ed grant on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:45am. Dustin Krueger also received an invitation to present his 319 Watershed grant for Barnes County. He will present around 9:30am. Discussion was had and some of the Barnes Co. SCD board members will be attending the task force meeting in support of the grants. Jill also reviewed the current Eco Ed grant with the board. There is a shortage of funds to reimburse the remaining districts that have submitted their reports. Jill is working with Greg Sandness on a new contract with more funds from other 319 programs to help cover this shortage.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Shed cooler quote – Jason had Bakkegard and Schell give the board a quote for a new cooler unit. Discussion was had about the current amount money spend on the maintenance of the cooler. Jason explained that in the next 2 years, Bakkegard and Shell will not be able to service our existing cooler due to the coolant will become obsolete and the cooler is very old. The board has asked Jason to get a second quote from Keith's Refrigeration for the next board meeting for further discussion.
2. Credit Card options for the district. With fewer and fewer checks being written, there have been producers that have inquired if the district accepts debit/credit cards. Jill discussed a few options with the board. One being utilizing an attachment for cell phones. Jill will be checking into more information for the district on the cell phone attachment and fees associated with this service.
3. Local Work Group Questions, Amanda and the Board discussed the presented questions. At this time there were no changes. As for the screening too, that was left up to Amanda to decide to utilize or not.
4. Resolutions that will be presented at the Nov. Conference were discussed. The board members attending the conference will be voting in agreement with each other on these at their business meeting at the Nov. Conference.

### ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for December 18<sup>th</sup> 2017 2:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

S/ Jill Olson, Sec/Treas.

Approved: 12.18.17



United States Department of Agriculture

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

Date: November 8<sup>th</sup> 2017

By: Amanda Brandt--District Conservationist

**PROGRAMS:**

**EQIP:**

- Following up on completed practices that were scheduled for 2017
- Meeting producers in the field for possible new EQIP's, scheduling appointments and GPSing completed practices or possible planned practices (fences, trees, pipelines, etc.).
- Local Work Group EQIP deadline: Sign up deadline is November 17<sup>th</sup> 2017
- Field checking the Working Wetlands Pilot Program fields which had corn on them when the reviews were completed last month.

**CSP:**

- Working with producers on getting required documentation to us for payments.
- Field checking all fields for CSP producers to check on compliance with the program. Jason & Cody have helped out a lot on these.
- Sent letters to producers interested in CSP last year and if they want to sign up for 2018 CSP.

**CSP- renewals**

- Barnes County had one CSP renewal. Melissa worked very hard to get this completed and I am in the process of reviewing it. Completed deadline has been extended due to our system not functioning yet.

**CRP:**

- Field checks for Emergency CRP haying have been completed.

**WRP/WRE:**

- Field checks for WRP fields that were cut for emergency hay are almost completed.

**Highly Erodible Lands (HEL):**

- Victoria has been working on HEL conservation plans for producers who have had CRP expire on highly erodible land fields.

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.

**Office Staff:**

- Everyone has been working together to get things completed, such as field checks, meeting with producers and taking calls about dormant seeding's.

**Other:**

- Local Work Group EQIP Ranking Questions- I sent them by email to all of you to look at and get back to me with edits, updates, etc.
- CRP Soil Rental Rates- New as of 10/2/17- See report.
- National Associate of Conservation Districts- Technical Assistance Grants packet from Jill.
  - Roger Christenson's email says "NACD has recently made a cooperate agreement with NRCS to help local districts hire help for technical assistance for EQIP implementation. Applications will start to be accepted November 1<sup>st</sup> or so and they want all money spoken for by March 31<sup>st</sup> 2018. The goal is to hire 180 full time technicians across the nation. A 25% match is required by the local district. This is a first come first served grant. The NRCS State Conservation Office should have workload data and will help identify local districts that need the additional help".
    - I don't know any more than what is on this email and the other documents.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

- NRCS Program Teleconference at 10 am today.
- NDASCD Convention- Bismarck- November 20<sup>th</sup>
- All state DC meeting- Bismarck- November 21<sup>st</sup> morning
- ND Soil & Water Conservation Society Meeting: Bismarck- November 21<sup>st</sup> afternoon

**Acronyms:**

**EQIP:** Environmental Quality Incentives Program

**CSP:** Conservation Stewardship Program

**WRE:** Wetland Reserve Easement

**CRP:** Conservation Reserve Program



# Technician Report-Oct/Nov 2017

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- FireWise
  - Remaining Balance as of 10/2/17-\$57,712.03
  - 1 renovation underway, 1 more waiting on an estimate. Spring tree plantings all that remains to be funded.
  - Tom Claeys will try to use up \$40,000 balance on other Forest Service projects. May be considerably less if latest renovation gets underway.
- 319 Grant
  - 319 funds have all been allocated. \$700 remains to pay for labor hours to write final report.
  - Will have final 319 report done before end of year.
- OHF Grant
  - Have spent \$193,477.54 of \$200,0000 OHF grant
  - Todd Velure is planning on finishing his fencing project before the end of the year. Should utilize most of our remaining balance.
  - Will have final report done by end of the year.
- Trees
  - 2018 Tree footage totals so far-84,282ft
- Other
  - Bakkegard and Schell gave us an estimate on replacement of our tree cooler A/C unit. \$8990.00 for a two unit cooler. Has been repaired multiple times in the last 3 years.
  - Dormant CRP seeding began on November 4<sup>th</sup>-Drill has been busy.
  - Continue to help with NRCS field checks when possible.