

**Minnehaha Conservation District
April 9th, 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, Jeff Oyen, Jim Pfeifer and Bob Woerman

Supervisors absent:

Advisors present: Dana Loseke and Jennifer Schmidtbauer

Advisors absent: Jim Jackson

Others present: John Parker, Denise Fletcher, Deron Ruesch, Barry Berg, Brian Top, Hersh Smith, Tanner Clausen, Jeff Barth, Greg Schmieding and Phil Greenwood

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

Minutes of March 8th meeting: MSP to approve by Pfeifer and Johnson. All ayes.

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

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

NRCS activity report by Deron Ruesch:

WETLANDS: Our current backlog is about 30 outstanding certified wetland determination requests.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):

No news.

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP):

No news.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP):

RCPP-EQIP – 19 applications received and being prepared for ranking. The majority are for cover crops (about 1,200 acres). 1 High Tunnel application is obligated and should be built soon. 3 applications were received for NWQI in Minnehaha County.

AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM (ACEP):

No news.

Big Sioux River – RCPP Report by Barry Berg:

Still taking applications and gearing up for spring surveying. City of Sioux Falls would like to keep SRAM and add incentive payment for not needing fence or alternative water; would be called SRAM-E for enhanced. Could pay an additional \$25/acre. 2018 potential acres & linear feet of stream exclusion – SRAM: 330 acres; 30,000 L. ft. RAM: 40 acres; 10,000 L. ft. Construction completed on hog barn and cattle barn with 3 other Ag. Waste Management Systems in the engineering phase.

OLD BUSINESS

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

Bio-solids: waiting for dry ground to sample. Trees: 55 acres planned. \$26,000 in bare root sales this spring. Grass: 10 ft. drill – 1,300 acres planned in Minnehaha and Lincoln counties. 15 and 26 ft. drills: 800 acres planned. Spraying: 275 acres of pasture planned. Full crews hired for planting and fabric application. Scout troop will help clean up shed and construct and put up bird houses at Gevik site. Groups also interested in putting in butterfly habitat at Gevik site.

2. Equipment

Purchase of new mower was approved last fall. Will be looking at a model this spring.

3. Service Expansion

Millborn Seed is working on possibly setting up the District to be a retail outlet for their seed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Gevik Complaint; Site Usage Request

Site Usage Request – Phil Greenwood and Greg Schmieding spoke to the board about a proposal for their dog training club to train hunting dogs at the site every Saturday morning for 4 hours from approximately April through September. The board discussed and decided that the activities proposed would be contrary to the site's by-laws, so did not approve.

Complaint – October 2, 2017 and April 2, 2018. Neighboring pasture had sediment and manure run-off last fall. Now the pasture has become a feed-lot with significant manure run-off onto the Gevik site. Pictures of the issue were viewed. MSP that John and Bob visit the land owner and offer technical support and service to assist him by Oyen and Heber. All ayes.

2. SD Wildlife Federation Camp Sponsorship

Camp held June 3 – 9 at Camp Bob Marshall in the Black Hills. Camp fee is \$350. MSP to sponsor 2 camp fees by Oyen and Pfeifer. All ayes.

3. Vermillion/Big Sioux Area Meeting – June 18th

This meeting will be held in Miner County.

4. Isaac Walton Habitat Award

Nominations are due by 8/31/18. Discussion held about nominees. MSP to nominate Mike Heisler by Johnson and Heber. All ayes. MSP to nominate Tony Gelderman for the State Conservation Award by Woerman and Oyen. All ayes.

5. Envirothon

May 1st is the statewide competition in Sioux Falls. Board agreed to sponsor a snack for the event.

6. Speech Contest – April 13th

This will be held at the USDA Service Center. Heber will be a judge for the event.

CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS

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

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Correspondence

Chairman Woerman adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, May 14th, 2018 at 3:00 pm – USDA Service Center

Submitted by Denise Fletcher, District Office Assistant