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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 Tuesday, November 22nd, 2016 at 8:00 AM at Kittson County Courthouse
Meeting Room.**

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on November 22nd at 8:00 AM at the Kittson County Courthouse meeting room.

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

Others present at the meeting were District Technician Jeremy Benson, District Technician, Justin Muller, and District Administrator Jamie Osowski, District Conservationist Jim Schwab and Soil Conservationist Michael Steinhauer.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Peterson.

The minutes from the October 12th, 2016, Board meeting were approved upon motion by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the October 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 NRCS Report:

Civil Rights Update: Jim gave the board an update on the Annual Civil Rights training.

Danny Weber: Jim reported to the board that Danny Weber has retired.

CRP: Jim reported that CRP has slowed down but will get busy again in March and April.

Michael reported that he has been busy finishing up grazing checkouts and checking and GPSing pipes before the snow flies.

November is Native American Heritage Month

Justin Muller gave the District Technician Report

WCA: Justin reported that he has had a few questions coming in, everyone has too much water.

Feedlot: Justin reported that he attended as Feedlot Confrence in New Ulm, had a good time.

Buffers: Justin spoke to the board about the buffers, he stated it has been busy. He stated that there are 1700 parcels in Kittson County that are required to have buffers, he figures that 40% have met the requirements. Justin also reported that the office will be sending out postcards at the beginning of the year to those 1700 parcel owners.

Trees: Justin reported that he has ordered the trees from Schumacher Nursery.

Drills: Justin reported to the board that the tree planter and the 2 drills have been put away for storage for the winter.

Jeremy Benson gave the District Technician Report

One Watershed One Plan: Jeremy informed the board that he has been working on researching the 1W1P process. He stated that the next round of funding applications are just around the corner and the Two River Watershed District stated that they will participate. Will discuss further at next meeting as board had some questions for Jeremy to find answers to.

MAWQCP: Jeremy reported to the board that we have only seen 1 application for the program. He compiled a mailing list and sent it to our Area Certification specialist in East Polk SWCD, she will put together a letter to send to the Kittson County Landowners.

Buffers: Jeremy reported that he has been helping Justin with the Buffer program.

Rainfall: Jeremy reported to the board that the rainfall readings are done and letters have been sent to the readers to remove their inner tubes for snowfall.

Other: Jeremy is still in his probationary period at the Kittson SWCD, but asked the board if he could take January 6th, 2017 off. Jeremy's request was approved upon motion by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors.

Jamie Osowski gave the District Administrator Report:

State Cost Share: Jamie reported to the board that Mark Langehaug turned in his payment voucher for 2 Well sealings done in August. Jamie wanted to notify the board since this contract was approved 4 months prior. Jamie reported on the Well Sealing issues we are having in Kittson County, we have 3 well sealings that have contracts signed, but Jon Leader Well Drilling has not been able to get to them. Jamie also reported to the board that an amendment was needed for changes on the amounts for FY 15 State Cost Share and FY 16 State Cost Share for Kittson County State Ditch 95 project (SCS FY15-09 and FY 16-01). Motion was made by Wilebski and seconded by Dagen to approve the amendment. Discussion was had on how no one in our office has Technical Approval Authority. The board stated we need to get the ball rolling on who we need to talk with at NRCS to get this training to the staff. The office will work with Jim and work to get the staff to meet with the NRCS Staff to get this training.

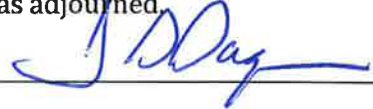
Technical Service Area/ Joint Powers Agreement: Jamie reported to the board on changes that the TSA have made to their agreements with the SWCD's. Motion was made by Wilebski and Seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote of supervisors to approve the Agreement changes.

Health Insurance: Jamie reported to the board that she received amounts from Sjostrand Agency on group plans for the Kittson SWCD staff needing Health Insurance. Motion was made by Dagen and Seconded by Wilebski and unanimous vote of supervisors to offer the staff the Blue Access HAS Gold \$2000 deductible plan 653.

Other: Jamie offered a copy of the current evaluations that will be given to each staff member. The staff will evaluate each other and Jamie will send these evaluations to the board before the December Board meeting. Jamie also reported that the staff will be attending the MASWCD State Convention in Bloomington December 4-6. Jamie spoke to the board about a strategic planning meeting that is needed at the beginning of each year to plan the budget and work plans for the year, meeting will be held in February and Jamie asked the board to set aside a whole day toward this meeting.

December 2016 Board Meeting: The December Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday December 14th, 2016 at 8:00 AM in the Kittson County Courthouse meeting room.

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



Justin Dagen, Secretary