

BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

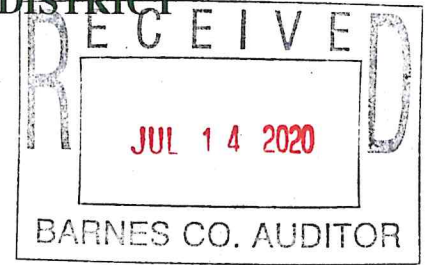
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Minutes of Meeting

May 13, 2020

Tree Shed

Valley City, ND 58072



Board Members Present:
Charlene Stenson, Chairman
Diane Olson
Pete Paulson
Bob Bruns
Shelly Nelson

Others:
Jason Elston, Tech
Rani Lloyd DC
Jill Olson, Clerk

The May meeting was called to order by Stenson at 8:00 am at the Tree Shed Building in Valley City, ND. Minutes from the March 17th, 2020 board meeting were reviewed, Stenson declared those minutes approved as presented. There wasn't a board meeting held in the month of April due to Covid-19 outbreak.

FINANCIALS:

A list of receipts and bills paid during March and April 2020, were reviewed by the Board. Paulson made a motion to accept the March 2020 financial statement as presented with Olson seconding it. All in favor aye. Motion carried. Bruns made a motion to approve the April 2020 financial statement as presented with Paulson seconding it. All in favor aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Reviewed the 2 letters from KLJ

Office Report: Rani Lloyd, DC reviewed her attached report, see report.

Technician Report: Jason stated we were awarded the funding for the Parks and Rec grant. The next step would be to order the restroom for the park. The tree crew started planting May 12th. 3 sites are done. The handplant pickup date was May 9th. All but 3 people picked up their trees. The surplus sale will be on a call basis only this year with the Covid-19 pandemic. On the Clausen Springs grant, there are a few field checks left to do. Jason has talked with a couple of producers about possible cost share opportunities with this grant. We will definitely need producer interest and ideas as to what practices to cost share. Auto Steer will have to be a focus for next year for the tractor. Jason will call around and get the best prices and options for the district.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Clausen Springs – the new grant is approved and signed along with the new agreement with VCSU. Jill will email Andre on the progress and if they are still sampling.
2. Envirothon request – after discussion, Bruns made a motion to donate \$500 this year and revisit the request again next year. Paulson second the motion, all in favor aye, motion carried.
3. 2020 Soil Conservation Achievement Program – Barnes Co. does not have an overall winner this year.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Scholarship – Heather Fisher will be awarded the \$500 Scholarship for this year. Jill will send out a letter of congratulations.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for June 10th, 2020 at the Riparian Park south of town. The time to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,
S/ Jill Olson, Sec/Treas.
Approved 06.10.2020

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 USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER, EMPLOYER AND LENDER.



United States Department of Agriculture

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

May 13, 2020

By: Rani Lloyd—District Conservationist

PROGRAMS:

EQIP:

- Application deadline was March 27th.
 - We had 6 applications.
 - Ranking deadline was extended to May 29th, preapprovals will happen June 19th.

- Prairie Pothole Water Quality & Wildlife Program
 - Similar to Delta Waterfowl's Working Wetlands program. The goal is to conserve small wetlands in working cropland.
 - Application deadline is May 29th.
 - A few calls but no official applications yet.

CSP:

- Application deadline May 29th.
 - Currently have 2 applications.

EASEMENTS:

- Application deadline was April 3rd.
 - We have 8 applications.
 - Ranking deadline is June 1.

CRP:

- 73 General Signup accepted
- Several Continuous applications

Office Staff Update:

- **Cody** is the new Farm Bill Specialist Supervisor. Valley City is his home office. He will continue to service Barnes, Stutsman and LaMoure counties and has picked up Dickey county as well.

CONSERVATION CLIENT GATEWAY:

- Encouraging volunteers especially as we are not allowing producers into the building.

Acronyms:

EQIP: Environmental Quality Incentives Program

CSP: Conservation Stewardship Program

WRE: Wetland Reserve Easement

CRP: Conservation Reserve Program

CDU: Conservation Delivery Unit