

*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 Wednesday December 13th, 2017**

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Wednesday December 13th, 2017 at 8 AM in the Kittson County Courthouse Meeting Room.

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

Others present at the meeting were District Technician, Justin Muller; District Technician, Jeremy Benson; District Administrator, Jamie Osowski; District Conservationist, Jim Schwab and NRCS Technician, Michael Steinhauer.

The minutes from the September 13th, 2017 board meeting were approved, upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors.

The minutes from the October/November joint board meeting held on October 31st, 2017 were approved, upon a motion by H. Peterson, seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors.

Upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by H. Peterson and unanimous vote of the supervisors the September 2017 treasurer's report was approved as presented by Jamie Osowski.

Upon a motion by H. Peterson, seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of the supervisors the October 2017 treasurer's report was approved as presented by Jamie Osowski.

Upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of the supervisors the November 2017 treasurer's report was approved as presented by Jamie Osowski.

Jim Schwab and Michael Steinhauer gave the NRCS Report:

Jim reported that he is still working in the East Polk office 1 to 2 days a week and still doesn't know anything on the budget at this time. He also reported that Minnesota is at 54% staffed.

CSP and EQIP: Michael reported that they have 10 applications for EQIP, 6 of them are for cover crops and 4 for grazing. In the past, no cover crop applications have been approved.

Civil Rights Agreement: Jim discussed the Civil Rights Agreement with the board and it was signed by all 5 board members.

Justin Muller gave the District Technician report:

WCA: Justin reported that he had a conference call with DNR, BWSR and Army Corp about violations.

Feedlot: Justin stated that he has been working on re-registration. He also reported that he did a folder review with MPCA. He will be presenting a new work plan to the county board.

Buffers: Justin reported that he has still been working with landowners. Discussion was had on the Riparian Aid budget and Pictometry to help the office with enforcement. This subject was tabled until the January board meeting.

Cover Crops: Justin reported that he received an application for 60 acres of multi species cover crops for Blake Weleski. Motion was made by Dagen and seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve Blake Weleski's cover crop contract for a total of \$7200.00 for 3 years.

Other: Justin reported that he has attended 3 leadership trainings and his next session will be in Washington DC in February.

Jeremy Benson gave his District Technician report

Buffers: Jeremy reported that he has been working through Alternative Practices for Side Water Inlets. Jeremy also reported that we have had a few contracts for Buffer cost share. Jeremy and Justin presented the board with a draft MOA outlining the responsibilities of the Kittson SWCD and Kittson County with Buffer Enforcement money. We have had the County Attorney review the MOA but the board would like to have another law firm review it as well.

State Cost Share: Jeremy reported that he is waiting for the signed State Cost Share contract from Steve Weberg. He reported that he has not heard anything back on the Gillie rock chute. He also reported that the Frog Pond well sealing was complete and the payment voucher had been sent for a signature. Reimbursement will be \$920.00 to Tara Brewer.

Jamie reported that an amendment had been submitted for FY 15 State Cost Share with 2 projects that have been encumbered but not completed. The new grant expiration date will be June 30th, 2018. Motion was made by H. Peterson and seconded by Dagen and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the amendment for FY 15 State Cost Share

Funds: Jeremy reported on the amendment from Todd Nelson for his well sealing with the FY 15 State Cost Share funds. This project needs to be completed by June 30th, 2018. Motion was made by H. Peterson and seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the amendment for Todd Nelson's well sealing with FY 15 State Cost Share Funds to be completed by June 30th, 2018.

1W1P: Jeremy reported that we need to submit our 1W1P application again, the board was for moving ahead.

MAWQCP: Jeremy reported that all of Kris Folland's forms have been submitted for certification. Will begin working on the assessment tool beginning of the year when Glen is back.

Other: Jeremy presented the board with a rainfall analysis. He reported that 2017 was the second driest year on record in 17 years. Jeremy asked the board for signing authority for NRCS and FSA contracts, Motion was made by Dagen and seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to allow Jeremy to sign these contracts for the Kittson SWCD.

Jamie Osowski gave the District Managers report:

Ag BMP: Jamie reported that the office received 2 Ag BMP Loans; 1 from Katherine Benson for a 2013 Case IH 50' 600 Flex Till Chisel Plow at the amount of \$59,000. Motion was made by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the Benson Ag BMP Loan. The second Ag BMP Loan was from Brian Dahl for a 60' John Deere No-till Air Seeder for the amount of \$150,000. Motion was made by Dagen and seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the Brian Dahl Ag BMP Loan.

Local Capacity work plan: Jamie presented the board with options for the 2018 Local Capacity budget and work plan. The board gave a few options, but supported the work plan presented to them. Jamie reported that she will submit the work plan for recommendations from BWSR.

Other: Jamie presented the board with staff evaluations in their board packets. The board tabled staff evaluations until the January board meeting due to board attendance.

Next Board meeting will be held on January 8th, 2018 at 8 AM. This will be our organizational meeting.

With no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned.

Heather Peterson, Secretary