

*Helping Producers Implement
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for Conservation Purposes in
Kittson County*



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**Minutes of the Meeting of
Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors
Held on November 16th, 2010**

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Tuesday, November 16, 2010, at the Kittson SWCD office located in Hallock, Minnesota.

Members present at the meeting included Chairman, Scott Klein; Vice Chairman, Greg Peterson; Treasurer, Joe Wilebski and Secretary, Justin Dagen; and Public Relations, Ron Anderson. Absent: None.

Others present at the meeting were District Manager, Darren Carlson; District Coordinator, Joanne Quiner; Program Coordinator, Shane Olson; Program Analyst, James Schwab; and Technician, Mark Larson.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Klein.

The minutes of the October 26th, 2010, meeting was approved, upon a motion by Peterson, seconded by Dagen, and unanimous vote of the supervisors.

Upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by Peterson and unanimous vote the treasurer's report was approved as presented by Quiner. Upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by Peterson, and unanimous vote, for check #2931 through #2957 for the amount of \$14,808.81 for the month of October was approved as presented by Quiner.

Accounts receivable: Quiner reported that there are no accounts receivable for 2009.

Joanne Quiner gave the District Coordinator's report as follows:

Audit: Quiner mentioned she has yet to see an Audit report from Maiser accounting.

Rain gauge: Quiner said she prepared some barbeques and other food items for the October 26th rain gauge appreciation day. Carlson explained to each rain gauge monitor in attendance about winter precipitation reading.

Election results: Anderson and Dagen won their SWCD Board elections and need to fill out the Campaign Financial Report Certification of Filing.

Available Funds: The balances listed below are as of October 31st, unless otherwise noted: LWMP, \$5,921 County, (\$2,873.47) SWCD; CLWP Dedicated Fund \$44,160; WCA, \$13,737 County, \$337.78 SWCD; Shoreland, \$1,516 County, \$285.59 SWCD; Feedlot, \$7,500 County, (\$571.72) SWCD; SSTS, \$5,051 County, \$438.48 SWCD; and Beaver \$0.

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

Admin meeting: Carlson attended a Courthouse Admin meeting held November 8th.

County Local Water Plan (CLWP): Carlson mentioned the Beaver program. Upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by Peterson, and unanimous vote, to take \$5,000 from CLWP funds and pay \$20 per beaver tail for \$20 per tail beginning April 1, 2010.

Clean Water Grants: Carlson said no word as of yet. Severts said the culvert inventory grant was transferred to the Conservation Drainage Category. Severts is willing to sit down with SWCD's next year to go over grants and offer assistance on how to improve these grants. Severts also stated that The Nature Conservancy (TNC) received money for land acquisition in Kittson County.

2011 NRBG Allocation: Carlson presented the 2011 Natural Resources Block Grant (NRBG). Paperwork is currently with the County Commissioners for signatures.

Accountant: Carlson talked to Phil Thompson & Associates in Warren to give us a bid to pay employees, bills, Federal and State taxes, etc. Dagen mentioned to talk with Terry Soltvedt in Karlstad to see if he would be interested as well.

NRCS Contribution Work Agreements: Carlson completed 34 CRP projects which involved writing plans, creating folders, status reviews and getting signatures. NRCS will pay \$480 per plan. He

says he has 10 status reviews left to perform and is writing seed plans and conservation plans. He hopes to have participants to stop and sign paperwork by December 31st.

Nutrient Management Plans: Carlson received draft of the 2011 EQIP Docket. EQIP will pay \$5.54/acre for Nutrient Management, without Manure for 3 years. Other TSP's rates range from \$2 - \$3/acre. Upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by Wilebski, and unanimous vote, to charge \$2.25 / acre / yr to provide these plans to the landowners.

Shoreland/DNR Waters: Carlson met with Garry Bennett and Dan Money of the Two Rivers Watershed District (TRWD) on October 29th for Schwenzfeier's coulee cleanout in Clow 25. Bennett said a survey is needed for every 100 feet center profile and a couple of typical cross sections, a few soil borings, which Bennett performs and then the landowner fills out a permit and then sent to DNR to review. Bennett said adding a filter/buffer strip would enhance the decision of the DNR to allow landowners to clean out the ditch. Bennett said each permit is around \$1,000 and usually takes 3 to 4 months for the DNR to issue or deny the permit. Bennett understands the importance of these waterways as areas that need to be cleaned/maintained and is willing to work with landowners to reach an agreement that will benefit both landowner and DNR. Bennett will work with TRWD and the Kittson SWCD over the winter months with a procedure list for what the DNR would like when a landowner wants to clean a DNR stream.

Surveys: The Joe River Watershed District had a culvert and centerline survey of a ditch West of County Road 16. Bill Lindstrom the landowner on Little Joe River in Clow 25 where they met with Bennett and Money will either use Kittson SWCD or TRWD to do the survey. The TRWD charges \$200 per hour for the 1st hour and \$100 per hour thereafter. Currently the Kittson SWCD charges \$3.50 per hundred feet, which is around \$30 per hour. Upon a motion by Peterson, seconded by Dagen, and unanimous vote, to charge \$160 per hour for the 1st hour and \$60 per hour thereafter.

