

**Minnehaha Conservation District  
January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Monthly Meeting  
Via Zoom  
Board Meeting at 3:00 pm**

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

**Supervisors present:** Travis Entenman, Gordon Heber, Jim Pfeifer, Jennifer Schmidtbauer and Bob Woerman

**Supervisors absent:**

**Advisors present:** Dana Loseke

**Advisors absent:** Brian Alderson, Carl Eliason, Susan Kruse, Kelly Lyons and Mark McGee

**Others present:** John Parker, Eric Grootenboer, Denise Fletcher, Alina Krone-Hedman, Dan Wehmeyer, Deron Ruesch, Barry Berg, Alexa Kruse, Jay Gilbertson and Brian Top

**Supervisor Positions**

MSP to nominate Woerman as chairman by Pfeifer and Schmidtbauer. Motion to nominate Entenman as chairman by Heber; no second. Entenman declined, since he is a new member on the board. Vote on Woerman as chairman – all ayes. MSP to nominate Pfeifer as vice chairman by Woerman and Schmidtbauer. Motion to nominate Schmidtbauer as vice chairman by Heber and Pfeifer. Schmidtbauer declined due to her work schedule. Vote on Pfeifer as vice chairman – all ayes. MSP to appoint Parker as Treasurer/Secretary and Fletcher as Recording Secretary by Woerman and Entenman. All ayes.

**Agenda:** MSP to approve by Enteman and Pfeifer. All ayes.

**Minutes of December 14th meeting:** MSP to approve by Pfeifer and Entenman. All ayes.

**Treasurer's report:** Reviewed at meeting. MSP to approve by Pfeifer and Entenman. All ayes.

**Bills:** Reviewed at meeting. Approved to pay. MSP to approve by Pfeifer and Entenman. All ayes.

Schmidtbauer left the meeting at 3:27 p.m.

**NRCS activity report by Dan Wehmeyer:**

We have moved to phase 1 in building re-opening status. 3 employees are allowed in our department. Wehmeyer discussed the Unfunded Cooperative Agreement Initial Estimate and Annual Usage Report -between the Conservation District and the NRCS.

**WETLANDS:** We currently have 11 certified wetland determination requests in progress.

**CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP):** General signup is from January 4<sup>th</sup> to February 12<sup>th</sup>. Grassland signup is from March 15<sup>th</sup> to April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP):** Working on 1 renewal application that got preapproved. 1 CSP-GCI (Grassland Conservation Initiative) got approved/obligated.

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP):** Working through applications for high tunnels, ag. waste, & grassed waterways. Still working through planning Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) idea/projects. Soil Moisture Conservation Initiative post cards went out to producers.

**Big Sioux River – RCPP Report by Barry Berg:** Working with new producers for next season for about 400 acres. Gave update on SRAM grazing compliance issue. Planning 3 water developments for a producer. Final 2014 Farm Bill RCPP Report completed. Potential buyout of SRAM and enrollment into WLE (Working Lands Easement) - \$370,296.00 project for 109.6 acres along

Skunk Creek. There will be a potential new project hire. MSP to approve Voucher #4 (5 check payments) by Entenman and Pfeifer. All ayes.

**Urban Educator Report by Alina Krone-Hedman:** Gevik site discussion was held in December about possible repairs and projects. Need to develop a list of priorities for the site. Meeting will be held in January to discuss the site's future. A webinar series on gardens is being planned for February 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> and March 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, possibly around the noon hour. Advertising will start this week.

**Public Comment Time – 15 minutes – no comments**

**Update from Supervisors - None**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

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

Bio-solids: New contract with the City is in place. Trees: 35 acres committed. Newsletter with order form will go out in January. Grass: 400-500 acres CRP ground to seed. Gevik Site: Meeting of the Gevik Site committee (composed of Krone-Hedman, Parker, Mike Heisler, Schmidtbauer, Woerman and Grootenboer) was held in December.

**2. Building Improvement Information – Shed**

A building plan permit has been applied for with the City to build a bathroom and offices in the middle building. Lumber has been purchased. Tree cooler shed is fixed up for now and heat has been installed.

**3. Annual Budget – 2021**

The latest copy was presented for review by the Board. Final budget report will be ready for the February meeting.

**4. 2021 Annual Plan of Work**

MSP to approve Annual Plan of Work by Pfeifer and Entenman. All ayes.

**5. Long Range Plan of Work**

MSP to approve Long Range Plan of Work by Entenman and Pfeifer. All ayes.

**6. Big Sioux River Project (Watershed Steering Committee – Adopt Operating Procedures and Working Agreement)**

This committee allows the project stakeholders to input ideas and suggestions.

MSP to adopt operating procedures and working agreement by Pfeifer and Entenman. All ayes.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**1. NACD Meeting**

This meeting will be held virtually from February 1 – 10. There is a \$50.00 sign-up fee. Parker is not planning to participate.

**Executive Session (if needed) – Not needed**

**CONSERVATION PLAN APPROVAL** - None

### **OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Correspondence - \$5,000.00 donation for the 30' drill was received from East Dakota Water Development District.

MSP to adjourn at 4:26 p.m. by Pfeifer and Entenman. All ayes.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, February 8th, 2021 at 3:00 pm – via Zoom**

Submitted by Denise Fletcher, Recording Secretary