

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



410 South 5th Street - Suite 106 - Hallock MN 56728 - Phone (218) 843 2619 - Fax (855) 744-0398- www.kittsonswcd.org

Minutes of the Meeting of

Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors

**Held on Wednesday March 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 March 13th, 2019 at 8:00 AM at the Kittson meeting room. Members present at the meeting included: Vice Chairman Joe Wilebski, Secretary Heather Peterson, and Public Relations Sam Anderson. Missing were Chairman CJ Peterson and Treasurer Andrew Muir.

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

The minutes from the February 13th, 2018 board meeting were approved upon motion by H. Peterson and seconded by Anderson 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 supervisors.

New Business:

Cover Crop Policy: Justin gave an update on the Cover Crop policy changes and we began taking contracts from 3 landowners. Justin gave an update on acres and amounts of contracts we have received. No motion is needed as contracts are signed in the office.

Staff Reports:

Jim and Michael gave an update on programs; EQIP scoring was finalized and the State of Minnesota was awarded \$7.8 million and the Northwest area was awarded \$1.2 million. Jim reported he is working on CRP corrections for FSA. Michael reported that he is working on grazing systems. February is Women's History Month. Jim gave a compliment to Heather with the SWCD on the Soil Health Clinic Workshop that was held.

Justin gave his report, for WCA he has been part of the Big Swamp project team for the Klondike Project and will be attending meetings. He also met with BWSR to go over what will be needed going forward with this project. Justin also discussed that he attended Drone training that was offered through a grant that Pennington SWCD received, he is now Drone certified. Justin, Heather and Joe attended the MASWCD Legislative Days in St. Paul and updated the board on what was discussed including 14 Million in capacity funds and the possibility of an operating levy. They met with Representative Fabian and Senator Johnson while down there. More discussion was had.

Jeremy Benson gave his report to the board. First on Buffers, Jeremy discussed that he is waiting to begin the yearly reviews and prepping to begin on seedings once the ground is ready. He reported that he will be drafting a letter to send to those landowners with Buffers needed that we have not heard from. Jeremy then reported on One Watershed One Plan, he stated that the steering team has met to discuss the partnership development workshop, and this will be held on April 25th in Greenbush. Jeremy presented the Letter of Agreement with the International Water Institute, upon motion by H. Peterson and Seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of Supervisors, the Kittson SWCD will enter into an agreement with the IWI for PTM App as the fiscal agent. Jeremy then presented the agreement with Brian Dwight for his facilitation duties for the 1W1P. Upon motion by H. Peterson and Seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisors, the Kittson SWCD will enter into the agreement with Brian Dwight for his facilitation services for the 1W1P process. He also stated that he will be putting together a meeting between the Policy and Advisory committees to get everyone together and to get both committees on the same page. Jeremy then reported that the Grand Forks SCS Soil Health Workshop was cancelled due to weather and will be rescheduled. He then reported on the upcoming meeting that he will be attending the remainder of March including; Area 1 Meeting in Detroit Lakes, Red River Watershed Management Board conference in Moorhead. Jeremy received the results on the Clean Water Fund that he submitted, he explained that the application lost points in the targeting and measuring area.

Heather Donoho gave her report to the board. She updated the board that the staff sat down and discussed where a good spot would be to donate a tree to. The Veterans Memorial in Lake Bronson was the one place the staff thought would be a perfect location. Heather will contact the Greenhouse and work on getting a tree that will be perfect for the location. Heather updated the board on the dates of when she will be visiting schools to talk about Arbor Day and Earth Day. She will also be visiting the library again in April. Heather stated that she attended the Soil Summit, she reported that it was a great educational resource and she enjoyed her time there. Heather updated the board on the Soil Health Clinic Workshop held in Kennedy, she stated the SFA was very informative. There will be a Soil Testing Clinic held on Monday April 8th with the NDSU Extension office. Heather reported that the office will be partnering with the Kittson County 4-H for Ag

Exploration Day on March 23rd. Heather then updated the board on ideas that she has had for the upcoming spring and summer. Jamie then added in that the Kittson Central Preschool teacher approached her on the possibility of purchasing Terracotta pots for her preschool students to do a project and then have a representative from the office help the student with this, upon motion by H. Peterson and Seconded by Anderson and Unanimous vote of Board members, the Kittson SWCD will purchase and donate Terracotta planters for the Kittson Central Preschool.

Jamie Osowski reported that BWSR did a reconciliation done on February 28th on the 2017 Local Capacity Funds, at this time the full report is not back yet. Jamie then reported that the office has received 3 Ag BMP loans, Michael Larson for an 1890 No-Till drill for \$200,000; Kevin Hanson for a multi-weeder and disc for \$40,000, and Terri Christopherson for a terragator and variable rate technology for \$40,000. Motion was made by H. Peterson and seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve all 3 Ag BMP loans. Jamie reported that she has been working on reporting and received an extension on financial reporting to Friday April 5th, there have been changes to the reporting requirements and the full reports do not need to be submitted as now a yearly audit will be required and will eliminate the need of 2 reports being submitted to the state. Jamie received a bid from Peterson Company LTD for an audit to be performed as that is a requirement of this reporting change. The cost of the bid was \$2,750. Motion was made by H. Peterson and seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisors. Jamie presented a grant amendment for Buffers and Local Capacity showing an increase of \$52,771 which included the Local Capacity match from the county, Motion was made by H. Peterson and seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the 2019 Local Capacity and Buffer grant Amendment. Jamie then reported that the Kittson County Fair board approached the SWCD on a sponsorship for an educational act at the Kittson County fair, Jamie spoke with BWSR and this is not an allowable cost with Local capacity funds. Jamie asked the board if they would like to use district funds. This was tabled until we have a full board. Jamie reported that she is working with the DNR on a Shoreland permit for the Two Rivers fish passage. Jamie then spoke to the board about board member apparel and will bring this up again when we have a full board, Jamie also mentioned to the board about leathered portfolios for all Staff and Board members to bring to meetings, these will cost around \$20.99/each. Jamie then reported that the 2014 Ford pickup needs new tires, motion was made by H. Peterson and seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisors to purchase new tires on the 2014 Ford.

The next board meeting will be on Wednesday April 10th, 2019 at

8 AM in the Kittson County downstairs Meeting Room.



Heather Peterson, Secretary

4-10-2019

Date