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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 Thursday, January 7th, 2016 at 8:00 AM 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 January 7th, 2016 at 8:00 AM in the Kittson Soil and Water Conservation Office.

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

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

Organizational Meeting: District Coordinator Jamie Osowski opened the organizational meeting. Osowski opened the floor for a nomination for the 2016 Chairman.

District Chairman: Upon nomination by Wilebski and seconded by Dagen, to name C.J Peterson, Chairman, by a unanimous vote. Osowski turned the meeting over to Chairman 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 Anderson, to name Joe Wilebski, Treasurer, by unanimous vote.

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

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

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Peterson.

The minutes from the December 11th, 2015 Board meeting were approved upon motion by Wilebski and Seconded by H. Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors.

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

Jamie Osowski gave the District Coordinator/Manger report:

IRS Mileage: Jamie presented to the board that the current mileage rate by the IRS is .54 cents. Motion was made by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski to approve the 2016 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 Wilebski and Seconded by Dagen 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 H. Peterson and Seconded by Dagen to keep the per diem rate the same.

MASWCD Dues: Jamie presented to the board that the MASWCD dues have gone up from \$2248.70 to \$2310.12. The board requested information on why the dues keep increasing. Jamie will email MASWCD staff for information on dues. Motion was made by H. Peterson and seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisors to table the MASWCD dues until more information is gathered.

Health Insurance: Discussion was had on health insurance for the staff, Jamie will do more research on what is allowed in paying the employees for their premiums.

Zoning: Jamie gave the board an update on zoning in the office. Zoning is officially back with the county as of January 1st, 2016. There will still be some questions from the new zoning administrator that we will help out with. Jamie submitted the final zoning invoice to the county.

State Cost Share- Todd Truedson Amendment: The previous contract FY 15-03 was for 2 wells to be sealed by December 31, 2015. Jon Leader with Jon Leader Well Sealing was only able to get 1 well sealed in Fall 2015. Second well will be sealed in Spring 2016. A motion was made by Wilebski and seconded by H. Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors to amended the contract date from 12/31/15 to 12/31/16.

Plotmaster: Jamie spoke to the board about the Plotmaster use. Since being purchased in June of 2011, the Plotmaster has only been rented out 5 times since being purchased. The board stated that we should try and put the plotmaster out on bids. Jamie stated she will send a message out to the Area 1 districts first.

Reporting: Jamie stated that E-link reporting is due on February 1st, Pera Februray 28th, MCIT, February 5th and Year end finacials March 15th.

Board meeting Dates: Jamie stated to the board that we need to set a board meeting that works for all staff and board members. Currently the second Friday of the month is not working for staff and some board memebbers. Motion was made by H. Peterson and seconded by Dagen to move the Kittson SWCD Board Meeting Dates to the second Wednesday of the month. Next board meeting will be Wednesday February 10th.

Kittson SWCD Holiday Party: Jamie spoke to the board about the Kittson SWCD Holiday party where the Board and Staff will honor the Outstading Conservationist and Rural Beautification Award winners. The holiday party will be held on Monday January 11th, 2016.

Other: Jamie presented to the board that Envirothon is coming up on April 27th at Agassiz NWR, Area meeting is February 9th in Crookston, Matt Fischer will be at the office to train staff on E-Link.

Jim Schwab gave the NRCS Report:

EQIP and CSP: No Updates at this time.

Memorandum of Agreement: Jim discussed the Memorandum of Agreement with the supervisors. He stated this was signed to work on mending the relationships between NRCS and SWCD's.

CRP: Jim stated that he has 89 expiring continuous CRP contracts and they are all re-enrolled. He has written 15 plans so far. Jim also stated that he made a site visit to Larry Jenson's EWP site to look at violations.

Justin Muller gave the District Technician Report

WCA: Justin reported that he has been working on the year end reporting for WCA.

Feedlot: Justin reported that he has been doing his year-end reporting for Feedlot and the 2016-2017 work plan was approved by the commissioners.

Trees: Justin stated that he is working on a couple tree plans.

No Till Drill: Justin spoke to the board about the quotes that he received from Truax for a No-Till Drill. The board felt the 10 foot drill would be the model that fits the district best. Upon motion by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors, the purchase of a no-till drill at the 2015 quoted price from Truax.

Sarah Gossman gave the District Technician Report

Clean Water Funds: Sarah spoke to the board about the progress of the County Ditch 13 and 22 project. Sarah has sent out letter to 40 landowners and have had 6 landowners reply. Sarah asked the board if they would like to keep this program open to only new CRP Enrollment or if re-enrollment would be acceptable. After board discussion, they decided the district could approve either new or re-enrollment acres.

MAWQCP: Sarah spoke to the board that she will be taking the lead with the program in Kittson County. She stated that she will advertise the program in the newspaper and be attending trainings, next training will be January 21st in Red Lake Falls. The programs requests that each county in Minnesota receive 10 applications for the program by May.

Ag BMP: Sarah reported that she completed the Ag BMP Year End Reporting.

February 2016 Board Meeting: The February Board meeting is scheduled for February 10th, 2016 at 8:00 AM.

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

Justin Dagen, Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J Dagen", is written over a horizontal line.