CLWP Dedicated Fund: The CLWP Dedicated fund was originally set up by Brian Dwight of BWSR and Dan Money, who was the CLWP at time, of setting aside each year \$5,000 from CLWP for a Soil Survey Update. When NRCS decided to fund a Soil Survey Update a few years ago, Holly Anderson who was the CLWP at the time chaged the focus for the funds was a Minnesota Geological Survey to determine if a geologic atlas would be appropriate for Kittson County. The Geological Atlas project would have produced a map that would identify the groundwater resources of the county. It can also tell where groundwater resources are most vulnerable to contamination, such as abandoned wells. Olson stated this would be a great project to be submitted for a Clean Water Legacy grant application. There is currently \$44,160 in the account. Carlson

talked with Severts and he thought it would be a great idea to use funds for purchasing a drill as long as it ties into our Local Water Plan, such as filter strips, native grass plantings, etc. Other neighboring counties do not have this money in their account any more, as they have spent it on other items that tied into their Local Water Plan.

Kittson SWCD Drill Program: Carlson received brochures for a Brillion Seeder. He says it is for newly tilled ground. Previously Carlson had worked with a Drill Programs at his former job. Carlson estimates 70 CRP/CCRP participants need to plant 4,800 acres of Native grasses next year. Dagen mentioned that he thought this is a great idea and he is in favor of it and he will also look into a no-till drill owned by Sam Grandstrand in addition to purchasing a Brillion seeder. Wilebski asked if it is an AGBMP eligible item and Olson said yes. Upon a motion by Peterson, seconded by Dagen, and unanimous vote, to pursue purchasing a Brillion seeder from Kittson Auto Implement for around \$20,000.

MASWCD Convention: Carlson plans on attending the MASWCD Annual Convention in St. Paul on December 5-8th. Olson said the Area is again purchasing Bakken prints for the raffle item.

James Schwab gave the NRCS Program Analyst's report as follows:

Area Resource Conservationist: At the previous meeting, Schwab reported that Al Gustafson is battling cancer and is taking treatments in Rochester. Schwab has been detailed to do Al Gustafson's workload throughout Area I for 5% spot checks.

CSP payments: Schwab said when he is here he is working on CSP payments.

EQIP: Schwab said there is no word of when the EQIP sign-up will begin.

WHIP: Schwab said USDA announced a WHIP sign-up coming up.

Grazing: Larson said he has been working on EQIP grazing plans.

Shane Olson gave the Program Coordinator's report as follows:

Staff meeting: Staff meetings was held on October 26th, and one hasn't been held since due to Schwab being detailed; meetings and deer hunting.

AgBMP applications: Not enough AGBMP funding at this time. The current loan applications through Farm Credit are as follows: Sevrin Anderson (Air Seeder) and Joel Lindegard (Air seeder).

Springbrook RIM/PL566: Schwab said NRCS staff was up here November 2nd to look over the project. Nearly all the areas along the Springbrook coulee system have been enrolled in CRP. Olson has a couple left to get from FSA. Olson received deeds from Doug Wonnemberg, who bought the Roger Bogestad property to send them to BWSR. Next step is to get them to a title agent from the Fergus Falls area, as Roger Malm will not do them. Jensen Brother's, Mike and Gary, do not want to enroll into RIM and want to leave it in CRP, as CRP is now higher over the life of the contract than RIM lifetime easement.

State Cost share: Olson said he hasn't gotten estimates back from Bruce Gunderson for Daniel Remer in Lancaster and Clayton Westman in Humboldt. Upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by Wilebski, and unanimous vote, to pay well sealing contract #FY10-01 for \$375.00 and from CLWP \$187.50.

WCA Northstar: Olson said Northstar Agri Industries received their permit for no loss from Larry Pulchalski of the COE for the canola crushing plant. Dale Krystosek from BWSR told Olson to approve it as well and a letter was forwarded to Neil Juhnke.

WCA TEP: Larry Pulchalski of the COE and Dale Krystosek from BWSR were up here November 9th. They will look at Brian Nelson's site in McKinley Township, for building roads. Nelson and Alvin Borman also showed us the DNR Firebreak on the border for BWSR and COE to investigate as it is holding back water in wetland areas. Olson said Wilebski has mentioned this problem in the past.

WCA violation: Olson took Pulchalski and Krystosek to the violation on the Roseau County side, next to the Outdoor Classroom. Alan Truscinski stopped by while we were there and said he did the work. Pulchalski believes it is a wetland violation due to the fact it is a willow/cattail area. The area in question is CRP ground owned by Ron Mooney and is most likely a USDA/FSA violation. No cease and desist order has been issued as of yet and Kelly Turgeon was notifying Roseau FSA of the violation. Scott Johnson of Roseau SWCD is aware of it as well.

TSA: Jim Hest is scheduled to be coming up November 16th survey Carlson Prairie Seed Farms Side Water Inlet.

Trees: Olson said 9000 trees have been ordered for next year. He said he noticed Grand Forks SWCD is selling Tubes 3' or 4' for \$2.50 and fabric squares for \$1.50. Nedra Hoberg says she orders them from Plantra. Schwab mentioned we should make wire flags available for sale as well for marking plantings.

Area I meeting: The Area I meeting is November 18th in Ada.

Feedlot: Olson has an upcoming MACFO training in Detroit Lakes on December 14th.

December Board meeting: The next scheduled Board meeting is December 9th at 8 AM.

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

Justin Dagen, Secretary