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 Monday March 11th, 2013

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Monday March 11th, 2013 at 1 pm in the Kittson County Courthouse Meeting Room.

Members present at the meeting included: Chairman, Ron Anderson; Vice Chairman, Heather Peterson; Secretary, Justin Dagen; 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 Ingeman; NRCS District Conservationist, Jim Schwab; and NRCS Technician, Mark Larson.

The minutes from the February 4^{th} , 2013 board meeting were approved, upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by C. Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors.

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

Brian Krippner gave the District Technician report:

<u>East Farms- Rodger Johnson Ag Banking:</u> Brian reminded the board that there will be a hearing on the East Farms Ag Banking following the board meeting.

<u>CSAH 6:</u> Brian has been helping assist BWSR with a permit inquiry that had been misplaced.

<u>DNR Waters permit-</u> Brian is working on a permit for a public water access on the Red River in Hill Township. Construction beginning in late summer to early fall.

Certified Ag Inspector-Brian attended training in St. Cloud on February 11-13.

<u>Seed Sampling:</u> Brian has been conducting seed samples with Jeff Sira at Lake Bronson Elevator, Dowdle Seed Farms, and Ron Peterson. He has collected samples of Wheat, Corn and Soybeans.

<u>Township Committee Meeting:</u> Attended meeting and gave them an overview of Certified Ag Inspector and Noxious weeds.

<u>Cow/Calf Days</u>: Brian attended Cow/Calf days in Lancaster on February 20th and introduced himself and explained the Feedlot regulation information.

<u>Delta Reporting:</u> Brian is working on getting the registration done for this reporting and will be attending trainings in the future.

Jamie Ingeman gave the District Coordinator report:

<u>Area I Dues:</u> Need motion and approval to pay Area I dues of \$150. Motion by Dagen; Seconded by Wilebski to pay dues to MASWCD.

Employees Training Session- Darren and Jamie attended employee training in Detroit Lakes on February 12-13th. A NACDE employee meeting was held after the training sessions, it was voted at this meeting to separate the Envirothon finances between the North, Rydell and South Envirothons. It was also discussed that in 2014 Area 1 is in charge of hosting the State Convention. Jamie asked the board to begin thinking of possible speakers for the convention.

Area I meeting: Area 1 meeting will be held in Crookston on April 3 at 9:30am.

<u>Year End Reporting-</u> Jamie presented the Annual Financial reports to the board and asked to look it over. The board had a few questions on Budgetary Comparison report. The report is due to BWSR by March 15th.

<u>District Credit Card-</u> Jamie presented credit card options to the board. Employees are currently using personal cards and being reimbursed and conflicts have arisen where they have not been able to be reimbursed right away due to Jamie being absent. A credit card through American Federal would allow the board the ability to still see and approve any charges. This topic has been tabled until next meeting as the board would like more information.

<u>Board meeting dates-</u> Discussion was had about upcoming board meeting dates, the board has decided to pick month by month until they know when spring work will start. Next scheduled board meeting is April 8th at 1 PM.

<u>Vacation time</u>: Jamie will be taking March 20^{th} - April 2^{nd} off for her upcoming wedding and honeymoon.

Jim Schwab gave the NRCS Report

<u>EQIP</u>: Jim stated they have gone through 2 EQIP/ AWEP rankings; they have 7 grazing plans for a total of \$500,903.

Women's History Month

Other: Jim spoke about tiling and draining and said to make sure to check before you clean or tile. Jim gave an update on the sequestration happening with NRCS and FSA. He also stated there are 107 expiring CRP contacts that will expire on 9/30/2013.

<u>Darren Carlson gave the District Manager report</u>

FY 2012 Natural Resources Block Grant (NRGB): Darren gave a report on the remaining funds that need to be spent by June 30, 2013. Feedlot has \$4,133.72 remaining, SSTS has \$8,078.91 remaining, Shoreland has \$3229.97, and WCA has \$11,038.22 remaining.

<u>FY 2013 Natural Resources Block Grant (NRGB):</u> Darren reported the amounts remaining in the FY 2013 grants, CLWP \$17,334.28 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.

FY 2013 Conservation Delivery Grant: Remaining balance is \$16,926.50 and needs to be spent by 6/30/2014

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

State Cost Share:

Encumbered Funds/Projects:

- -FY 11-02- Joel Lindegard Well Sealing (2) = \$315 plus \$157.50 CLWP
- -FY 12-04- Jan Carr Well Sealing= \$272.50 plus \$136.25 CLWP
- -FY12-05- Nathan Younggren Well Sealing= \$357.50 plus \$178.75 CLWP.
- -FY12-06- Brian Ingeman Shelterbelt renovation/establishment= \$851.48
- -Remaining FY 2012 State Cost Share funds that need to be encumbered by 6/30/13 or we lose the funds are 5,507.09 + 1,376.77 (T&A)

<u>2013 Kittson SWCD Tree Program:</u> Darren presented a tree inventory ledger. We have currently received 33 tree order forms and have 11 scheduled/possible tree plantings for the season.

Red River Basin Water Quality Monitoring Training- This is required to monitor water quality stations and stream flow information for the IWA (4-6 sites) and JRWD TMDL (3-4 sites) The grant will be 1 day a week for 13 weeks and JRWD will be 1 day a week and after rain events for the majority of the year.

<u>IRWD TMDL-</u> Darren attended a meeting in Karlstad on February 26th and about 40-50 landowners were present. MPCA and Houston Engineering led the discussion stating that there is money available, but the first step is to conduct and gather water quality monitoring and/or flow data for 2013. TMDL is scheduled to be completed by 2015.

Minnesota Agriculture Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP): Darren attended a meeting held at UMC on February 21st for the MAWQCP. This program has been in development over the past year by the MDA and is designated to accelerate voluntary adoption of on farm conservation practices that protect Minnesota's water resources. MDA

is looking to mimic the federally funded CSP and are looking for 3 pilot watersheds, one in the Red River Valley, one in the Minnesota River Valley and one in SE Minnesota. Darren submitted a grant/plan for the Lake Bronson Watershed District to tie in with our Clean Water Funds received in the area. The grant consisted of \$600,000 for conservation practices and ½ of a full time employee for 3 years.

<u>PL 566/Spring Brook Project:</u> Darren submitted the board with a spreadsheet/flowchart to show where the RIM applications are. Dan Money is hoping to have a contractor lines up by April 1st and the contractor can start when Mother Nature allows. Darren asked for a motion and approval for Kittson SWCD to pay for half of the updated abstracts. Motion by H. Peterson and seconded by C. Peterson.

Darren updated the board on DuWayne Ditterich CREP/CRP issues that have arose.

Next Board meeting will be held on April 8th, 2013 at 1 pm.

With no further business to come before the Board, Motion was made by H. Peterson and seconded by Wilebski to adjourn meeting.

Justin Dagen, Secretary