

Brookings Conservation District Board Meeting
NRCS Monthly Board Report
June 5, 2019

Assistance/Progress

- **CRP**
 - Continuous CRP sign-up 52 started June 3 and runs thru Aug. 23.
 - See attachment for eligible practices
 - This sign-up paying 90% of Soil Rental Rate, no incentive payments, no cost-share for mid-contract management.
 - 1-year extension is being offered for contracts expiring this year
 - Contracts cannot exceed 15 years.
 - General sign-up expected in December
 - CRP Grasslands sign-up to follow the general sign-up
- **CSP**
 - Continued work on the 13 applications we have for the latest sign-up
 - Prevent Plant – we will have to deal with each contract individually as to how prevent plant acres may affect each contract.
- **EQIP**
 - 3 of the 4 approved applicants have been obligated into contracts.
 - The 4th decided to cancel their application at this time.
 - Made several calls to check on progress of practices.
 - We have announced a special EQIP sign-up for a select list of practices due to the challenging year we have had. Sign-up deadline is June 28.
- **WBP – Water Bank Program**
 - Sign-up ended May 31.
 - We had no interest.
- **WRP/WRE**
 - Work on several CUA requests.
 - SD has been chosen for a CUA audit from HQ, Brookings has 2 contracts on their list to review later this month.

Other Items of Interest

- The NRCS team volunteered at the Big Sioux Water Festival.
- I attended the DC meeting on 5/16.
- The NRCS team attended the Grassed Waterway Training on 5/20.
- Louis is attending the Conservation Planning Part II training this week.
- Megan attended the Ag Women's Conference on 6/4.
- Kayce Szymanski, Pathways Intern, has joined our office for the summer.
- We received 2 whistleblower complaints regarding potential wetland violations.