

**Minnehaha Conservation District
September 10, 2018 Monthly Meeting
USDA Service Center
Board meeting 3:00 pm**

Woerman called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Supervisors present: Gordon Heber, Ron Johnson and Bob Woerman

Supervisors absent: Jeff Oyen and Jim Pfeifer

Advisors present: None

Advisors absent: Jim Jackson, Dana Loseke and Jennifer Schmidtbauer

Others present: John Parker, Denise Fletcher, Deron Ruesch, Barry Berg and Brian Top

Agenda: MSP to approve by Heber and Johnson. All ayes.

Minutes of August 13th meeting: MSP to approve by Heber and Johnson. All ayes.

Treasurer's report: Reviewed at meeting. MSP to approve by Johnson and Heber. All ayes.

Bills: Reviewed at meeting. Approved to pay. MSP to approve by Johnson and Heber. All ayes.

NRCS activity report by Deron Ruesch:

WETLANDS: Our current backlog is about 15 outstanding certified wetland determination requests.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):

All 7 re-enroll and 4 new applications were processed by the September 7th deadline. FSA is not accepting new sign-ups.

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP):

2 modifications need to be completed by September 14th. 2018 certifications are coming in from producers.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP):

3 EQIP Flood and Hail applications have been approved for \$12,624 on 423 acres. Cover crop seedings have commenced and payments are being processed as receipts and seed tags are turned in.

AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM (ACEP):

There is potential for 1 new application that Marcus Rock and Pheasants Forever has reviewed.

New furniture has been installed in the NRCS and Conservation District office.

Big Sioux River – RCPP Report by Brian Top:

The Big Sioux Steering Committee meeting is coming up. Paperwork is being finished up on 3 SRAM buffer contracts. The City of Sioux Falls recently approved new funding for the program.

No public comments were received.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Service Report (bio-solids, tree planting, grass planting, Gevik Site, etc.)

Bio-solids: Some sampling is being completed as crops come off the fields. Trees: Plans underway for 15-17 acres in Minnehaha County and 14 acres in Lincoln County. Grass: Cover crop seeding is being done. Gevik Site: Brian and John visited the site a couple weeks ago and looked at trail areas that need to be raised. A tree plan will be put together for a neighboring property to the site, as well as suggestions for fencing that is needed.

2. Equipment

All equipment working well. The new drill will come in after January 1st.

3. Review Lincoln County Work Contract

A draft of the Proposed Work Agreement was handed out and discussed. The Board is waiting for the State's Attorney review of the agreement.

4. Fall Convention in Pierre, SD at Ramkota – September 16 - 18

John, Gordon and Deron will attend. Hersh may attend.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Contribution Agreement – FY 2019

MSP to sign a new Contribution Agreement for FY 2019 by Heber and Johnson. All ayes.

2. Land Judging – October 2

A location for the judging has been selected. The scoring location needs to be arranged.

CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS

None

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Correspondence

MSP to adjourn at 4:40 p.m. by Johnson and Heber. All ayes.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, October 15th, 2018 at 3:00 pm – USDA Service Center

Submitted by Denise Fletcher, District Office Assistant