

**Minnehaha Conservation District
August 15th, 2017 Monthly Meeting
USDA Service Center
Board meeting 11:30 a.m.**

Woerman called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

Supervisors present: Gordon Heber, Ron Johnson and Bob Woerman

Supervisors absent: Jeff Oyen and Jim Pfeifer

Advisors present: Dana Loseke

Advisors absent: Jim Jackson and Jennifer Schmidtbauer

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

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

Minutes of July 10th 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 35 outstanding certified wetland determination requests.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):

80 Emergency Haying Plans and 7 Emergency Grazing Plans have been completed. 6 waterways are being worked on.

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP):

3 applications in pre-approved status are being processed.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP):

We are waiting for 1 application to be approved. A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for the Ag. Waste Management System that is being installed.

AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM (ACEP):

No report.

Big Sioux River – RCPP Report by Barry Berg:

Bi-annual site evaluations of enrolled SRAM/RAM acres have been completed. Various cost-share checks have been delivered to producers who are enrolling. Working on getting pipelines installed for 3 producers that have enrolled into the SRAM program. Working with 4 producers for SRAM on the Big Sioux River and 1 on Silver Creek for RAM. Have attended Big Sioux Stabilization meetings in the area.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Service Report (bio-solids, tree planting, grass planting, etc.)**
Bio-solids are caught up until crops come off. We are looking for more ground for next year. 300 acres of grass seeding planned for this fall. Cover crops are being planted. 425 acres of mowing has been completed in Minnehaha and Lincoln Counties. 75 acres of spraying to do this fall. For next year – 12 parties (about 24-27 acres) are interested in tree planting.
2. **Tree Cooler Estimates**
Waiting for 2 estimates to come in.
3. **Building Review**
The tree shed building looks quite sound, no leaks, etc. Waiting for expansion estimates to come in.
4. **Gevik Site Permission**
The hunter agreed to contact Game Fish & Parks if his wounded game should run onto the Gevik site.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Conservation Tour (Map to be handed out)**
Van has been rented for the tour.
2. **Fall Convention (Sept. 17 – 19)**
Convention will be held in Sioux Falls at the Ramkota Hotel. The awards supper is at the Crooks Community Hall on Sunday night. Hand in registration forms to the District office as soon as possible.
3. **Land Judging (Sept. 26th)**
The site is northwest of Hartford. The fire hall in Hartford will be used for scoring.

CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVALS

None

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Correspondence

September 20th is the Mayor's Big Sioux River Water Summit in Watertown, SD.
MSP to sign the DOT request to access the Gevik site by Johnson and Heber. All ayes.

MSP to adjourn at 12:35 p.m. by Heber and Johnson. All ayes.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, September 11th, 2017 at 3:00 pm – USDA Service Center

Submitted by Denise Fletcher, District Office Assistant