

BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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Minutes of Meeting
November 7th, 2022
USDA Building
Valley City, ND 58072

RECEIVED

JAN 17 2023

Board Members Present:

Charlene Stenson
Diane Olson
Shelly Nelson
Bob Bruns
Mardy Dahl, via phone

Others:

Jason Elston, Tech
Jill Olson, Clerk
Shelby Larson, DC

BARNES CO. AUDITOR

The meeting was called to order by Stenson at 8:15am at the USDA Building, Valley City, ND. Minutes from the October 12th, 2022 board meeting were reviewed, Stenson declared those minutes approved as presented.

FINANCIALS:

A list of receipts and bills paid during October 2022, were reviewed by the Board. Olson made a motion to accept the financial statement as presented, Bruns seconding it. All in favor aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Reviewed the Convention Draft Agenda, Area II meeting agenda, Business meeting minutes from 2021.
2. Reviewed email regarding Jodi Delozier new position.
3. Reviewed letter regarding Brian Johnston resignation.

Office Report: Reviewed Shelby's attached report, see report. Shelby also introduced Travis Carter, our new Soil Conservationist.

Technician Report: Jason reported that he as 97,000 ft of trees planned for next spring of which, 86,000 is OHF and the other is 11,000 producer funded. 11 applications were approved through OHF, 5 were denied but 2 were overturned. We received the OHF check for 2022 plantings. Jason pulled the drill back out of storage. 5 more sites were seeded. Jason ordered and picked up a pallet of bentonite from Mandan. With prices increasing, we will be charging \$ 15 per bag for bentonite. Jason was approached by Bobby Koeplin regarding installing a canoe dock, kiosk with a map of the water trail and bike rack at our park. All funded through the Water Trail Grant. These will be added to our park in the spring.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Award Winners – none for this year at the County level.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. NACD Membership – Stenson made a motion to pay the same as last year which was \$1,000 to NACD for membership, Nelson second the motion, all in favor aye, motion carried.
2. SCD Survey- the board reviewed the district survey results regarding pay, vacation, retirement, compensations etc.
3. Evaluations – the board decided to award Jason and Jill with 8% pay increases due to the economy and the increasing cost of living. This will be effective January 1, 2023.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for December 7th 3:00pm. The next meeting will be at the field office meeting room.

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
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United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Valley City Field Office
110 Winter Show RD SW
Valley City, ND 58072
701-845-3114 Ext. 3

NRCS Activity Report Barnes County Soil Conservation District Board

November 7th, 2022

Shelby Larson, District Conservationist (DC)

Lucas is still with us and working part time in the office inbetween classes. His last day is set for for December 23rd. After this he has accepted the Soil Conservation job in the Lisbon Field Office.

Cody has been working on expiring CRP's and onsite reviews. We have over 100 here in Barnes County. Alex has also been helping out with this process as well as flagging new CRPs to be planted.

We have also been working with FSA to finish up certifying all the CRPs that were planted this past year.

EQIP application signup for FY 2023 deadline was September, 23rd. We have 4 applications. Alex and I will be working with these producers to finalize their plans by the Febuary ranking deadline. The entire state's number of applications seems lower than most years. This may cause a second round of funding to open up.

We have serval WRE and Waterbank applications that Cody and myself will be working on

Our new soil conservationist, Travis Carter, started on October 24th. He lives in Valley City with his win and son. He included a little write up about himself in this quarter's newsletter.