Helping Producers Implement Best Management Practices for Conservation Purposes in Kittson County

Minutes of the Meeting of Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors Held on December 8th, 2011

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Thursday, December 8th, 2011, at the Farm Service Agency meeting room located in Hallock, Minnesota.

Members present at the meeting included Chairman Greg Peterson, Treasurer, Joe Wilebski; Public Relations, Ron Anderson; Temporary Board member Joanne Quiner. Absent: Secretary, Justin Dagen, Vacant: Vice Chairman.

Others present at the meeting were District Manager, Darren Carlson; Administrative Clerk, Virginia Olson; Conservation and Program Analyst, James Schwab.

The minutes of the November 10th, 2011, meeting was approved, upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Anderson, and unanimous vote of the supervisors.

BWSR grant agreement funds have been received. MCIT dividend check has been received. Discussion of three checks that were outstanding were rewritten and what will need to be done at year end as journal entries. Upon a motion by Quiner, seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of the supervisors the treasurer’s report was approved as presented by V. Olson.

Discussion that the Winter newsletter had been sent to the Stephen Messenger about a week ago.

Accounts receivable: Accounts Receivable has a couple of outstanding bills mentioned that payments have been received and will reflect in next months statements. A credit amount for Darrick Haugstad of $4.26, a motion by Quiner, seconded by

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Anderson and unanimous vote by supervisors to pay the credit to Darrick by the end of the year.

Virginia Olson gave the Administrative Clerk’s report as follows:

Samples from Myron Company were SWCD gets the pocket planners and some discussion of ordering other product next year.

AG BMP open loans the state mentioned there is money to be spent if there are needs. We have 5 loans Severin Anderson $50,000 No-till Drill Seeder, Brian Dahl $50,000 for a Cultivator Harrow, Clifford Peterson $50,000 for a 45 ft. Air Seeder, Daniel Hunter $50,000 for a Disk Chisel and Jerod Hanson $50,000 for a single Dis Air Seeder w/Cart that are open waiting for funds. Motion made by Wilebski seconded by Quiner to contact loan applicants if there is money, work on the loans to use the funds. Discussed the loans, approved the loans motion made by Quiner, seconded by Wilebski. A meeting in Detroit Lakes tomorrow, Friday December 9th at 9:00 am. Board recommended Virginia to go to this meeting.

Available Funds: The balances listed below are as of November 30th, in our program records: CLWP, $4547.66 SWCD; CLWP Dedicated Fund $2,620.00; WCA, $7,019.16 SWCD; Shoreland,$1,144.97 SWCD; Feedlot, $4,220.48 SWCD; SSTS,$4,432.33 SWCD; Brillion $1,144.86 SWCD; and Beaver $2,620. Money currently at the County: $9,382 CLWP, $3,523 Feedlot, $1,103 Shoreland, $4,931 SSTS, $1,170 WCA, and $28,160 CLWP Dedicated Fund - District Manager makes a request for cash when need be.

Jim Schwab gave the NRCS report as follows:

EQIP: Discussion on the changes that are pending for the EQIP program. Discussion continued on the effect these changes could have on Kittson County. Jim will keep board informed.

CSP: Payments have been processed. Next year’s funding is still not been finalized.

PL566: No change waiting for design.

Darren Carlson gave the District Manager’s report as follows:

Meetings/Trainings Attended:
Prairie Pothole Initiative Training in T.R.F on 11/15/11

Jeff Siira (MDA) County Ag Inspector here 11/29/11

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MASWCD Annual Convention December 4-6, 2011 Darren Carlson-District Manager attended. The agenda seemed to be a lot of repeat information from previous year. Darren discussed that having an Outstanding Conservationist helps districts to share what is happening in their areas. Discussed how this would be an asset for the programs.

NRBG (Natural Resources Block Grant) Breakdown:

Darren discussed the breakdown had a letter attached showing the amounts.

Darren will meet with the Commissioners 12/8/11 to go over FY 2012 NRBG.

BWSR (Chad Severts Visit):

Chad was here on Tuesday, November 22, 2011. Chad discussed E-Link questions with Virginia and Darren. Also discussed Clean Water Fund Grants, State Cost Share Program and RIM projects for the PL-566. Some changes are needed with the RIM projects. Cost share was stressed about being paid on the statements.

Kittson SWCD CRP Status Reviews: All sites have been completed. The plan is to offer this program next year for contracts that expire in 2013.

SWCD/NRCS CRP/CCRP Contribution Work Agreement (2012): Signed the Kittson SWCD for additional 50 CCRP plans. Mainly CP-23A enrollments from CRP that will expire in 2012. 50 plans X $480/plan = $24,000. 11 plans are complete as of 12/7/11. Total for the year on 186 plans completed when done = $88,820.

State Cost Share Program: Work is still in progress on going through folders, adding aerial photos, conservation plans, etc.

Vouchers for Well Sealing:
Mary Olson F10-04 for SWCD total of $262.50
Margaret Swanson FY10-07 for SWCD total of $450.00
Ceryl Sjodin FY11-01 for SWCD total of $810.00

County Ag Inspector: Met with Jeff Siira. He would like an up to date Seed Vendor's List. We are working on the updated list. He would also like for the SWCD to physically start pulling samples from seed vendors in the springtime.

Other:
Annual DNR Shoreland Report by 1/1/11
Darren on December 13 Dentist Appointment in Morning
New Copier/Printer in the office - NRCS
District Technician Position advertising the board reviewed the description and will approved by Wilebski, seconded by
Anderson unanimous vote of the supervisors to begin advertising for position.

January Board meeting: The next regular scheduled Board meeting is January 12th at 8 AM.

Personnel were reviewed for job performance and discussion of pay and other policies.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by acting Chairman Wilebski.

Justin Dagen, Secretary