



## MINNESOTA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS



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The Board of Supervisors of the Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 11, 2020.

Chairperson Youngkrantz called the meeting to order at 2:21 p.m.

Present were Ron Dilley, Doug Hanson, Brandon Smith, Donnel Williamson, and Jane Youngkrantz. Also present were Ellie Dittes, Conservation Technician, Sandy Laumer, Office Manager, Ryan Peterson, RIM Coordinator, Rick Reimer, District Administrator, Melanie Dickman, NRCS District Conservationist, Scott Newberg, FSA County Executive Director, and Jeremy Maul, BWSR Board Conservationist.

Chairperson Youngkrantz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vouchers were prepared.

Secretary's Report was presented. Motion by Smith, second by Hanson to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on January 14, 2020. Voting in the affirmative were Dilley, Hanson, Smith, and Williamson. Motion carried.

Smith read through the bills for reviewal and payments and presented the Treasurer's Report and Outstanding Bills as listed in the Agenda. Motion by Dilley, second by Hanson to approve the revised December 2019 Treasurer's Report. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Dilley, Hanson, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Motion by Hanson, second by Dilley to approve the January 2020 Treasurer's Report. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Dilley, Hanson, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Newberg entered the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Newberg gave a report on his background and reported that FSA is busy with sign ups.

Newberg left the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

Motion by Hanson, second by Dilley to approve cost share contract 1FY19 Troy Everson for WASCOD in the amount of \$3,917.25. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Dilley, Hanson, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Reimer led discussion on the new signs which included:

- 4 signs have been ordered
- applied for permit for sign in North Hwy 23
- posts are still there for the other 3 signs
- and signs should be put up by this spring.

Laumer led discussion on the 2020 SWCD Capacity workplan and some changes were made to the workplan. Laumer and Reimer discussed putting the tractor lease and equipment into the workplan with BWSR and after discussion it was decided not to use funds for this, and the amount was put towards cost share. The consensus of the board was to keep the workplan as submitted.

Laumer discussed she checked on insurance for the tractor for seeding program. If we rent tractor from the Petersons, we should have a rental agreement and we need to know if they have insurance on the tractor. MCIT will automatically provide liability insurance but damage to the equipment is not covered. If we lease or purchase a tractor insurance would be about \$106 a year. Renting or leasing a tractor will be discussed more at the next meeting.

Dittes led discussion that she is working on writing a Cover Crop policy. The following was discussed on cover crop policy:

- using a flat rate per acre
- minimum and maximum number of acres per contract
- length of contract should we have 1 year or 3-5 year
- which grant to use as funding source
- should have nonstructural policy
- and will work on policy and discuss at next board meeting.

Laumer checked on prices for tablets for the Supervisors and Office Depot only carries one tablet in their store and it is a Samsung tablet and the cost is \$229.99. After discussion we will hold off on purchasing tablets at this time.

Laumer discussed she has been in contact with Jason Weinerman about Board Training but doesn't have dates yet for training. Laumer will follow up with Weinerman and have more information next month.

Motion by Smith, second by Dilley to change the date of the next board meeting to March 17 at 2:30 p.m. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Dilley, Hanson, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Laumer handed out copy of Soil Health Day Agenda to review and discussed the speakers and food have been finalized.

Dickman entered the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Dickman's NRCS Report included:

- have 13 Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) contracts left to pay
- March 13 is Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) sign up deadline
- Will start new team lead position March 2<sup>nd</sup>
- and will be going to Taiwan and Cambodia for MARL program for 2 weeks.

Dickman left the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

Laumer led discussion the 2019 Financial Reports have been completed and shared copies of dashboard and graphs to review. BWSR has a new process this year and Laumer will send them copy of County Revenue Breakdown by the October 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Maul's BWSR Report included: working on reviewing reports; attending 1W1P Hawk Creek meetings; and new RFP will take place in March and South Fork Crow may potential apply.

Peterson led discussion he would like to set up program to promote landowners to go from ornamental grass to native grass. Peterson will put together more information and bring to the next meeting.

Reimer's District Administrator report included:

- attended 1W1P Hawk Creek Steering, Policy, and Advisory meetings
- gave inkind information to Middle Fork
- attended North Fork Technical and Policy meetings
- worked on adding funds to State revolving fund
- Ag Learn and eLINK reporting completed
- working on Shoreline golf course survey
- meeting with City of Willmar on potential projects
- attended Irrigation Planning meeting
- attended FAC meeting
- 3 windbreak and 2 shoreline visits
- WRAPS planning North Fork activities for 2020
- and looking into Dept of Health funds for wells.

Peterson's staff Report included:

- working on 4 ownership changes for RIM
- processing 1 easement wetland plan
- designing wetland plans for 2 landowners and these could be potential cost share projects
- talking with Petersons on using tractor for seeding program
- attended WASCOB and waterway trainings
- and the office has 4 tickets to Pheasant Fest if anyone is interested.

Dittes staff report included:

- working on buffer law and 100 parcels are "In progress" and 50 parcels are "not complaint"
- will be conducting field visits this spring and sites that are not complaint will be sent to County
- Gary Geer will be taking over buffer compliance for County
- Working on getting 3 new pull up displays and hope to have them by Earth Day
- application for Kienitz Farm in Raymond for MAWQCP was submitted by East Otter Tail SWCD and we will need to work on completing assessment
- and continuing to work on Soil Health Day.

Motion by Smith, second by Williamson to approve 2020 billable rates. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Dilley, Hanson, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Laumer's Staff Report included:

- copy of staff meeting minutes
- helping plan Soil Health Day with NRCS

- ordered shirts for staff and supervisors and have laptops on order for Rick and Ryan
- completed 1099's, W-2s, quarterly payroll taxes; MCIT report, PERA Report and eLINK reporting
- switched from class code accounting system to unearned revenue system in QuickBooks
- will be attending Area 2 Envirothon Planning meeting on February 26<sup>th</sup> in Alexandria
- met with agent from Colonial Life Insurance on different employee funded insurance options
- Area 2 meeting will be March 11<sup>th</sup> at Henry's Catering in Foley
- and MASWCD Legislature Days is March 24-25.

Smith reported he attended 1W1P Hawk Creek meeting and it was discussed to have meal catered for Advisory Committee and have SWCD's split the costs. At the meeting they were also asked to complete an exercise where they were to look at sub watersheds and pick 3 areas to focus on.

Hanson reported that the 1W1P North Fork are looking into not hiring a coordinator and having Wright SWCD staff do some of the work and hire an engineering firm to complete the work.

Dilley reported that the Chippewa Watershed didn't meet last month but will be meeting in a couple of weeks.

Youngkrantz discussed that when planning the Local Work Group, she would like to invite the members of the Water task force. Laumer will contact Gary Geer and get the members information and make sure they are invited.

Motion by Smith, second by Williamson to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Ronald Dilley 3-17-20

Ron Dilley, Secretary

Date