

BROOKINGS CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES OF MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2017 AT 8:15 AM **CONFERENCE ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Darrell DeBoer, Jerry Oines, Rick Kerr, John Heylens

ABSENT: Mark Stime, Advisor; Chuck Zink, Advisor; Kirk Steege, Advisor; Joel Koch

OTHERS PRESENT: Joan Crooks, Jon Finnegan, Tabithia Scott – NRCS District Conservationist; Michelle Burke - NRCS Field Support Office, Mark Washechek and Jenna Clark

Vice-Chairman Kerr called the meeting to order at 8:23 am.

Jerry Oines moved, second by John Heylens to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

The minutes of the July 12, 2017 board meeting were sent to the supervisors prior to the meeting. Darrell DeBoer moved, second by Jerry Oines to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

NRCS OFFICE REPORT – Tabithia Scott, District Conservationist, reported on NRCS activities (see attached).

The BCCD Board of Supervisors discussed haying and grazing on WRP Compatible Use Agreements with Michelle Burke.

The board would like to invite NRCS State Office WRP program staff to tour several WRP sites in Brookings County. John Heylens moved, second by Jerry Oines to draft a letter to the NRCS State Office addressing the benefits of CUA management on these easements (soil health, wildlife benefits, weed control, tax value) and extend an invitation to the NRCS SO to attend a tour of several WRP sites in the county. John Heylens and Jon Finnegan will work on the letter. Motion carried.

SOIL EROSION COMPLAINT UPDATE

Patrick Complaint: NRCS reviewed alternative practices for both parties involved in the erosion complaint. These alternative practices for both parties will be included in the final letter.

Ommen Complaint: The waterway has been built on the Trooien ground. The area was seeded and mulched, but the seeding washed with a heavy rain. The area has been re-seeded and the field border will be seeded this fall. The board will meet with the Ommen's after the Trooien's have completed their project.

CONSERVATION PLANS – None

PUBLIC RELATIONS– Jenna Clark has completed setting up a Facebook page for the Brookings Conservation District. Mark Washechek discussed equipment options available/needed if the BCCD wished to pursue posting videos and ideas of what kind of video/news stories we wanted to pursue. Darrell DeBoer, Mark Washechek, Jenna Clark and Joan Crooks will meet at 3:00 pm today to discuss potential public outreach projects.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

General Fund Balance (7/31/17)	\$ 49,550.66	
Money Market II	\$ 45,572.54	
Big Sioux Water Festival	\$ 12,139.79	
Accounts Receivable (as of 8/1/17)	\$ 47,124.87	
<u>Accounts Payable</u>		
JD 1590 No-Till Drill Purchase (5 pmts - \$4,772.62/yr. beginning 7/10/15)		\$ 9,545.24
Pfeifer's – Great Plains Drill – (5 pmts - \$7,208.86/year)		\$ 15,146.79

Darrell DeBoer moved to accept the treasurer's report, second by Jerry Oines. Motion carried.

RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS AND BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT- (SEE ATTACHED)

Jerry Oines moved, second by John Heylens, to approve the receipts and disbursements and the bills presented for payment. Motion carried.

REPORT ON DISTRICT SERVICES & CORRESPONDENCE

Joan Crooks, Office Manager and Jon Finnegan – Conservation Resource Specialist

• **Equipment/Repairs & Maintenance:**

- Both JD Lease tractors have been returned to Pipestone. We are still using the T5 Ford. Jerry Oines will check into tractor leases for next spring.
- Discussion was held about the extra equipment not being used on the south side of the BCCD building. The board agreed to try to sell the Imco Mulcher and possibly the old tree planter and to scrap the old fabric machine.

