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For Conservation Purposes in
Kittson County*



410 South 5th Street - Suite 106 - Hallock MN 56728 - Phone (218) 843 2619 - Fax (855) 744-0398- www.kittsonswcd.org

Minutes of the Meeting of

Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors

**Held on Wednesday August 14th, 2019 at 8:00 AM at Kittson County Courthouse
Upstairs Meeting Room**

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil and Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Wednesday August 14th, 2019 at 8:00 AM at the Kittson County Courthouse meeting room. Members present at the meeting included: Chairman CJ Peterson, Vice Chairman Joe Wilebski, Secretary Heather Peterson, Treasurer Andrew and Public Relations Sam Anderson.

Guest present at the meeting included: Glen Brazier and Jeremy Reese. Others present at the meeting were District Manager Jamie Osowski, District Technician Justin Muller, District Technician Jeremy Benson, and NRCS District Conservationist Jim Schwab.

The minutes from the July 10th, 2019 board meeting were approved upon motion by Wilebski and seconded by Muir and unanimous vote of supervisors.

Motion was made by Wilebski and Seconded by H. Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors to add Wagon Wheel Ridge to the August 2019 Board meeting agenda.

Chairman Peterson turned the floor over to guest Glen Brazier.

Mr. Brazier came to discuss the wetland violation issues at Wagon Wheel Ridge near Karlstad in Deerwood 26. The next steps for Mr. Brazier in the process were discussed. Brazier and Reese then left the meeting.

The treasurer's report was then presented to the board. Discussion was had on a CD at Prime Security Bank that is expiring. The board asked Osowski to check on rates at American Federal Bank, United Valley Bank and Prime Security. If the rates are higher at another bank, we can move the CD to that institution. Motion was made by H. Peterson and Seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisors to move the CD to the financial institution with the highest CD rate. Muir made a motion to approve treasurer's report as presented and seconded by H. Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors.

New Business:

Kittson County Budget: Jamie spoke to the board on the 2020 Kittson County budget. Jamie presented the board with the budget information and stated that in the past we have asked for a 3% increase in the county allocation and County Ag Inspector. The staff presented the board with options for County projects we could approach the Commissioners on for the County and State match with the local capacity funds. Kelly Bengtson had informed the office on stabilizing the backslope of County Ditch 31 and this project is estimated around \$40,000. The next discussion was on how the board wants to handle the Buffer Riparian aid funds as the county had discussed taking some of the funds back for the county to use. The office staff had discussion on how we feel enforcement will go in the coming years and if we plan to have a heavier enforcement workload or if we have project orientated budget. The board asked the staff to attend the commissioners meeting with the idea that we are unsure of how heavy of workload enforcement might be, but we have a variety of projects we can do. The staff will meet with the commissioners on Tuesday August 20th, Jamie will find out the time from Eric and let the board know.

Kittson County Fair Building: Discussion was had on the proposal from Folland Construction for new overhead doors for the Kittson SWCD fairground building. The doors were damaged during a storm on June 8th, 2019. The board questioned the insurance money the fair board will see from the damage and if these funds will go toward the cost of new doors. Motion was made by H. Peterson to approve the overhead door proposal for the Kittson SWCD building dependent on insurance money, motion was seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors.

District employee use of district equipment: Discussion was had on if district staff can use the Kittson SWCD staff for personal use after work hours. Different scenarios were discussed, but the board advised Osowski to visit with neighboring counties and MCIT to see what would need to be included in a policy to cover liability for the district.

Grant agreement and amendments: Jamie presented the board with a grant agreement for the 2020-2021 Programs and Operations agreement, motion was made by H. Peterson and Seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve this grant agreement. Jamie then presented a grant agreement extension for the 2018 Buffer Cost Share, this would extend the grant expiration date to December 31st, 2020. Motion was made by Wilebski and seconded by Muir and unanimous vote of supervisors.

Staff Reports:

Jim gave an update on programs; August is Women Equality Month. Jim stated that he has 14 EQIP applications and 8 people have been in to sign contracts for a total of \$190,000. Jim reported that he had 2 eligible CSP contracts, he has had 1 landowner come in and sign. The CRP deadline for Continuous signup is August 23rd.

Heather was absent from the meeting and had provided the board with a report. She updated the board on the conservation tour and the summer program she held the month of July. She also provided the board with a flyer for the camping camp she will be hosting with Lane Nordin with AIS.

Justin gave his report, he stated that the office has 4-5 contracts for fall seeded cover crops. He also stated that he will be holding a TEP meeting for the St. Joseph WCA issues on August 19th.

Jeremy gave his report to the board, he presented the board with the updated Buffer maps and reported that they will be postponing all the fall seeded plantings they had for Buffers until next spring due to the dry conditions. Next, he spoke to the board on the 1W1P process, he stated that the steering team will be meeting on August 11th and he presented the board with a timeline and checklist to show the board where we are sitting in the process. Jeremy stated that they mowed Moose Point Learning Center and they have been looking into different sign companies and will be receiving quotes. Next, Jeremy touched on the Clean Water Funds application period and asked the board if we would like to submit this application again. He then asked the board if they would like us to apply for streambank projects along the Two Rivers for Clean Water funds. The board was open to the staff submitting the application for the Cover Crop, Trees, and adding Side Water Inlets. The applications are due September 6th which is before our next board meeting, Jeremy asked the board if they were fine with the office writing the applications and submitting. Motion was made by Muir and Seconded by H. Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors to write and submit the application for Clean Water Funds for Cover Crops, Field Windbreaks and Side Water Inlets. Jeremy also stated that the MAWQCP application for Kris Folland was approved for a Fall seeded cover crop.

The next board meeting will be on Wednesday September 11th, 2019 at

8 AM in the Kittson County downstairs Meeting Room.

Heather Peterson

9/11/2019

Heather Peterson, Secretary

Date