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**Minutes of the Meeting of**

**Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors**

**Held on Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 7:00 AM at Kittson County FSA Board Room**

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 7:00 AM at the Kittson County FSA Board Room.

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

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 Vice Chairwoman Peterson.

The minutes from the June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Board meeting were approved upon motion by Wilebski and Seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 minutes.

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

Jim Schwab gave the District Conservationist report:

EQIP and CSP: Jim reported that CSP funded no one in the County and the next signup is unsure. EQIP funded Kris Folland and Chris Anderson. The next signup deadline will be August 19<sup>th</sup>.

CRP: Jim reported that he will be starting field checks next week and he is working on General CRP plans with FSA.

Buffer Law: Matt Baltes from the Area 1 office is working on creating an Arc GIS layer of the Buffer Maps.

*Heather Peterson, Vice Chair*

#### Justin Muller gave the District Technician Report

WCA: Justin reported that he has done site visits with Craig Jarnot of the Army Corps on a possible violation. Justin also reported that Dale Krystosek has taken another position with BWSR and the acting Wetland Specialist for Kittson County will be Steve Hofstad for the time being. Justin also reported that the Banking Project he is currently working on will be moving slowly until a new wetland specialist is in place for this area.

Big Swamp Meeting: Justin reported that he and Sarah attended the Big Swamp meeting in Badger.

County Ag Inspector: Justin spoke to the board that he has been receiving weed calls and was wondering if the board wants Justin to be sending out letters and doing field checks.

Feedlot: Justin reported to the board that he is part of the planning committee for the Annual meeting that will be held in Moorhead in 2017.

New Feedlot: Justin reported to the board that he received a plan for a new feedlot in Davis 16 for a hog barn. The landowner has hired a consultant firm from Willmar and will be meeting with the County Commissioners on Tuesday July 19<sup>th</sup>.

Buffer Meeting: Justin gave an update the LGU Buffer meeting that was held in Hallock on June 9<sup>th</sup>. The minutes from the meeting were handed out. Justin also mentioned that there is a Roundtable meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup> in Thief River Falls.

#### Sarah Gossman gave the District Technician Report

Clean Water Funds: Sarah reported that the seeding date for CRP had been extended to July 15<sup>th</sup> due to wet conditions. Sarah reported that she has been receiving seed tags from landowners that have seeded their filter strips. Sarah also received a cancellation letter from Wilwand Farms, motion was made by Wilebski and seconded by Anderson to approve the cancellation from Wilwand Farms from the Red River of the North Clean Water Fund Project.

State Cost Share: Sarah received an estimate for 2 well sealings for Mark Langehaug in Halzelton 24. The cost estimate from Jon Leader is \$1500 for both wells. Motion was made by Wilebski and Seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisors. Sarah also mentioned that Ron Anderson from Hallock stopped in with a streambank issue in Hallock Township, the board questioned this area as having had repairs in the past. Staff mentioned they would look into this.

DNR Ob Well: Sarah presented the DNR Ob Well Contract for FY 2017 to the board, upon motion by Wilebski and seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisors, the DNR Ob Well Contract was signed and approved for FY 2017.

Other: 9 beaver tails were turned in to the office in July.

#### Jamie Osowski gave the District Administrator Report:

Office Furniture and Equipment: Jamie spoke to the board about the new office furniture and what they board would like to see happen with the old furniture, the board doesn't think it is worth anything and to just get rid of it if we can. Justin reported on a trailer that was used Plotmaster, this trailer has been stored at Mark Larson's farm as there was no room at the Courthouse to store it. The board would like to put the trailer up on bids. Staff will advertise in newspapers and on the website.

County Budget: Jamie spoke to the board about what they would like to see the district ask for in the 2017 Budget. Upon discussion, motion was made by Wilebski and seconded by Anderson to ask for a 3% increase from the County.

Health Insurance: Jamie spoke to the board about individual plans not being an option through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota. Heather stated she has visited with Sjostrand Agency for her own personal Health Insurance and there will be more information available in the coming months on options for those with current BCBS individual plans.

Sarah Gossman: Sarah presented her letter of resignation and 2 weeks notice to Jamie. The board thanked Sarah for her time at Kittson SWCD. Jamie presented Sarah's severance pay amount and Health Insurance options to the board, upon motion by Wilebski and Seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisors, Sarah Gossman's severance pay and August Health Insurance will be covered.

District Tech Position: Discussion was had on a job description for the District Technician position and when the closing date will be for applications. The ad will be placed in the local newspapers and on the MASWCD and NACDE websites and the closing date will be Friday August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Other:

Jamie reported to the board that there are a couple staff/ board member meetings coming up in August. Members interested in the Buffer Roundtable meeting or the Groundwater workshop need to contact the office to register.

August 2016 Board Meeting: The August Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 7:00 AM in the Kittson County Courthouse meeting room.

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

Justin Dagen, Secretary

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