

*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 December 17, 2012

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Monday December 17, 2012, at the Kittson SWCD office.

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

Others present at the meeting were District Manager, Darren Carlson; District Technician, Brian Krippner; District Coordinator, Jamie Ingeman; District Conservationist, Jim Schwab; Technician, Mark Larson and CJ Peterson

The minutes of the November 19th, 2012 meeting were approved, upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Peterson and unanimous vote of the supervisors.

Upon a motion by Peterson, seconded by Wilebski the bills were approved for payment as presented in the amount of \$20,530.39. Check numbers 3598-3616.

Jamie Ingeman games the District Coordinator report:

New District Computers:

Jamie mentioned to the board about new computers for the district. Darren stated Brian's computer was purchased back in 2006 and Jamie's was bought before that. The board stated we should buy all three computers new, Darren said his computer was ok for now, his biggest concern is getting new ones for Brian and Jamie as ArcMap is very slow on their current computers. Jamie presented models and prices she received from the USDA BPA Catalog to the board; HP 6200, 6 GB, I-7 Processor costs about \$965 and the HP 6200, 6 GB, I-5 Processor costs around \$812. Motion was made by Peterson; seconded by Wilebski to purchase the I-7 computers for the district.

Ag BMP Training in Detroit Lakes: Jamie and Brian attended Ag BMP training in Detroit Lakes on Monday December 10th at the Becker Soil and Water Conservation Office. Jamie stated the meeting was beneficial to her as she hasn't worked with Ag BMP a lot and wanted to learn more about year-end reporting and other basics.

Jim Schwab and Mark Larson gave the NRCS Report as follows.

EQIP and CSP- Jim stated they have paid on all 14 CSP contracts and there will be signups for EQIP in December or January.

Jim also stated that for landowners looking at moving expiring CRP to farmable acres will have trouble with HEL plans, there have been changes with who is doing the plans.

Mark spoke about the EQIP web meetings they had; they spoke a lot about pushing soil health. They want to see more cover crops and less black fields in the fall.

Mark also spoke about meeting with Mark Hayek about trial plots experimenting with fertilizer rates for grazing systems. The plot will be on Mark's land. They will be doing small plots that they will be spreading with a hand spreader. CHS will be paying for the fertilizer and will be using the plot for a field day.

District Manager Report (Darren Carlson)

FY 2012 Natural Resources Block Grant (NRGB): Darren gave a report on the remaining funds that need to be spent by June 30, 2013. CLWP has \$4563.18 remaining, Feedlot has \$9134.70 remaining, SSTS has \$12,503.63 remaining, Shoreland has \$4149.97, and WCA has \$16,624.62 remaining.

FY 2013 Natural Resources Block Grant (NRGB): Darren reported the amounts remaining in the FY 2013 grants, CLWP \$17,750.00 remaining, Feedlot \$12,750.00 remaining, SSTS \$18,941.00, Shoreland \$5,294.00, WCA \$32,894. These funds need to be spent by June 30th, 2014.

2013 County Allocation: Darren reported we received a \$973.00 increase in county allocation. Previous allocation was \$39,027 and we will now receive \$40,000.

2013 Kittson SWCD Tree Program: Darren presented the board with a spreadsheet showing the tree species and the inventory of the trees we have on order from the nurseries and what has been ordered from landowners. Darren stated we have 3 tree planting plans already in place for 2013.

State Cost Share:

-FY 12-03 Brady Coffield Well Sealing in Cannon 22, Cost Estimate- \$365.00; State Cost Share- \$182.50 and CLWP \$91.25.

-FY 12-04 Jim Wiese Well Sealing in St. Vincent 22, Cost Estimate- \$415.00; Need to wait on this cost share as Jim is having trouble closing on this piece of land.

-FY 12-05 Nathan Younggren Well Sealing in Thompson 15, Cost Estimate= \$715.00, State Cost Share- \$357.50 and CLWP- \$178.75

-FY 12-06 Brian Ingeman Shelterbelt Renovation and Establishment in Skane 13, Cost Estimate= \$1,135.30, State Cost Share \$851.48.

Motion made by Wilebski and Seconded by Peterson to approve the State Cost Share on these projects.

