

Brookings Conservation District Board Meeting
NRCS Monthly Board Report
May 1, 2019

Assistance/Progress

- **CRP**
 - Had Ryan Forbes approve the Burn Plans needing approval.
 - Burn deadline was 4/30.
 - Had a request from a producer to be able to thin a row in their windbreak, so I made a field visit and provided FSA with my input.

- **CSP**
 - For last year's renewals, set to expire this May, a modification will be done to extend the contract length to 8/20.
 - The \$200,000 payment cap will still apply to these contracts.
 - They can choose to not extend the contract length.
 - Deadline is May 24th.
 - We have announced May 10th as the deadline for the next CSP sign-up.
 - We have ~17 potential applications with new interest and folks that chose not to renew their contracts last year.

- **EQIP**
 - 2 of the 4 approved contracts have been obligated into contracts so far.
 - NRCS SD has requested additional funds with the hopes of being able to fund additional contracts.
 - Made several calls to check on progress of practices.

- **WBP – Water Bank Program**
 - Sign-up period May 1 – May 31.
 - Maybe a good option for those with chronically flooded fields.

- **WRP/WRE**
 - April 12 was the cut-off for this sign-up for WRE.
 - We had 2 new applications this year, plus several carry-over applications from previous years. This year's apps were determined to be ineligible.
 - Received 1 a week after the deadline.
 - Submitted 3 Compatible Use Authorization requests.

Other Items of Interest

- Louis & Megan attended the NRCS All Employee Meeting Apr 2-3.
- Attended a Prescribed Burning meeting in Huron on 4/23 along with Louis Eastwood.
- Jointly listened to the NRCS Reorganization teleconference on 4/26 with BCD staff.
- Due to the extended flooding this spring, I have requested to the Field Support Office funding for 4,000 acres worth of conservation to help the flooded acres.