- Sovema Tiller – Jon Finnegan received quotes for a new Sovema Tiller. Brookings Equipment - \$10,500, Clark Westside Implement - \$9,400, Pfeifer Implement - \$9,354. Darrell DeBoer moved, second by John Heylens to order a Sovema Tiller from Pfeifer Implement in Sioux Falls at a cost of \$9,354. Motion carried.
- 4 row Corn Planter Estimates. Tabled until the September meeting.
- Building/Landscaping – After the last hard rain, water was running under the door in the heated shop. Jon will check into replacing the weather stripping. Joan had Mark Washechek looked at the landscaping around the BCCD building. Mark has agreed to draw up a design with some new plants to present at the September 6 board meeting.

• **District Services**

- Fabric Cutting – Jon and tree crew have completed approximately 20 miles of fabric cutting.
- 2017 Grass Seeding Completed: JD 1590 (producer rentals) – 408.7 acres

JD 1590 (full service)	106.5 acres
Great Plains	434.9 acres
TOTAL ACRES SEEDED	950.1 acres

EMPLOYEE/SUPERVISOR REPORT ON MEETINGS ATTENDED:

7/18/17 – RCPP/Commission Grant Conference Call – Joan sat in on the conference call. Discussion was held regarding the possibility of setting aside commission grant funds to pursue a possible partnership with NRCS to submit a grant application for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). No decision was made at this time. This item will be added to the convention agenda for further discussion.

7/25/17 – Joan reported on the Vermillion-Big Sioux Area Employees meeting in Hartford.

8/1/17 – Darrell DeBoer attended a tour of the Blue Bell Ranch, Clear Lake, SD, in conjunction with the 2017 Leopold Award.

2017 CONSERVATION TOUR – Date/Time (TBA) – Waiting to hear back from the County Commission to see what date works best for them.

HIRING EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE EMPLOYEE – Jerry Oines brought to the board the possibility of hiring a mechanic to do equipment maintenance, as needed, for the BCCD. Jerry will visit with him and have more information next meeting.

SDACD STATE FAIR BOOTH – Each district area will be putting together a door prize basket for the SDACD booth at the State Fair. Each district is asked to donate and item or two from their county. Joan will take care of this. There are still shifts that need to be filled for working the SDACD booth. If you can work shift or a partial shift, let Joan know.

SDACD CONVENTION – September 17-19, 2017 - Sioux Falls Ramkota – Vermillion-Big Sioux Area are the host districts. 1) Each District is asked to contribute \$150 towards the breaks. Joan will contact a few businesses for sponsorship of the breaks. 2) Sunday Steak Fry – All area employees and supervisors are asked to help with set up and clean up. 3) Registration Table workers: Sunday – 1:00-2:00 pm, 2:00-3:00 pm, 4:00-5:00 pm. 4) Joan will purchase an item for the SDACD Auxiliary Silent Auction 5) Jon Finnegan, Joan Crooks and Tanya Flegel (Kingsbury CD) are in charge of the area employee’s raffle. Finnegan will check into a Traeger Grill and Rick Kerr volunteered to talk to Ramsdell’s about a Pellican Cooler. Tanya Flegel is checking with Lake Thompson for camping passes.

NACD CONVENTION – Nashville, TN – Jan. 27-31, 2018 – NACD is seeking presentation proposals for the breakout sessions. Joan suggested that the BCCD submit a proposal for our Tree Fabric Removal Demonstration Project/Service. If the proposal is not selected for a breakout session, we have the option to participate in Sharefair on Monday, January 29. The BCCD would be responsible for their own travel, hotel and registration costs. Jon will talk to Dustin Gibbons about attending to talk about the fabric removal machine.

OTHER BUSINESS –

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Aug 26, 2017 – Annual Lake Hendricks/Upper Deer Creek Dam Inspection – 1:00 pm

Sep 8, 2017 – BCCD Land Judging School

Sep 17-19 – SDACD Convention – Ramkota – Sioux Falls

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at 8:15 AM

Being no further business to come before the meeting, Darrell DeBoer moved to adjourn, second by John Helens. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:04 am.

Joan Crooks, Recording Secretary