New well sealing for Jan Carr in Deerwood 21, she is waiting on a cost estimate. Will have for January Board meeting.

FY 2013 Clean Water Funds (CWF) Red River of the North Watershed Runoff Reduction Project– Phase II, 4 ditches in Hill and St. Vincent townships grant request for \$75,000 did not get funded.

Lake Bronson Watershed Runoff Reduction Project – Phase III, grant request was for \$200,000. This project did get funded, needs to be spent by 2015.

Joe River Watershed District (JRWD) Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Water Monitoring:

Darren attended a meeting Monday December 10th with Two River Watershed District, Snake/Middle River Watershed District, and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. MPCA is looking at grabbing water samples/flow monitoring in spring 2013 before the “actual TMDL work” can begin. Work for all 3 districts would be \$10,000; however Snake/Middle River Watershed District appears they already have had the necessary observations taken place. Grand funds appear to be just available for TRWD and Kittson SWCD. Work would consist of a half day work after significant rain events and snow melt.

International Water Institute (IWA) Water Quality Grant: Darren presented to the board the potential for Water Monitoring/Grab Samples/Flow Monitoring for 5 sites in Kittson County. The grant would run for 2 years and would require 13 site visits in 2013 and 6 in 2014. The work load would be 1 day a week for 13 weeks. Darren said he has not received much information about this yet, but will get more information and present at next board meeting.

January and February Board meeting Dates: The January and February dates for Board meetings fall on Monday Holidays. January Date is Martin Luther King Day and February is Presidents Day. Darren asked the board for recommendations on possible different dates. Board decided they would like to have a full board in attendance before they make a final decision. Board decided to change January Board meeting to Wednesday January 23rd at 8 AM.

MASWCD Annual Convention: SWCD Staff and Mike and Tara Ratzlaff attended the MASWCD Annual Convention in Bloomington on December 3rd and 4th. Mike and Tara Ratzlaff were awarded for Kittson County’s Outstanding Conservationist of the year. Darren stated the breakout sessions were beneficial and the trade show had many vendors.

Agassiz Audubon Society E-mail from Heidi Hughes: Darren received an e-mail from Heidi Hughes from the Agassiz Audubon Society about a program with the Kittson Central High School Bird Nest Box Project. She is looking for local funding to help cover the cost of the boxes and hardware. After discussion from the board, they have decided not to fund the project.

Brian Krippner gave the District Technician report:

East Farms- Rodger Johnson Ag Banking: Brian reported to the board that the Notice of Decision had been sent out to Rodger Johnson and they should be expecting an appeal from BWSR on this decision.

Trusckinski Violation: Brian reported on the violation of Trusckinski in Pelan 1, he presented the restoration order to the board. The restoration stated Trusckinski needs to level out the piles and restore the land back to how it was. Brian will be sending out the restoration. Brian went out to the land and took pictures and presented a map showing what had taken place. The board granted Trusckinski access on the SWCD's land to fix this restoration. In the restoration order, Brian stated his access will be denied after the restoration has been completed.

Feedlots: Brian reported he spent a day in Baudette shadowing Mike Hurst in the feedlot process.

Feedlot Committee Meeting: Brian met with the Kittson County Feedlot committee on Friday December 14th in Lancaster. Brian stated the meeting was held to get the committee on the same page and to inform them about the new online reporting system that will begin soon. The committee wants to hold off with this reporting until it is necessary. Brian was informed by Molly Costin with MPCA that this reporting needs to be done to get funding. Brian is planning an area feedlot meeting with all the cattle producers in the area so he can meet them and inform them of any changes.

Feedlot Inspections: Brian stated he will be conducting a final inspection on John Wilson's feedlot this week.

Certified Crop Inspector (CAI) Seed inspections: Brian will be conducting seed inspections with Jeff Sira in the upcoming months.

Certified Crop Inspector (CAI) Meeting: Brian will be attending CAI meetings in St. Cloud February 11-13, 2013.

January Board Meeting: January Board meeting will be held Wednesday January 23rd, 2013 at 8 AM

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by Secretary Dagen.

Justin Dagen, Secretary

