

*Helping Producers Implement
Best Management Practices
for Conservation Purposes in
Kittson County*



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Minutes of the Meeting of

Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors

Held on August 20th, 2012 at 7:15 AM

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Monday August 20th, 2012, at the Kittson SWCD office.

Members present at the meeting included: Chairman Greg Peterson; Vice chairman, Ron Anderson; Secretary, Justin Dagen and Treasurer, Joe Wilebski and Public Relations, Heather Peterson.

Others present at the meeting were District Manager, Darren Carlson; District Coordinator Jamie Ingeman; District Technician, Brian Krippner; Program Analyst, James Schwab; and Technician, Mark Larson.

The minutes of the July 16th, 2012 meeting were approved, upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of the supervisors.

Upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by H. Peterson the bills were approved for payment as presented in the amount of \$26,508.02 Check numbers 3503-3526.

Accounts receivable: Accounts receivable has outstanding balance of \$3947.74.

Jamie Ingeman gave the District Coordinator report as follows:

Resolutions were signed for removing Ron Baldwin from the check signing and adding Joanne Quiner.

Ag BMP Loans- Ag BMP Loans were approved with a motion by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski for Brian Dahl Farms for \$50,000 for a 60' Hole Drill, Corey Grochowski for \$100,000 for a double disc open planter, and for Darwyn Anderson for \$60,000 for a chisel Plow.

QuickBooks and the NRCS Server: NRCS received word in early August that Quickbooks will not be allowed to be used on the NRCS server after September 30th. Other districts in the area have been purchasing laptops and printers for their offices with separate internet access. Motion to purchase laptop, printer and internet access made by Wilebski and seconded by Dagen.

Health Insurance: Proposed information about potential health insurance policies that are available to the district. Contacted Northwest Minnesota Service Cooperative for more information about plans they have to offer. We filled out applications and they will put together a quote for us. Board suggested we check with other local insurance companies and see what they can offer. Health insurance coverage will begin in January 2013.

Jim Schwab gave the NRCS Report as follows.

CSP: Six contracts have been approved for \$70,000/year

EQU: Ten contracts approved for \$392,000/year

Jim notified there will be no more CSP or EQU funding, next signup will be Dec-Jan 2013

CRP: Jim thanked everyone for their help with the General CRP signup. Over 500 CRP plans were written between Continuous and General.

Other: Jim discussed a big change in the Wetland Determination process. Beginning October 1st, our office will not be doing HEL and Wetland work. A team of Wetland Biologists for TRF will be doing this work.

Work Group Meeting was held on August 10th 2012 at the courthouse. In attendance were Mark Larson, Darren Carlson, Kelly Turgeon, Christine Reisz, Glen Kajewski and Joe Wilebski. Topics discussed were water quality is the number one resource in the county which includes tillage practices, well sealing's and grazing. Grazing is important in the county as it helps out young farmers who are just beginning.

Jim brought up the memorandum of understandings for new board member Heather Peterson.

Month: Women Equality Month

Darren Carlson gave the District Manager's report as follows:

Natural Resources Block Grant (NRBG): Requested funds to reimburse the district for program activities. Request included \$5,000 for CLWP, \$2,000 for Feedlot and \$5,000 for WCA.

State Cost Share Program:

- FY 11-03 Bruce Weleski Well Sealing, \$311.25; \$207.50 from SCS and \$103.75 from CLWP. Motion by Wilebski, Seconded by Anderson.

CCRP Contribution Work Agreement (CWA)

- Completed 75 Conservation plans for \$36,000, sent statement to MASWCD on 7/26/12.

2013 County Budget:

- Met with commissioners for 40 minutes on 8/7/2012 and presented proposed 2013 budget to the board. Presented attachment of proposed 2013 budget and county allocations to SWCD's in area.

FY 2013 Clean Water Funds Request:

- Requests until Sept 14th, 2012
 - Lake Bronson Watershed Runoff Reduction Project- Phase III
 - Unnamed Coulee Watershed Runoff Reduction Project
 - JD 10 Watershed Runoff Reduction Project
 - Abandoned Well Sealing

Takes about 2-3 days per grant

FY 2011 Clean Water Funds- Lake Bronson Project:

- Kurt Stenberg CWF 2011-08 – 11.6 Acres CWF (2 filter strips) = \$10,394.00
- Ronald Mooney CWF 2011-09 - 7.2 Acres CWF = \$5,011.00
- Ronald Mooney CWF 2011-10 – 6.6 Acres CWF = \$4,594.00
- Motion by Dagen; Seconded by Wilebski

Other:

- Six month personal review for Brian and Jamie were held after the board meeting.
- NRCS/SWCD Wetland Agreement- sent statement to NRCS for \$3,585. Original grant was for \$20,000. Recommended sending the remaining amount back once we receive \$3,585. Motion by Dagen; Seconded by Wilebski.
- Received phone call from Ron Mooney saying Trusinski mowed a path on county land for access to his land.

District Technician's Report (Brian Krippner)

WCA

- Dean Carlson Violation- had a report from the DNR that Dean Carlson was digging in ditch in Tegner 22. Brian did site inspection to see if this would be a WCA violation. Brian found the inspection was fine, but thought we could hire the Two River Watershed District to survey the piece for \$200 base fee. Board tabled motion to next meeting so slides from 1979 could be inspected.
- East Farms Banking Site- Brian discussed the Wetland Banking in Klondike 15 and should the board be involved in the determination or should the WCA Administrator (Brian) be the decision maker. Board tabled the motion until next meeting when Dale Krystosek will be available to answer more questions. Deadline is October 9th, 2012.

CAI:

- All weed inspections letters on Purple Loosestrife, Leafy Spurge, and Canada thistle have been followed up and landowners have been taking action immediately on Noxious Weeds.

Toadflax update:

- Brian submitted a public notice to the Kittson County Enterprise on the Dalmatian Toadflax weed.
- Has been driving around the area and can see from Highway 59 that the plants that have been sprayed appear to be dead. Jon Fowler with Northstar Aviation in Hallock obtained his ground sprayer application license and will be conducting any ground spraying through County or landowners.

District:

- Outstanding Conservationist- presented the nomination letter for Mike Ratzloff for Kittson SWCD Outstanding Conservationist of the Year. Submitted the application to MASWCD August 22nd.
- District Logo- Asked Board to look over examples for new district logo. Board members had some other ideas of what they would like to see. Logo was tabled until next board meeting.

September Board Meeting

- Next board meeting will be held Monday September 17th at 7:15 AM at the Kittson SWCD Office.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Peterson.

Justin Dagen, Secretary

Janu Ingeman for Justin Dagen