

*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 May 10th, 2017 at 7:00 AM at Kittson County Courthouse
Meeting Room.**

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Wednesday May 10th, 2017 at 7:00 AM at 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 Jeremy Benson, District Technician Justin Muller, District Administrator Jamie Osowski, District Conservationist Jim Schwab and Soil Conservationist Michael Steinhauer.

Guests included: Jeremy Folland and Mike Wollin from the Kittson County Fair Board.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Peterson.

The meeting started with an update from the Kittson County Fairgrounds on the conjoining building at the Kittson County Fairgrounds. Jeremy reported that the dirt work is done and concrete is being formed up. Jeremy reported that with the addition of the overhead door on the east side and some extra dirt work, the building will now come in at \$80,000.00. The lease was presented to the board, but without the updated addendum. Motion was made by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the lease with the fairboard with the updated addendum.

The minutes from the April 12th, 2017, Board meeting were reviewed and upon motion by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the April 2017 minutes.

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

Jim Schwab gave the NRCS Report:

Asian Pacifier Islander Month

CSP/EQIP: Mike attended CSP training, they mentioned they will see how this new process will work for landowners. They had 2 EQIP contracts that were funded.

CRP: Jim reported that the CRP cap has been reached and this includes expiring acres. FSA can still take applications and they will be put into a batch and funded per available acres. Jim reported that no extended acres have been approved.

NRCS Computers: Jim reported that there will be a conference call on the work agreement on May 24th in Thief River Falls, Jamie will be attending with him.

Other: Jim reported that Sue Westrom and Jennifer Sweeny will be at the courthouse today to analyze the space that NRCS and FSA have. Kelly Turgeon received a phone call about NRCS and FSA possibly sharing offices.

Justin Muller gave the District Technician Report

Buffers: Justin reported that he met with the County Commissioner to discuss their stands on Buffer enforcement. The Commissioners stated that they do not want the State to do enforcement, currently there is no Buffer Enforcement money available. Landowners are still coming in with questions about the buffers. Justin reported that they have been working on CRP eligibility for landowners who have stopped in showing interest. Rough stats on Buffers in Kittson County were presented to the board. Justin also reported that Alternative Practices are also becoming a larger workload, a concern also is our office doesn't have the proper training for RUSLE 2.

Feedlot: Justin reported that he is working on re-registrations which need to be done every 4 years.

WCA: Justin reported that he is working on a violation with BWSR.

SSTS upgrade: Justin reported that he is working on a Low Income Septic upgrade application.

Tree program: Justin reported that there are 2 tree plantings in the ground and 6 left. The district still has about 3,000 trees left.

Other: Justin reported that the signs for the fair building are complete. They are at the fairgrounds and contractors will install them when they finish up the building.

Jeremy Benson gave the District Technician Report

One Watershed One Plan: Jeremy reported that Kittson County's 1W1P application was submitted on April 18th and we were notified that Kittson County's application was not accepted this year. The reasons behind this were we did not have anonymous votes from the TRWD and SWCD. Also Roseau County, which will take part in the planning process is already involved in another 1W1P process so this would be an increased work load for them. Also there were 3 other applications that were submitted from the Red River Basin that ranked higher than Kittson County. The county will need to do a resolution to waive the amendment and extend the One Watershed One Plan process and the Kittson SWCD will need to adopt the resolution.

State Cost Share: Jeremy reported that Matt Cummins State Cost Share Field Windbreak has been planted, once he installs his tree mats, staff will go out and inspect the site. Jeremy also reported that Jim Hest will be here doing a survey for a streambank project near Lancaster. Jeremy also stated he has been in contact with Jon Leader and an estimate will be done for the Baages well sealing site. He will also be getting to Lacey Lupien's site soon.

Buffers: Jeremy reported to the board that landowners have the opportunity to come into the SWCD office and sign a Conditional Compliance Waiver request. This waiver is to be used by SWCD's to document applications for eligibility determination regarding financial assistance or program

enrollment for properties identified on the buffer protection map. If authorized, this form would grant an extension for implementation from November 1st, 2017 to no later than November 1st, 2018.

Discussion was had on Buffer financial assistance through State Cost Share. SWCD's can use funds toward a one-time payment of up to \$200 for implementation. Each county has the option of setting a cap for how much to offer for the implementation. If a landowner signs up for cost share and signs the Conditional Compliance Waiver, they will have until June 30th, 2018 to plant their buffer. Discussion was had by the board on how much to cap the State Cost Share for Buffers at. Upon motion by Dagen and Seconded by H. Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors, the cap was set at \$200.00.

Other: Jeremy reported that the pickup has been ordered, will be in the middle of June. There have been 2 new rain gauge readers in Deerwood Township.

Jamie Osowski gave the District Manger report:

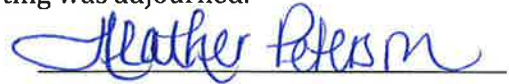
Arbor Day: Jamie reported that she will be visiting local schools in the upcoming week to talk about Arbor Day.

Quickbooks Training: Jamie reported that she attended Quickbooks training in Fargo on May 8-9th. She stated that she learned a lot of new tricks for the program.

Envirothon: Jamie reported that Envirothon was held on April 26th at Lake Bronson State Park. Tri-County received First Place honors, Stephen-Argyle received second and Kittson Central received 3rd and all three teams will be attending State Envirothon on May 16th in Stewartville MN.

June Board Meeting: The June Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday June 14th, 2017 at 7:00 AM in the Kittson County Courthouse meeting room.

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



Heather Peterson, Secretary
