

*Helping Producers Implement
Best Management Practices
For Conservation Purposes in
Kittson County*



410 South 5th Street - Suite 106 - Hallock MN 56728 - Phone (218) 853 2619 - www.kittsonswcd.org

**Minutes of the Meeting of
Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors
Held on Thursday March 14th, 2024, at 8:00 AM at the
Kittson County Courthouse.**

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil and Water Conservation District held its meeting on Thursday March 14th, 2024, at 8:00 AM at the Kittson County Courthouse. It was rescheduled from the normal second Wednesday due to staff prior commitments. Members present included: Vice Chairman Andrew Muir, Treasurer Joe Wilebski, and Secretary Carey Mortenson.

Members absent included: Chairman Cj Peterson and Public Relations Sam Anderson.

Others present were District Manager Jamie Osowski, District Technician Jeremy Benson, District Outreach Specialist Sky Olsonawski, District Technician Kevin Olsonawski and District Conservationist Bonnie Hasbrouck.

Vice Chairman Muir called the March board meeting to order.

The minutes from the February 14th, 2024, board meeting was approved upon motion by Wilebski and seconded by Mortenson and unanimous vote of supervisors.

The treasurers report from February 2024 was not presented at the March board meeting due to technical malfunctions. The treasurers report from February 2024 will be presented at the April board meeting.

New Business:

Lancaster School Tree Order: Sky discussed with the board and staff that she was approached by a member of the Lancaster School to order trees for a robotics fundraiser. It was asked if the Kittson SWCD would consider donating the trees to the fundraiser. After discussion amongst the staff and board, it was decided that the Kittson SWCD would donate the trees to the Lancaster School robotics

team for their fundraiser. Motion for this was made by Wilebski and seconded by Mortenson and unanimously by supervisors to approve this decision.

Highway 75 Cover Crop Tour: Sky presented to the board with additional information on the Hwy 75 Cover Crop Tour. She and Jeremy Benson attended a phone meeting with the director of the soil health coalition the past week to discuss their thoughts for the Kittson stop of the tour. After discussion with the director, it was decided that Kittson SWCD's thoughts for the tour did not align with the Minnesota Soil Health Coalitions. After discussion amongst the board and staff it was decided to cease planning on the SWCD's part for the Hwy 75 Cover Crop Tour. Motion was made by Wilebski and seconded by Mortenson and unanimously by supervisors to approve this decision.

Walsh County Working Lands Cover Crop Initiative: Jamie presented to the staff and board an email she had received from the district conservation manager from Walsh County. They sent her their project proposal for a working lands cover crop initiative and inquired if the Kittson SWCD would submit a letter of support for this initiative. After further questions and discussion amongst staff and board it was decided that the Kittson SWCD would provide Walsh County Three River SCD with a letter of support for their proposal. A motion was made by Wilebski and seconded by Mortenson and unanimously by supervisors to approve this letter of support.

Staff Reports:

Bonnie Hasbrouck gave the NRCS update. They are currently working on CSP applications. She encourages us to have customers call ahead of time to ensure she or Jill are here and available to assist them. They are also working on finalizing Equip contracts. Bonnie also informed the board that she took a new position as the District Conservationist for Roseau County. Her last day in the Hallock office will be March 22nd, 2024. The board and staff wished her well in her new endeavors.

Sky gave her an outreach report. She reminded the board and staff about the college scholarship ending at the end of March and encouraged them to get the word out to anybody they think might be interested. She talked about new ideas for the spring newsletter including a few new article ideas. She is gearing up to go back into the schools for Arbor Day presentations in April.

Kevin gave his technician report, he talked about future meetings and training he has planned for the rest of March. He also stated he is still working with a landowner on WCA regulations pertaining to cleaning out a ditch.

Jeremy gave his technician report, he gave an update on the Wagon Wheel Ridge WCA violation. He is waiting for the FY22 grant agreement for the funds he requested through the 1W1P for the Hallock City Dam Project. He stated it should be here within the next week or so. The local work group meeting will be held on Tuesday April 16th at the Lake Bronson State Park he informed the board and staff. He also updated everybody on the tree sales, so far, the Kittson SWCD has ordered roughly 8600 trees and they have sold about 7000 of those trees.

Jamie gave her report, she reported that she had a meeting with Aimee, county administrator, and Johnson Control on the status of the courthouse renovation project and how it will affect the Kittson SWCD office. If things go according to planned, the Kittson SWCD office would

be displaced as of April 14th for approximately 4-6 weeks. This could change, Jamie said she will keep everybody updated as she receives more information. She informed the board and staff of upcoming meetings such as the area meeting on March 19th and the next board meeting being April 10th.

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday April 10th, 2024, at 8 AM at the Kittson County Courthouse.



Secretary Carey Mortenson

4-10-24
Date