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Minutes of the Meeting of

Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors

Held on Wednesday May 12th, 2021 at 8:00 AM at the Kittson County Courthouse.

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil and Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Wednesday May 12th, 2021 at 8:00 AM at the Kittson County Courthouse. Members present included: Chairman CJ Peterson, Vice Chairman Andrew Muir VIA Webex, Secretary Carey Mortenson, Public Relations Sam Anderson VIA Webex and Treasurer Joe Wilebski.

Others present were District Technician Justin Muller, District Technician Jeremy Benson, District Manager Jamie Osowski and District Conservationist Jim Schwab.

The minutes from the April 14th, 2021 board meeting were approved upon motion by Wilebski and seconded by Mortenson and unanimous vote of supervisors.

The treasurers report from April 2021 were presented to the board by District Manager Osowski. Upon discussion on the April 2021 financials, motion was made by Mortenson and seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors.

New Business:

Approval of the Two Rivers Plus One Watershed One Plan: Jeremy reported that the Two Rivers Plus 1W1P is ready to be submitted to BWSR following approval from the Kittson SWCD. Jeremy reported that the approval to submit has already come from Roseau County, Roseau SWCD, Kittson County and the Two Rivers Watershed District. Jeremy stated that once the plan is submitted to BWSR, the planning committee will meet with BWSR at their Northern Region meeting on June 2nd and the whole board on June 23rd for approval to adopt. We will then have 120 days following BWSR approval to have local adoption. Motion was made by Muir and seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the Two Rivers Plus 1W1P be submitted to BWSR for approval for adoption.

Staff Reports:

Jim Schwab gave the NRCS report, he stated that with EQIP funding, there was 10 applications in Kittson County and between 3 counties only 2 have been funded. He stated that a grazing plan for Frame Farms was approved. Jim stated that he is having Bonnie in Roseau handle the grazing systems for Kittson County. Jim reported that he had 10 CSP applications and none were accepted in Kittson County, Roseau had 2 and Marshall had 1 accepted. Jim reported that Soil Conservationist Chelsea Gruber has been busy working on Roseau jobs. Jim also stated that the way HEL plans are handled is changing, Jim will no longer be in charge and they will be handled at the Area Office by a Wetland Biologist. Jim reported on CRP and stated that things will be changing as they are trying to increase the number of CRP acres. Jim stated that once the new numbers come through, the general applications will need to be run through again. Jim also reported that the State Conservationist, Troy Daniell, is pushing for landowners to become certified with the Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program. Jim reported that landowners who are certified rank high in NRCS programs. Next Jim touched on Covid policies, he stated that he did know what would be happening in the coming weeks with state mandates changing, but currently he is able to see landowners in the hallway by appointment only.

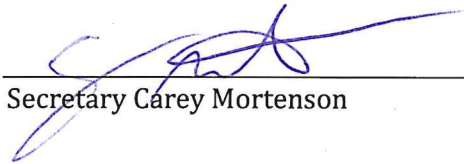
Heather and her husband Dale welcome Brendan Aiden on April 23rd. Heather and Brendan are doing well. She plans to return on Tuesday July 13th.

Justin gave his District Technician report, he reported that he received an application from Wagon Wheel Ridge, he stated he will look it over and bring to the June meeting for review. Justin reported that the district has planted 7 of the 9 tree plantings scheduled for the year and there are 139 trees available in inventory. He stated that the Truax drill has been moving around the county. He stated that the seeding service will begin once the tree plantings are done. Next, Justin reported to the board that the Kittson SWCD was rewarded funding from General Mills and Barry Callebaut for the Kittson County Sugarbeet Strip till plot. Justin stated that the proposal was for custom equipment use and landowner compensation. There are 3 landowners currently interested in the program, the staff will meet with these interested landowners and bring them up to speed on what the program entails. There will need to be more discussion at the June board meeting.

Jeremy gave the District Technician Report, he reported that they have been working on staking the buffers they will begin seeding next week. Next Jeremy reported that he attended board meetings for the Roseau SWCD and Roseau County to answer any questions they had on approving the 1W1P plan submission to BWSR, there was also discussion on forming an entity and a collaboration for implementation. Jeremy stated that the next Policy meeting will be on May 20th and he stated that he is working on getting a facilitator to help move the meeting along. Jeremy stated that he has 3 assessments for the MAWQCP that he will begin working on following seeding.

Jamie gave her report, she reported that she has been visiting the Kindergarten and first grade classes in Lancaster, Kittson Central and Tri- County to present Arbor Day trees. She also gave an update on Ag BMP funds and that an application was received from Scott Lindegard for a sprayer that she will approve and submit to American Federal.

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday June 9th, 2021 at 8 AM at the Kittson County Courthouse.



Secretary Carey Mortenson

6-9-21

Date