Minutes of the Meeting of

Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors

Held on Tuesday October 15th, 2013 at 7:30AM 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 Tuesday October 15th, 2013 at 7:30 AM at the Kittson Soil and Water Office.

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

Others present at the meeting were District Manager, Darren Carlson; and District Coordinator, Jamie Osowski. Missing were Brian Krippner, District Technician; Jim Schwab; NRCS District Conservationist and Mark Larson; NRCS Technician.

The minutes from the September 19th, 2013 board meeting were approved, upon a motion by Dagen and seconded by C.J. Peterson and unanimous vote of the supervisors.

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

Jamie Osowski gave the District Coordinator report:

Ag BMP Loans: Jamie mentioned to the board about employee approval for Ag BMP loans and the board agreed that they would still like to have say in the approval of the loans.

Beaver Funds: Jamie reported to the board that the Beaver Bounty funds are now at $920. Jamie asked the board if they wanted to see this program continue and if we should move funds from CLWP to the Beaver Bounty. Previously $5,000 was transferred to the Beaver fund and it took over 2 years to spend this funding. The board discussed only transferring half of those funds each year. Upon motion by C.J Peterson and Seconded by J. Dagen and unanimous vote from supervisors to move $2500 from the CLWP funds to the Beaver Bounty funds.

Water Festival: Jamie reported that she attended the Water Festivals in Warren and Fertlie and they had a record number of 4th graders attending this year.
Health Insurance: Darren reported to the board that he would like to have Health Insurance options for the employees. Jamie has done research on possible health insurance options for the employees and has found PEIP (Public Employees Insurance Program) to be the most suitable for our employees. At this time Brian is covered under his parents plan and Jamie has a plan with her husband. Darren would be the only employee in need of an insurance plan for his family. This plan requires 75% of the employees to be covered and since Jamie and Brian are currently covered under their parents and spouses plans they are counted in the 75%. The next step with the PEIP plan is for the employees to submit a health history form and they will submit us a quote. The board stated that as soon as we receive a quote we need to call a special meeting to discuss.

Other: Jamie reported that there is an Area 1 meeting on November 19th in Ada.

Jim Schwab and Mark Larson were absent for the meeting due to the Government Shutdown.

Brian Krippner was absent from the meeting due to a Feedlot Conference. Brian’s report was mailed out in meeting packets.

Alan Truscinski: Brian met with Scott Johnson with the Roseau SWCD and discussed possible Restoration order options for Alan. He will be sending out the completed restoration order to the land owners and the townships since the violation is taking place on property not owned by Alan and potentially on a TWP Right of way. They have been following the orders of the County Attorney, Jeff Hane.

Tegner 26 Violation: Brian has been asked to write a Restoration order for Perry Kostrzewski which will be tied in with the Restoration order written by Nathan Kestner of the DNR for the impacts that Perry had conducted in the SW ¼ of Section 26 in Tegner Township.

Feedlots: Brian has sent out another re-registration letter to all registered feedlots in the county. He is slowly receiving some back.

Feedlot Conference: Brian is attending a feedlot conference that is an opportunity to receive technical training and share ideas with other feedlot officers.

CAI: Brian had a request from the MDA to sample Winter Wheat at Ron Peterson Seed Inc. Brian also had a meeting in Thief River Falls on October 9th to discuss Noxious weed Management, they focused on some problem areas in each county and discussed new management tools and techniques for noxious weeds.

Other: Brian attended Water Festival in Fertile. Brian all was able to accompany 2 NRCS employees as they surveyed 5 Side Water Inlets. He stated he was able to learn how to take notes and read survey shots correctly.

Darren Carlson gave the District Manager report

FY 2013 Natural Resources Block Grant (NRBG): Darren reported the amounts remaining in the FY 2013 grants, CIWP $4,565.38 remaining, Feedlot $-2,590.46 remaining, SSTS $3,768.04, Shoreland $-793.00, WCA $-12,174.99. These funds need to be encumbered by June 30th, 2014.

FY 2013 Conservation Delivery Grant: Remaining balance is $4,521.39 and needs to be encumbered by 6/30/2014
FY 2013 RIM Easement Delivery Grant: Remaining balance is $75 and needs to be encumbered by 6/30/2014.

State Cost Share:
Joel Lindegard Well Sealing: Darren reported that Joel has 2 wells we want to seal in NRR. Bruce Gunderson has not had a chance to get to these well sealings and the State Cost Share contract states the well needs to be sealed by 10/13/2013. Darren asked the board for a motion and approval to extend the contract date to 10/13/2014. Motion was made by Dagen and seconded by CJ Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors to extend the date of Joel Lindegard’s well sealing.

Easement Implementation Grant: Darren reported to the board that we have received another $12,000 for this grant. He asked for a motion and approval to receive these funds. Motion was made by Dagen and seconded by CJ Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors to receive these funds.

Clean Water Funds: Darren reported that Don Melby in Roseau County Dewey sections 15 and 16 stopped in to sign his Clean Water Fund contract. He will be receiving a onetime payment of $12,536 once planted. Motion was made by Dagen and seconded by CJ Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors to pay Don Melby once planted.

New Lease agreement: Currently we pay $6,975/year, the county wants to increase that by 50%. Darren asked the board what they feel is an acceptable rent cost, discussion was had between board members and it was decided that we pay half of the 50% and we receive new paint and either cleaned or new carpet. Motion was made by Dagen and seconded by CJ Peterson and unanimous vote of supervisors to submit the discussed amount to the County Board.

Resolutions: The board members discussed the resolutions for the MASWCD Convention. Resolution results will be mailed to MASWCD.

November Board Meeting: The November Board meeting is scheduled for November 14th, 2013 at 7:30 AM.

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

Justin Dagen, Secretary