

Brookings Conservation District Board Meeting
NRCS Monthly Board Report
January 6, 2021

Assistance/Progress

- **CRP**
 - CRP General Sign-up has begun (January 4 – February 12).
 - CRP Grasslands Sign-up has been announced for March 15 – April 23.
 - We completed the Status Reviews for contracts expiring in 2021 and seedings that were completed this past spring/summer.

- **CSP**
 - We will begin submitting payment packets for producers who wanted their payment in 2021.
 - CSP-2021-1 Renewals
 - We had 1 of our 3 High applications selected for funding. Their contract funding is \$33,831. They have indicated they wish to continue to a contract.
 - CSP-GCI sign-up resulted in 2 applications.
 - Applications have been completed and awaiting obligation.

- **EQIP**
 - The batching deadline was be December 11.
 - The eligibility deadline is January 29.
 - Completed the Planning Prioritization Tool for all applications.
 - Working on completing payments for recently completed practices.

- **WRP/WRE/FPE**
 - We just announced an ACEP sign-up with ~ \$4 million in available funding. Applications are due February 5th.

- **HEL/Wetland Determinations**
 - 0 HEL determination requests on the log
 - 12 wetland determination requests on the log.
 - By the end of the week, the backlog should be completed thru September.

- **CIS Proposal**
 - Within the office, work continues on the Oakwood Lakes proposal.
 - In late December, the three offices (Brookings, Flandreau, Madison) considering the Lower Battle Creek proposal had a teleconference with Jay Gilbertson and after hearing his discussion, we decided against pursuing a CIS application for that watershed for the time being.

Other Items of Interest

- We are still at Phase I of our reopening. We can have any number of employees in the office; however, we are still not allowing customers in the office. Staff is still encouraged to telework. There is no timeframe for when we'll be back to business as usual, but my feeling is that we will be in Phase I for the foreseeable future.
 - Jeremy's Work Cell – 605-633-0527
 - Megan's Work Cell – 605-220-4716
 - Louis's Work Cell – 605-220-4715
 - David's Work Cell – 605-680-3996

- Most offices in the state have been moved to Phase I, so a larger number of staff can be in the office at the same time.

