

*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 February 13th, 2019 at 8:00 AM at Kittson County Courthouse
Meeting Room**

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil and Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Wednesday February 13th, 2019 at 8:00 AM at the Kittson County Board of Commissioners room. Members present at the meeting included: Chairman CJ Peterson, Vice Chairman Joe Wilebski, Secretary Heather Peterson, Public Relations Sam Anderson and Treasurer Andrew Muir.

Others present at the meeting were District Manager Jamie Osowski, District Technician Justin Muller, District Outreach Specialist Heather Donoho, Jim Schwab, and Michael Steinhauer. Absent was Jeremy Benson, District Technician.

The minutes from the January 9th, 2018 board meeting were approved upon motion by Wilebski and seconded by Muir and unanimous vote of supervisors.

The treasurer's report was then presented to the board. H. Peterson made a motion to approve treasurer's report as presented and seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisor

New Business:

Welcome Heather Donoho: The Kittson SWCD welcomed Heather to the District. Heather gave an update to the board on what she has been working on in her first month at the SWCD. Some of the events Heather is working on included Earth Day and Arbor Day events at Schools, donation of a tree to a town or business in Kittson County (The board wants to see these trees bought locally), Survey for Kittson County Landowners, Ag Exploration Day, Soil Café Chat, We are Water expo sponsored bus, reading at the Public Library, and Women in Ag Meetings.

Cover Crop Policy: Justin gave an update on the Cover Crop policy and BWSR is requesting the Kittson SWCD approve the Non- Structural Land Management Practices plan request. Motion was made by H. Peterson and seconded by Muir and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the Nonstructural Land Management Practices plan. The district also approved revisions including, 1-year contracts length and no more than 5 one year contracts per landowners, also multi species plantings must include 1 grass and 1 broadleaf. Motion was made by H. Peterson and seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the update Cover Crop Policy and Contract.

Staff Reports:

Jim and Mike gave an update on the CRP updates to the FSA/CRP handbook that will be seen soon. The CSP and EQIP have no updates with the recent passing on the Farm Bill. Mike reported that they are working on EQIP applications, currently they have 13 applications including grazing and Cover Crops. Still waiting on plans for a couple projects. Jim also spoke to the board on the Memorandum of Understanding, in the MOU NRCS and SWCD's will treat everyone the same based on Gender, Race, ethnic background, and gender preference. With the recent changes in USDA and FPAC, no official form has been received yet. Jim also reported that February is Black History Month. Jim also gave an update to the board on the additions of Rural Water hookups and portable livestock windbreaks to the dockets and they made it to the State Office. Will update when he knows more.

Justin gave his report, he has been working on year end reports for WCA, Feedlot, SSTS and CAI. Justin and Jeremy attended an Ag BMP training, at this training it was discussed that Kittson County become a lender on Septic Systems and wells, this would require a special assessment be added to taxes. Justin spoke with County Administrator Eric Christenson on the possibility of this opportunity and he mentioned that we would want to come visit with the County Commissioners. Justin reported that the Day at the Capital on March 5th-6th, if Board members are interested in attending, the office needs to know by February 19th.

Jeremy Benson was absent from the meeting as he was attending County Ag inspector training and Jamie gave his report. Jeremy stated that we are just waiting for Spring to get the Buffers planted. One Watershed One Plan policy meeting was held at the Greenbush Community Center on January 30th. The policy committee approved the bylaws, grant budget and workplan. Jamie sent all the required paperwork to BWSR so we can get the grant agreement going. H. Peterson made a motion and Wilebski seconded and unanimous vote of supervisors for the One Watershed One plan grant agreement. As soon as the grant agreement is signed by BWSR in St. Paul we can begin entering into contracts with Brian Dwight, Jody Horndvet and Chuck Fritz. Our next committee meeting is scheduled for March 28th in Greenbush. Jeremy also reported that the shipping for the tree planter was around \$900 and will need a forklift to remove it off the trailer. When we get an exact ship date we will make those arrangements.

Jamie Osowski reported that she is working on E-Link reporting and year-end financial reporting. Jamie also reported that we received the work order for the Easement Delivery grant of \$1250.00 and Jamie can sign this work order, so she will submit this to BWSR. Jamie also reported that we should order new apparel for new board members and staff. Jamie reported the upcoming meetings coming up for the office including the Kittson SWCD Open House, Soil Health Café Chat, Day at the Capital, March Board meeting, Area 1 meeting in Detroit Lakes, Grand Forks Soil Health workshop in Grand Forks, and the Red River Watershed Management Board Conference in Moorhead.

The next board meeting will be on Wednesday March 13th, 2019 at

8 AM in the Kittson County downstairs Meeting Room.

Heather Peterson, Secretary

Heather Peterson, Secretary

3/13/2019

Date