

*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 Friday July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 7:30AM at the Kittson Soil and Water Conservation Office.**

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Friday July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 7:30 AM at the Kittson Soil and Water Office.

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

Others present at the meeting were District Manager, Darren Carlson; District Technician, Brian Krippner; District Coordinator, Jamie Osowski; and NRCS District Conservationist, Jim Schwab. Missing was Mark Larson; NRCS Technician.

The minutes from the June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 board meeting were approved, upon a motion by H. Peterson and seconded by Wilebski with unanimous vote of the supervisors.

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

Jamie Osowski gave the District Coordinator report:

Administrator Session: Jamie gave an update on the Administrator session she attended in Mahnomen on June 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. The new auditor was there and spoke to the group about upcoming audits. There were speakers from MCIT and a motivational speaker who spoke to the group. Group sessions were held to discuss issues other districts have been experiencing with pay equity, grant verification audits and board meetings.

Area 1 Meeting: Jamie and Brian attended the Area 1 meeting in Bejou MN on June 26<sup>th</sup>. Jamie reported on a resolution that was brought to the meeting by Pennington County to split up Area 1 into two areas.

Water Monitoring: Jamie stated that she has been doing the water monitoring of the Two River and Joe River with Darren.

Jim Schwab gave the NRCS report:

PL 566 Project: Jim reported that the PL566 construction is underway.

CRP: Jim reported that there are 50 contracts to field check. He will begin field checking on Monday. As of right now there are no contribution work agreements.

CSP: There are 16 deferred contracts from 2012 and only 2 producers signed up this year due to the short time frame.

EQIP: Mark has been busy certifying pipelines and fences for EQIP.

July is Minnesota NRCS Cultural Appreciation Month

Darren Carlson gave the District Manager report

FY 2013 Natural Resources Block Grant (NRGB): Darren reported the amounts remaining in the FY 2013 grants, CLWP \$12,066.28 remaining, Feedlot \$17,655.33 remaining, SSTs \$18,941.00, Shoreland \$7,848.00, WCA \$31,120.51. These funds need to be encumbered by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

FY 2013 Conservation Delivery Grant: Remaining balance is \$12,837.40 and needs to be encumbered by 6/30/2014

FY 2013 RIM Easement Delivery Grant: Remaining balance is \$375 and needs to be encumbered by 6/30/2014.

MAWQCP Grant: Darren reported that he received an e-mail on the MAWQCP grant and the Lake Bronson Watershed was not chosen for the grant. The 4 watersheds selected were; Whitewater River Watershed, Middle Sauk River Water Shed, Elm Creek Watershed, and Whiskey Creek Watershed.

SWCD Governance 101 training: This training will be held on September 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in Alexandria, MN. Brian and Jamie will be attending, board members were asked if they want to attend, need to know by next board meeting.

Conservation Tour: The tour is planned for July 30<sup>th</sup> around the Southeastern Kittson County. Some of the sites we will be visiting include Kyle Folland tree planting, Toadflax area; PL 566/ Springbrook project, and filter strips. Invitations have been sent out and waiting for RSVP's back.

State Cost Share:

Ronessa Steyn Tree Planting: Need motion and approval to pay Ronessa Steyn \$223.80 for tree planting; Motion made by Dagen, Seconded by H. Peterson and unanimous vote by supervisors.

Brian Ingeman Tree Planting: Need motion and approval to pay Brian Ingeman \$ 851.48 for tree planting. Motion made by Dagen, seconded by H. Peterson and unanimous vote by supervisors.

Shelterbelts 2014: At Area 1 meeting, discussion was had that shelterbelts will not be an approved State Cost Share project.

Poppleton Streambank Project: Darren presented the Poppleton Streambank plan to the board. Plan estimate is \$9775.00. Board discussed the plan and the board is concerned with funding this project as they feel this is just a bandage over a bigger problem. Board wants to see the remaining unencumbered funds be used on well sealing's. Board would like to see this site looked at by another engineer for a second recommendation.

Brillion Drill Program: Darren reported on the use of the Brillion drill in 2013, over 1000 acres have been planted; have made some repairs to wheels this year. Discussion was had on another Brillion seeder for the district, mentioned having a tractor and a staff member doing the seeding for the landowners.

Tree Site Prep: Numerous tree plantings are planned for 2014 and some have asked about having the SWCD do all the work from working up the area, driving tractor, tree tubes and weeding after the trees are planted.

RIM/PL566 Project: Quarter of the RIM easements are at the stage of recording them on to their respective easements. This would be followed by payments. Other easements are missing abstracts or still in the application stage.

2014 (7/1/14-6/30/15) Natural Resources Block Grant: Darren presented the proposed numbers to the board for the Natural Resources Block Grant, SWCD Programs and operation grants , and other county funds.

Zoning: Darren reported to the board that our office might be getting the Zoning program back. Barb O'Hara's office currently has the program and she does not have time to perform all the tasks the program requires. She currently is spending around the average of 40 hours per pay period on Zoning. Darren presented numbers to the board on what it will cost a full time employee at half time. Darren is bringing a list of questions to the County board to see what they will expect us to do with Zoning.

Tree Mat Roller: Pennington County will be here July 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> with the tree mat roller to do the 6 sites lined up for the fabric.

Brian Krippner gave the District Technician report:

Ryan Schwenzfeier Mitigation: Brian has been working with Ryan Schwenzfeier on a potential mitigation. The wetland quality assessment is being done to determine mitigation options.

Dean Carlson Violation: Dean has been working on this exemption, had torn old dike down but needs drier weather to continue.

Jim Wileski drainage exemption: Brian visited this site and determined that this drainage exemption could not be accomplished as it did qualify.

Mark Larson Stock Pond Exemption: Brian visited Mark Larson's stock pond exemption and found that he is able to dig the stock pond for usage.

Alan Truscinski: Brian reported that Jeff Grahm of FWS visited the site to stake out corners of the easement and reported the access road with fill coming in from the north which would be a potential violation. Brian stated that Scott Johnson from Roseau will be doing a site visit to determine if any damage was done and if any further actions will be taken. Brian stated that a survey of the property line maybe required, the board doesn't feel we should be responsible for paying for this survey.

Dalmatian Toadflax Update: Brian gave an update on the Dalmatian Toadflax, he had a field day with 6 CCM crew members, Mike Sugden from the MNDOT and Jim Thompson from the KCHD. They treated the entire area with Dupont Telar and Rodeo closer to the water. Brian will be scouting the area soon to see when the next treatment day will be.

Weed Letters: Brian has been calling the townships and County to take care of the noxious weeds in the area. He states the Leafy Spurge has been heavy this year and he is finding spotted knap weed along Highway 11 and Highway 59.

CAI meeting in Red Wing, MN on July 15-17<sup>th</sup>.

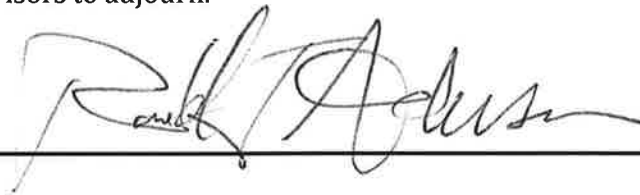
Outstanding Conservationist: Brian met with Cody Schmaltz to visit about the Outstanding Conservationist award he received from our district.

August Board Meeting: The August Board Meeting will be held on Thursday August 8th at 7:30 AM in the Kittson Soil and Water office.

With no further business to come before the board, motion was made by H. Peterson and Seconded by CJ Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors to adjourn.

Justin Dagen, Secretary

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Dagen", is written over a horizontal line.