

**Minnehaha Conservation District
July 16th, 2018 Monthly Meeting
USDA Service Center
Board meeting 2:00 pm**

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

Supervisors present: Gordon Heber, Ron Johnson, Jeff Oyen, Jim Pfeifer and Bob Woerman

Supervisors absent: None

Advisors present: Dana Loseke

Advisors absent: Jim Jackson and Jennifer Schmidtbauer

Others present: John Parker, Denise Fletcher, Casey Wenzlaff, Barry Berg, Brian Top, Donna Kelly, Lorin Brass, Gene Thormodsgaard and Greg Huffman

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

Minutes of June 11th meeting: MSP to approve by Heber and Pfeifer. All ayes.

Minutes of July 2nd meeting: MSP to approve by Heber and Johnson. All ayes.

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

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

NRCS activity report by Casey Wenzlaff:

WETLANDS: No report

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):

FSA is still taking applications. August 17th is the deadline.

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP):

12 re-enrolls have been received.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP):

2 general applications have been received. Cover crop contracts are being processed. A new program was announced for "Prevent Plant" and storm damaged areas, that will be eligible for cover crop cost- share.

AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM (ACEP): No report

Summer Grazing workshop will be held August 17th in Crooks. Thanks to the Board for helping to sponsor this.

Big Sioux River – RCPP Report by Barry Berg:

2018 potential acres & linear feet of stream exclusion: SRAM – 591 acres; 69,165 L. Ft.; RAM – 10.1 acres; 2,590 L. Ft. The City of Sioux Falls would like to keep SRAM and add incentive payments for not needing fence or alternative water and give incentive for not grazing at all. Would be called SRAM-E for "enhanced". Could pay an additional \$30/acre (\$10 per each enhancement). SRAM-E is piloting on Skunk Creek Watershed this year. All \$2 million of EQIP/RCPP funds will be obligated by October.

OLD BUSINESS

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

Bio-solids: 700 acres of deep soil sampling and 1,500 – 2,000 acres of shallow sampling to be done after crops are harvested. Trees: 69 acres planted, and 33.2 miles of fabric laid between Minnehaha and Lincoln counties. Grass: 26' and 15' drills – 1200 acres planted (both counties). 10' drill – 700 acres planted (both counties). 5 producers (150 acres) of CRP seeding to do in August for Lincoln Co. About 45 acres to seed for SRAM. 1,600 – 1,700 acres of cover crops planned to drill this fall. Mowing: CRP clipping being done in Lincoln Co. No more commercial spraying being done by District. Next year about 15 acres of trees (Minnehaha) and 12 acres of trees (Lincoln) are planned so far. Gevik site: 35 people (from 9 states) toured the site last week as part of an NRCS new employee orientation.

2. Equipment

Everything is working fine.

3. Review Lincoln County Work Contract (State's Attorney Planning to Attend)

Summary of Proposed Work Agreement was reviewed. Donna Kelly, State's Attorney, gave her opinion of the agreement. MSP to continue working toward a cooperative agreement between Minnehaha and Lincoln Conservation Districts by Heber and Pfeifer. All ayes.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Review SDPAA - Insurance

Annual insurance payment is due.

2. Contribution Agreement - 2019

MSP to continue the contribution agreement for 2019 by Johnson and Pfeifer. All ayes.

CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS

MSP to sign agreements by Oyen and Johnson. All ayes.

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Correspondence

The SDACD Fall Convention will be held September 16 – 18 at the Ramkota Hotel in Pierre, SD.

MSP to adjourn at 6:00 p.m. by Johnson and Oyen. All ayes.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, August 13th, 2018 at 3:00 pm – USDA Service Center

Submitted by Denise Fletcher, District Office Assistant