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, April 6th, 2016 at 7:00 AM at the Kittson SWCD Office

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on April 6th, 2016 at 7:00 AM in the Kittson SWCD Office.

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

Others present at the meeting were District Technician Justin Muller, District Technician, Sarah Gossman, District Administrator Jamie Osowski and NRCS District Conservationist; Jim Schwab.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Peterson.

The minutes from the March 9^{th} , 2016 Board meeting were tabled by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors. The minutes will be revised and motion and approval will be made at May 2016 Meeting.

Upon a motion by H. Peterson, seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of the supervisors, the Treasurer's report was approved.

Jim Schwab was absent at April meeting, Jamie Osowski gave his report:

<u>Soil Conservationist Position:</u> 9 applications were received for 16 jobs throughout Minnesota. There were 3 applications that put Kittson County down for location consideration. Jim has not heard if any of the applicants had accepted.

<u>EQIP and CSP</u>: Nothing new on CSP, EQIP has 3 applications funded, 2 grazing and 1 pasture planting. <u>CRP</u>: CRP Plans are being written for contracts starting on 5/1/2016.

Justin Muller gave the District Technician Report

<u>WCA:</u> Justin reported that he is currently working on a couple potential violations.

SSTS: Justin reported that he attended the Introduction to Septic training in Grand Rapids.

<u>County Ag Inspector:</u> Justin reported he has been conducting seed sampling with Jeff Sira with the MDA.

<u>Truax Drill</u>: Justin reported that the drill was delivered to CJ's farm. The wrong hitch was sent on the drill, Truax will be sending the correct hitch for replacement. CJ also stated that he made a few updates to the chains where the press wheels sit, would cost \$200 to update. Motion was made by Dagen and seconded by H. Peterson and unanimous vote by supervisors to approve the updates to the drill. Rental costs were discussed on the Truax, upon motion by Dagen and Second by H. Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors, the rental rate for the Truax No-Till Drill will be \$15 per Acre and a \$75 set up charge.

Cover Crop Incentive: Justin spoke to the board about the Cover Crop Incentive the Kittson SWCD will offer with the Local Capacity money received. Discussion was had on rates, Justin had rates put together of \$15 for single species and \$40 for Multi Species. Other stipulations were spelled out in the cover crop policy. Discussion was had on the penalty that would apply if they did not follow through with their contract. The Landowner is liable to the district for one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the financial assistance received to install the practice. The cover crop policy will be sent on to the County Attorney for a legal standpoint. Motion was made by Wilebski and Seconded by Dagen and Unanimous vote of supervisors to use the rates and penalties as presented on the cover crop program.

<u>Trees:</u> Justin reported that trees are selling, the office will advertise trees available. Trees will be in beginning of May.

Sarah Gossman gave the District Technician Report

<u>Clean Water Funds:</u> Sarah reported to the board that she has been working on writing up contracts and sending them out to landowners in both Lake Bronson and Red River programs.

MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program: Sarah reported that we currently have one MAWQCP application. We have the money until the end of May, have around \$2,000 left to spend. Sarah shared the radio ad with the board that will be airing on local radio stations.

<u>Other:</u> Sarah reported that she worked on sending out the rain gauge forms to landowners for April to October months. Sarah also attended the Red River Basin Management Board Conference in Moorhead March 23-24th. She stated it was good for her to hear what local watersheds are working on.

Jamie Osowski gave the District Administrator Report:

NRBG Grants: Jamie reported to the board that the district is still trying to spend the 2015 funds for WCA, SSTS, CLWP, and DNR Shoreland. This money needs to be spent by December 31st, 2016. Jamie was asked by the board to put the numbers together and how many hours each staff spends on the program.

<u>Biennial Budget Request:</u> Jamie spoke to the board about the Biennial Budget Request that is due April 15th. This is the districts chance to request additional funds on county and SWCD funds for the upcoming biennium.

<u>Other:</u> Discussion was had from Board member Wilebski gave an update to the board on the Supervisor sessions he attended at the RRBMB meeting on March $23^{\rm rd}$.

May 2016 Board Meeting: The May Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday May 13th, 2016 at 7:00 AM.

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

Justin Dagen, Secretary