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Kittson County*



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**Minutes of the Meeting of
Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors
Held on Friday January 3rd, 2014 at 7:30AM at the Kittson Soil and Water
Conservation Office.**

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Friday January 3rd, 2014 at 7:30 AM in the Kittson Soil and Water Conservation Office.

Members present at the meeting included: Ron Anderson; Heather Peterson; Justin Dagen, Joe Wilebski; and CJ Peterson.

Others present at the meeting were District Manager, Darren Carlson; and District Coordinator, Jamie Osowski; Absent were District Technician; Brian Krippner; Jim Schwab; NRCS District Conservationist and Mark Larson; NRCS Technician.

Organizational Meeting: District Manager Darren Carlson opened the organizational meeting. Carlson opened the floor for a nomination for the 2014 Chairman.

District Chairman: Upon nomination by Dagen and seconded by H. Peterson, to name C.J Peterson, Chairman, by a unanimous vote. Carlson turned the meeting over to Chairman C.J Peterson.

District Vice Chairman: Upon nomination by Wilebski and seconded by Dagen, to name Heather Peterson, Vice Chairwoman, by unanimous vote.

District Treasurer: Upon nomination by H. Peterson and seconded by Dagen, to name Joe Wilebski, Treasurer, by unanimous vote.

District Secretary: Upon nomination by Wilebski and seconded by H. Peterson, to name Justin Dagen, Secretary, by unanimous vote.

District Public Relations: Upon nomination by H. Peterson and seconded by Dagen, to name Ron Anderson, Public Relations, by unanimous vote.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Peterson.

The minutes from the December 13th, 2013 board meeting were approved, upon motion by Dagen and seconded by H. Peterson and unanimous vote of the supervisors.

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

Jamie Osowski gave the District Coordinator report:

IRS Mileage: Jamie presented to the board that the current mileage rate by the IRS is .56 cents. Motion was made by Wilebski and Seconded by Anderson to approve the 2014 mileage rates.

Official Banks: Jamie presented to the board that the official bank of the Kittson SWCD is American Federal Bank in Hallock. Motion was made by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski to keep the Official bank the same.

Per Diem for supervisors: Jamie presented to the board that the current Per Diem rates are \$75 for Chairman and \$65 for supervisors. Motion was made by Dagen and Seconded by Peterson to keep the Per Diem rates the same for 2014.

Crop Improvement Day: Crop improvement day will be held on January 23rd at the City Hall in Hallock. Cost of a booth at the event is \$45, upon motion by Dagen and Seconded by Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors to have a booth at the event. The board mentioned this would be a good time to get the word out about zoning and for a door prize this year, we will give out 3 two gallon trees and a coffee cup.

2014 Dues: Jamie reported to the board that the MASWCD 2014 dues are due at the amount of \$1966.50. Motion was made by Dagen and Seconded by H. Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors to pay these dues.

Kittson SWCD 60th Anniversary: The annual get-together was planned for the evening of January 3rd, 2014, but due to inclement weather, the get-together will be rescheduled to a later date.

Beaver program: Jamie reported to the board that the Beaver Bounty program is currently paying \$20 for each beaver. A trapper stopped in the office and asked about this rate being increased to cover the cost of fuel. Discussion was had by the board and they stated that the trapper could go through a township and receive a higher rate. The board agreed not to increase the funds as this will be a way of rewarding only serious trappers.

Jamie gave the NRCS report for Jim:

CSP and EQIP: There are CSP and EQIP signups but still waiting on rules. Not a lot of activity.

Other: The new "And Justice for All posters has been hung up in our office at the beginning of the year.

Darren gave Brian Krippner's District Technician report:

Feedlots: There have been 20 feedlots that have re-registered with Brian and the work plan is submitted for the next 2 years.

District Pickup: Brian has received new pricing from C&M Ford , there are no 2013 models left. A 2014 4 door F-150 will be \$34,500 with either rear diff lock or a rear camera. The board feels that the rear lock is more important, but would like more information from Brian so they are tabling this topic until the February board meeting when Brian is back.

Darren Carlson gave the District Manager report

Cost Share Technical Approval Authority: Darren reported that he needs a motion to allow himself Cost Share Technical Job Approval Authority. Motion was made by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors.

State Cost Share Program: Darren reported to the board that Mark Langehaug stopped in the office to talk about a large shelterbelt tree planting on his pasture land by his home and a field windbreak on cropland. With no Farm Bill in place, he would not be able to place the field windbreak in CRP. The board stated that they would like to see the money spread out instead of all being spent on 1 tree planting. Darren is going to check with other local counties to see what they are doing with these situations.

SWCD Tree Program: Darren reported on 2 tree planting updates for Ronessa Steyn and Kurt Amundson.

Annual Report: Darren reported that his annual reporting is due on March 1st.

Work Plan: Work plan is being complied, this is just reporting what our district plans on doing for the year, reports are due March 1st, 2014.

2013 E-link Reporting: Reporting on the E-link system reporting stories on what the district has done in 2013, Reports are due February 3rd, 2014.

SWCD Zoning Hourly Rate: Darren provided the board with hourly rates that the district would use for each employee for the zoning program. Darren reported the rates to the commissioners so they were aware with what they would be paying if our office received zoning. The commissioners were satisfied with the rates. Darren reported to the board that he met with commissioners and stated that if our office will not be dealing with any past zoning issues, which will be left up to the county. Commissioners stated that the County will be receiving the permit fees. Currently Barb O'Hara is working on updating the County Zoning Ordinance. County will sign a yearly contract with our office and any issues, Darren will speak to the commissioner to resolve them. Motion was made by Wilebski and Seconded by H. Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve hourly rate for zoning for 1 Year.

Zoning Ordinance: Darren reported that the Zoning Ordinance needs to be updated. There will be a public hearing on January 21st before the County Commissioners meeting.

SSTS Ordinance: Darren reported that the SSTS Ordinance needs to be updated. There will be a public hearing on SSTS Map and Ordinance on January 21st. Ordinance needs to be updated and approved by the county commissioners by February 4th.

Hourly Rate for other programs: Darren presented rates to the board for all other programs that the office administers. The board discussed this rate and they think this rate should be higher than what we are getting for Zoning. Water monitors rates will stay at a flat rate of \$40 an hour, but board decided the rates should be 10% higher than the zoning rate. Upon motion by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to use the hourly rate for zoning plus 10%.

Other: Employee Handbook needs to be revised and approved by the board, Staff will meet with Heather and she will represent the board.

Rain Gauge and tree Open house will be held on February 14th at 11:30 am following the February board meeting.

February Board Meeting: The February Board meeting is scheduled for February 14th, 2014 at 9:30 AM.

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

Justin Dagen, Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Dagen", is written over a solid horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.